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SCHOOL FORUMS IN CAROLINA

THE COMMUNITY FORUM

The Federal Bureau of Education, says Dr. Henry E. Jackson, is seeking to establish a community forum in every school house in the land.

He elaborates his idea of what the forum is to be as follows:

The first principle to note is that a forum is organized on the basis not of agreement but of difference. We meet for discussion not because we agree but because we differ. It would be a stupid and monotonous world if we all thought alike, just as it would be if our faces, forms, and pursuits were all strictly uniform.

The aim of the forum is not to secure uniformity but unity.

When citizens meet for discussion they do not promise to agree with one another but to make an honest attempt to understand one another. It is a parliament of the people for mutual understanding.

The aim of the community forum is to discover, organize, and thereby make effective the common opinion.

There are only two ways to govern a community, said Lord Macaulay: One is by the sword, the other is by public opinion.

Public opinion is made effective for control by discussion. We need have no particular desire that other men agree with anything we say, but we ought most earnestly to desire that they should begin to think. Honest thinking is the straight road to the truth.—Henry E. Jackson, in The League of Nations.

BURKE MOVES UP

The bank-account savings of Burke County according to the last published statements in 1918 were \$248,780; which averages \$10 per inhabitant and gives the county a rank of 61st, instead of 80th as published in the University News Letter July 16th. The savings deposits and time certificates of the Bank of Morganton were \$35,186 and the time certificates of the First National Bank of Morganton on December 31, 1918 were \$213,594.

On June 30, 1919 the total of bank-account savings in Burke had risen to \$516,226. In other words, it more than doubled in six months or so. If the other banks in the state have done as well, then our total bank-account savings in North Carolina are now around 122 million dollars.

The savings of the National Bank in Burke were overlooked by our students for some unaccountable reason. When included in our War Thrift table of the July 9 issue, Burke rises from 67th place to 53rd, with a total of war securities and bank-account savings of \$1,171,312, or \$47 per inhabitant.

Burke's total of war securities and bank-account savings in 1918 was \$140,000 beyond that of Caldwell; while her rank in per capita thrift was 25 places below that of McDowell.

TEACHER-STANDARDS

I asked a teacher what he was teaching the children in his mill school.

And the teacher answered: Reading, writing, arithmetic and so on; the regular things you teach in any school anywhere, geography, grammar, history and so forth. Of course we have busy-work exercises—drawing, picture stories, paper cutting and the like to keep the children out of mischief between lesson times. All of which are very necessary, I said.

Then I asked a cotton mill operative what in his opinion the mill villagers needed to learn in a school.

Community-Needs

And the mill villager answered: We'd like to learn how to make the most of our lives, how to spend the money we earn, how to make ourselves and our homes attractive, how to care for our babies, how to keep our homes free from disease, how to work mill arithmetic, how the mill machines run and how to repair them, how to climb on up in skill and wages, how to have homes of our own with gardens, cows, pigs and poultry, and how to spend our spare time with profit.

Which was his way of phrasing the needs of life in a cotton mill village. And

his answer will probe to the quick of people—teachers and mill owners—who have hearts to feel with and heads to think with.

Someday somebody in the South will vocationalize education in a cotton mill village with the genius that Wirt put into the schools of Gary, Indiana; and also will fill it to the full with final advantages and values.

It has never yet been done. Who will do it?

A Half-Time Mill School, bulletin No. 6, 1919 of the Federal Bureau of Education, provokes the above item. It can be had free of charge by writing to the U. S. Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.

THEIR CAUSE IS BAD

In the League of Nations the council of statesmen at Paris has sought unselfishly and with the noblest aspirations to promote the highest good of all nations, to make them dwell together on earth in friendship, not in enmity. War is senseless and ugly and hateful. More than at any other time in history the mass of mankind abhors its savagery, its cruelty, its awful destructiveness.

The peoples of the world have had their fill of the horrors of the battlefield, they are sick of slaughter, and with sure insight they demand that the curse of war be attacked and destroyed in its source, the secret councils, like that of Potsdam, where dynastic and selfish national interests prepare the decrees that send millions forth to take the lives of their brothers.

The Covenant abounds in provisions designed to prevent war by removing the occasions and opportunities for war, by putting hidden intrigues and plottings under the ban, by providing open and honorable ways of adjustment for differences between nations, by making the resort to arms odious and subject to penalties. If that is not work in "the united service of mankind," will the gentlemen who denounce it as a "British-Wilson" plot be good enough to tell us in what way enlightened statesmanship can serve mankind?

Those who now profess hostility to the League Covenant cannot hold their position against the judgment and the will of pretty much the whole world except themselves. Their cause is bad. They hopelessly confront millions of mankind in a forward movement. They make themselves the champions of outworn and evil conditions. The world already regards them with astonishment. It is more immediately to the point that the people of the United States are observing their proceedings with close attention.—New York Times.

A HUNDRED YEARS LATE

The debate in the Senate over the Treaty of Peace and the Covenant of Nations discloses the fact that certain senators are violently opposed to doing at this time what the United States has been doing for a hundred years or so under its treaty-making power.

Thus, in the Rush-Bagot treaty in 1817, in the Webster-Ashburton treaty in 1842, in the treaty with Colombia in 1846, in the Bulwer-Clayton treaty in 1850, in the treaty with Honduras in 1864, in the treaties with Great Britain and Germany in 1889, in the Panama treaties of 1901 and '03, and in the Bryan treaties with twenty countries during the present administration, we have been doing the very things that the learned senators are now saying that we ought not to do, to wit:

Under the treaty-making power we have made covenants for the reduction of armaments, the maintenance of armed forces in foreign territory, the fixing of boundaries, the maintenance of neutrality of territory belonging to other nations, the guarantee of the independence of other nations, the compulsory arbitration of disputed matters, with the postponement of war during that process, the participation by this country with other countries in the affairs and government of backward nations, a restriction upon the right to erect fortifications for the protection of property in which this country is interested and with reference

OUR SOLE SAFEGUARD

Thomas Huxley

Truly America has a great future before her—great in toil, in care, and in responsibility, great in true glory if she be guided in wisdom and righteousness, great in shame if she fail. I can not understand why other nations should envy you or be blind to the fact that it is for the highest interest of mankind that you should succeed; but the one condition of success, your sole safeguard, is the moral and intellectual clearness of the individual citizen.—Address in 1876.

to which it assumes a responsibility, and an appropriation of money in order to make all such covenants effective.—The Covenanter.

THE LEAGUE DOES NOT

It does not commit member-nations to obligations they cannot get rid of. It does not place the United States in a position where it can be coerced by the votes of other nations, either in the council or in the assembly. It does not involve the calling out of American troops to settle local squabbles. It does not place peace above justice; but agrees to restrain and prevent aggression. It does not obstruct union or division of existing nations; nor nullify the authority of Congress to declare war; nor weaken the Monroe Doctrine, but extends its principles; nor interfere in any nation's domestic affairs, and it does not exceed the treaty power under the Constitution.—Edward Berwick.

SECRETARY DANIELS SAYS

"If a League of Nations plan succeeds, we must end our naval construction. If it does not, we must build a navy the equal in size of any in the world."

With these words Secretary Daniels emphasizes one of the perils we must face if the Senate refuses to ratify the Paris Covenant—the peril of another race for armament. Enormous expenditures for warships, airplanes, and ammunitions will begin immediately if the League plan fails.

Secretary Daniels, however, demonstrates his faith in the success of the Covenant by recommending the abandonment of his proposed three-year naval building program, the execution of which would have cost six hundred million dollars.

Thus we are able already to express some of the benefits we will derive from the League in figures. The first great saving for the United States, according to the Secretary of the Navy, will be more than half a billion dollars. Actually it will be more than this because once the great powers of the world re-enter the race for armament, there is no telling where they will end. The difference will be that, whereas before the war the United States made no effort to compete with Europe, now we should have to maintain an army and navy equal to the greatest.

HOBBLED BY COTTON

Cotton fastened slavery on the South, and slavery a false economic policy.

I have often said that if the South had never raised a bale of cotton it would be infinitely richer today than it is. Without cotton the South would be the center of the food-producing power of America. Without cotton the South would long ago have become the industrial center of America, for its resources in minerals and in water-power and in climatic advantages give it preeminent potentialities unmatched in the world.

Nevertheless, we are now largely tied to the cotton industry, and it is the supreme duty of the South to make the most of its opportunity and to win from cotton production a prosperity matching that which the West has gained from grain production.

For years diversified agriculture was well-nigh destroyed. The South kept its corn crib and meat house in the West. Almost every dollar secured for its crop was in advance mortgaged for the bacon and the corn and the flour of the West.—Richard H. Edmonds in Manufacturers Record.

BREAKING IN TWO

Nowhere in the world except in rare spots does the farmer enjoy the same educational facilities for his children as does the urban citizen, even the most common laborer, who pays little or no taxes.

It is manifest that this condition cannot continue. Either the country as a whole will provide, regardless of expense, the same educational advantages for the children of the farm as well as for those of the city, or we cannot maintain our average citizenry upon the land.

If the actual resident upon the land is inferior, then we shall one day break in two politically as Russia has broken. In any event, our lands will not be well managed and the future will be insecure.—E. Davenport, dean Illinois College of Agriculture.

COLLEGE RED CROSS WORK

The question of Home Service institutes has become of special importance since the Red Cross has decided that Home Service sections may, under certain circumstances, widen their clientele to include any civilian family which stands in need of such service. During the war the course had, of necessity, to be brief. Soldiers' and sailors' families had to be served, and there was a dearth of trained workers. For the quick training of new workers the institutes were organized and for the same reason are now being temporarily continued.

These facts have not undermined the theories of the Red Cross as to what constitutes good training for carrying out a peace-time program. The general educational program of Home Service—institutes, chapter courses, conferences, field visits—has succeeded beyond the hopes of the most optimistic, but it has not satisfied the Red Cross with a six weeks' training for social workers. The training policy is now undergoing its readjustment. From the beginning the Red Cross has looked upon this work as a cooperative enterprise in which appropriate educational institutions were persuaded to help prepare people to do home service. Schools for social work lent their aid, even at a considerable sacrifice sometimes to their regular work.

College Home Service

Many colleges and universities gave the use of their plants and some of the time of the members of their sociology faculties. The Red Cross supplemented the teaching, procured field-work opportunities—in which the social agencies assisted willingly—carried the overhead expense, and recruited the students. It is now expected to develop this cooperation with educational institutions and in time to get it taken over entirely by them.

The six schools for social work will naturally be the first institutions asked to assume responsibility. Next come the state universities and state agricultural colleges, which are the natural resources for training rural workers, for whom there is now great demand. It is thought that the experimental work necessary for the development of laboratories of rural sociology in these schools is a proper responsibility for the Red Cross and should be its contribution in the cooperative arrangement. It is expected to loan competent members of the Red Cross personnel to assist in the teaching and to supervise the field work training. Cooperative agreements of this nature have already been made with the following universities: Cornell, Berea College, Western Reserve, Tulane, Emory, the University of Cincinnati, and the state universities of Alabama, Minnesota, Kentucky, Ohio, Wisconsin, Louisiana, Kansas, Colorado, Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Utah.

Already the training courses are being lengthened. Plans are now under way to have the minimum course cover twelve weeks, with additional advanced courses covering a period of one year or more. The workers who have had only the short courses will, in peace-time, be rated accordingly. The war emergency past, higher professional standards will be set up and Home Service workers will be required to meet them.—The Survey.

NON SIBI SED ALIIS

For themselves nothing, for others everything—in His name and for His sake. That has always been the core of the re-

ligion of the Salvation Army. That was its battle cry in the war zone. And the crisis of war has at last forced this kind of religion upon the attention of mankind.

Humanity with God left out is a futile sort of religion, as Frederick Harrison proved beyond debate. It is little more indeed than a plan of salvation by soap and soup and social salves.

On the other hand, God with humanity left out, or left incidental and accidental, is also a futile sort of religion, as John fully realized when he said, If a man will not love his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

The Salvation Army creed is a working creed and a complete theology, but the world is realizing it slowly. We are still fiercely and foolishly contending for many things that are really unessential, the final values of life and destiny considered. Or so it seems to the average man.

"And when this war came," says Evangeline Booth, Commander-in-Chief of the Salvation Army in America, "it was natural for us to look to the man—the man under the shabby clothes, enlisting in the great armies of freedom; the man going down the street in the spick and span uniform; the man behind the gun, standing in the jaws of death hurling back world autocracy; the man, the son of liberty, discharging his obligations to them that are bound; the man, each one of them, although so young, who when the fate of the world swung in the balances proved to be the man of the hour; the man, each one of them, fighting not only for today but for to-morrow, and deciding the world's future; the man who gladly died that freedom might not be dead; the man dear to a hundred million throbbing hearts; the man God loved so much that to save him He gave His only Son to the unparalleled sacrifice of Calvary, with its measureless ocean of torment heaving up against His heart in one foaming, wrathful, omnipotent surge.

Our Passion is Man

"Wherein is price? What constitutes cost, when the question is the man?"

"It is for man we have laid our lives upon the altar. It is for man we have entered into a contract with our God which signs away our claim to any and all selfish ends. It is for man we have sworn to our own hurt, and—my God thou knowest—when the hurt came, hard and hot and fast, it was for man we held tenaciously to the bargain.

"Man! Sometimes I think God has given us special eyesight with which to look upon him. We look through the exterior, look through the shell, look through the coat, and find the man. We look through the ofttimes repulsive wrappings, through the dark, objectionable coating collected upon the downward travel of mis-spent years, through the artificial veneer of empty seeming, through to the man.

"He that was made after God's own image.

"He that is greater than firmaments, greater than suns, greater than worlds. "Man, for whom worlds were created, for whom the Heavens were canopied, for whom suns were set ablaze. He in whose being there gleams that immortal spark we call the soul.

"When the Empress of Ireland went down with a hundred and thirty Salvation Army officers on board, one hundred and nine officers were drowned, and not one body that was picked up had on a life-belt. The few survivors told how the Salvationists, finding there were not enough life-preservers for all, took off their own belts and strapped them upon even strong men, saying, I can die better than you can; and from the deck of that sinking boat they hung their battle-cry around the world—Others!

"My father, in a private audience with the late King Edward said: Your Majesty, some men's passion is gold; some men's passion is art; some men's passion is fame; our passion is man!"—Evangeline Booth, Commander-in-chief of the Salvation Army in America.

In Emerson's phrase, These words are alive and vascular; cut them and they will bleed.

They are quoted from The War Romance of the Salvation Army, J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia. It is a fascinating and quickening story.