

# Bethinking of 10-4-84 Old Orleans

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## SCRAP DRIVE

During the dark days of World War II scrap drives were held in order to procure metal for the war effort. The Court House lawn as seen here, was virtually turned into a junk yard. Scrap drives of this sort helped build patriotism and brought the war closer to home to those who may not have otherwise been touched by it. In essence, the aim of the scrap drive was twofold as indicated here. Citizens went scrounging in their attics, cellars and barns to find junk metal to donate to this huge pile.

Along with the junk there was appropriate propaganda to catch the eye of every passerby. A thermometer attached to a nearby tree stated "Help Heat Hitler" and had a goal of 250 tons. A large sign also read "Help it Grow! Scrap will win the war Add Yours".

Perhaps however, the most bizarre part of this whole display was an effigy of Hitler in a casket propped against a tree. Above the effigy another sign was placed which stated "Reserved for Hitler". Now, forty years later, it's hard to imagine this scene on our beautiful Court House lawn. Yet this was the spot designated for the scrap pile which made every citizen cognizant of the fact that they could be a part of winning the war even in a small way.

As observed with effigy, Americans made their dislike of a mad, tyrannical dictator visually know. By the time the war ended, over 100 men and boys from Orleans County had made the supreme sacrifice in the name of freedom.