

The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1937.

A LIFT FOR TODAY

How good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.—Psalms 133:1.

What science calls the unity and uniformity of nature; truth calls the fidelity of God.—Martineau.

May we remember, O God, that our hearts should not be set against one another, but set with one another—all against evil only.

Shop In Edenton

Edenton merchants are joining together in an all-out effort to attract customers to their stores. They will observe what is termed Spring Festival of Values from April 5 to 13, during which time special bargains will be offered on many items of merchandise.

In order to induce new and old customers to shop in Edenton, an eight-page circular will be sent all over the Albemarle area listing some of the bargains offered and giving prospective customers a general idea of the special prices to be placed on some of the merchandise.

The plan is to stimulate spring sales and to make an effort to have shoppers cultivate the habit of trading in Edenton instead of traveling elsewhere to do their buying. In fact, if the novel plan is successful, a similar and more elaborate event is expected to be staged annually.

Merchants are really offering some bargains, so that it will be worthwhile for shoppers to visit the cooperating stores during the Spring Festival of Values.

Not only will the circulars publicize the event, but The Herald will give publicity to it and radio station WCDJ will also broadcast information.

Edenton stores are an integral part of the community and they deserve your patronage.

Equality Prime Motive

With the County Commissioners already sitting two times as a board of equalization and review, quite a few citizens of the county have appeared before them to register complaints relative to the new valuation of their property.

Sort of hot under the collar, most of those complaining left the meeting in a better frame of mind after the revaluation program had been thoroughly explained. True, most of the property has been increased and some in substantial amounts, but the Commissioners try to point out that the folks who done the revaluation work are thoroughly acquainted with values and that property is valued on the same basis, so that similar property is not higher for one person than it is another.

Certainly in a job of such magnitude it is altogether possible for some mistakes to be made and where these have been found a correction has or will be made, but for the most part the valuations as set out will stand. With valuations being on an equitable basis with other similar property, it would be more or less foolhardy to make reductions. If this is done, the whole revaluation program might as well be thrown out of the window.

While valuations may appear to be high, there should be some consolation in the fact that the county tax rate will most likely be reduced. However, the county needs a certain amount of money to operate, and this will have to be forthcoming even with low or high property valuations.

The Commissioners are very eager to be fair and just in the revaluation of county property but they do not intend to reduce valuations solely on the argument that those complaining say it is too high.

The Commissioners will again sit as a board of equalization and review after the regular meeting next Monday. They have already devoted a great deal of time and study to the situation and are hopeful that for the most part everybody will be satisfied and that the revaluation project will prove to be a good thing for the county as a whole.

Speeding automobiles carry you fast, where you want to go, but sometimes they carry you faster where you do not want to go.

The reason some people talk so much about themselves is that they know so little about anything else.

You have to do a great deal of reading and some thinking to discover the truth about anything.

Heard & Seen

By Buff

Here's one who thoroughly enjoyed the program presented by the University of North Carolina Glee Club in the Elementary School auditorium Wednesday night of last week. But hereafter if the piano is not changed to a different location, the bloomin' thing should have a coat of paint or varnish. Every time the curtain closed, one end of the piano was sticking out until somebody on the stage pulled back the curtain. The end sticking out looked more like the side of a weatherbeaten box than a piano, so that a freshening up seems to be in order.

If you look at the list of births last week under "Hospital Patients," you'll notice that exactly a dozen newcomers put in an appearance, seven of whom were girls and five boys. To date I've been "paid" only one cigar and not a single doughnut. The cigar came from Douglas Spruill, who became a daddy of one of the girls. He put out a cigar, maybe, because he wanted a boy.

Will Harrell asked Jim Daniels how he was feeling at the Masonic meeting Thursday night. "Not so good," said Jim, "my back is giving me a lot of trouble and I've got to be careful." "Well," said Will, "you better be careful, for it's the only one you've got."

At last week's Masonic meeting the plan to attend church in a body was considered, but it was hard to decide whether to go to the Presbyterian Church, where a former pastor, the Rev. David Crawford, was preaching, on Monday or Tuesday night. The vote was about evenly divided, when one of the brothers spoke out, "Why not go both nights, it will not hurt anybody?" Anyway it was finally agreed to attend Tuesday night. Maybe two doses of religion in succession might be too much for some of the boys.

I'll string along with Gilliam Wood on this fish business. Gilliam says he believes it takes a fish about a year to gain a pound while in the water. However, when one is caught, the bloomin' fish many times gains a pound, and in some cases several pounds, within a very few seconds after being pulled from the water—according to the guy who caught the fish.

Some old-timers were talking the other day how things have changed. "When I was a boy I was lucky to get a penny to spend," said one of 'em, "but now the youngsters don't think of asking for less than a quarter or a dollar to throw away." He even said he'd frequently resort to stealing eggs from the hen house to sell in order to get a little spending money. But another fellow chimed in, "You don't know nuthin'." I couldn't even swipe a single egg, for every morning my mother would go around feeling the hens so she knew about how many eggs to expect."

Edenton merchants are planning to observe Spring Festival of Values from April 5 to 13. During that time they will offer substantial reductions on much of their merchandise. Want to catch up with some bargains? Then visit the various stores during these Shop in Edenton Days.

And speaking about the Glee Club, some in the audience took a special liking to Hunter Tilleman, the talented pianist. One lady was heard to say, "Gosh, but I think he's cute. I wish I'd be about 20 years younger." But even then maybe it would have made no difference. Anyway, the pianist was good as were the other members of the club. Here's one who'd like to see more of such kind of entertainment.

My hat's off to the Edenton firemen for taking precautionary measures. When the University of North Carolina Men's Glee Club presented a program last week in the Elementary School auditorium, firemen were located at the front and rear of the auditorium. They were equipped with fire extinguishers and were ready to give orders in event an emergency developed. Fortunately, their services were not needed, but it's far better to be prepared than to be sorry. Not a bad idea at all whenever a large crowd congregates in a building.

Maybe the fish are coming to life. Cecil Fry is getting in the habit of catching one or two nice bass every time he goes out. A Marine caught an 8½-pound bass the other day and the word soon got around. While Rick Allsbrook and I were up the creek Saturday afternoon (nope, no luck) another Marine passed who had not had a single strike. "What's all these wild stories I've been hearing about this creek?" he asked. Well, sometimes they do and sometimes they don't so a little crowing is in order when they do.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TAKES ISSUE WITH JAMES' ADDRESS

This is being written because I feel compelled to take issue with some of the statements made by Mr. James in his address to the Lions Club as reported in last week's Herald.

While much of the blame for the "alarming situation" lies with the home, I feel a good deal of it also lies with the authorities at the school. I know of at least one senior who quit school because of a teacher who picked at him constantly (and I understand there are others who have left for the same reason). This same teacher has hurled such epithets as "thief," "liar," and "cheat" at her charges. She said to one boy, in front of the entire class, "I predict that you will be in the state penitentiary by the time you are twenty-one years old." To another boy who received a B in the course, she said, "Now you would receive an A if you'd sit down and study instead of spending your time telling the bus driver to run over me." The boy denied he had said this, as did the bus driver, but the teacher refused to believe him, nor would she give him an opportunity to defend himself.

Another teacher had a boy expelled for three days because of something of which he was innocent. The entire class told the teacher he had not done that which he was expelled for, but she refused to believe them because they were too honorable to tattle on the really guilty person (it was just a childish prank, by the way). Three of those who were present told Mr. James that the boy was guilty, but he would not believe them. Finally the boy who was guilty of the "crime" confessed, but the teacher still insisted the other boy receive some punishment. No apology has been made to the boy.

This same teacher, by the way, refused this same boy permission to sharpen a pencil during a test—though three other boys had just been granted such permission. Of course, he was unable to finish the test, and received a reprimand from Mr. James because of it. Another teacher told a boy at the beginning of the school term, "You look like a person I cannot trust, so I insist you sit right here in front of my desk." This teacher, by the way, refused to believe another boy when he told her his name, and called him a liar. Finally she took him down to Mr. James' office where she learned the boy had told her the truth. She has not yet apologized to the boy.

I am sorry that one of the teachers is "unable to understand the attitude of the boys and girls." Frankly, I am not that naive—I understand their attitude perfectly, and sympathize with it. I know of other incidents than I have listed, some even worse than these. The trouble is, frankly, some of the teachers just don't understand young people—they think they are little Hitlers in their classrooms, and that the student's feelings and human dignity are to be disregarded.

that the student is guilty until proven innocent; they are, in short, angry at their students. One boy summed it up to me in these words: "I don't know what the matter is with . . . she seems to think the whole class is her enemy, and she is determined to ruin us before we ruin her." Let me suggest that high school teachers be required to take courses in teen-age psychology—and, perhaps, the basic roots of American Democracy. High school students are human beings, and they deserve respect and consideration; it is a tragic error to treat them as "lesser breeds without the law." I rub shoulders with many of the students at the Edenton High School every day—We have more than fifty of them in our Sunday School, and I treat them with the respect and dignity they deserve. I have never had a "discipline problem" with them, nor has any of them ever talked back to me. They treat me with the same respect I treat them.

This is not to be constituted as either a criticism of Mr. James or his talk. As everyone knows, Mr. James is doing a wonderful job as principal of our high school, and I am in agreement with most of what he has said. As the same time, I feel there is another side to the question; and I am one person who can speak out without fear of retaliation.

Sincerely,
James MacKenzie.

REGRETTABLE SITUATION

It is most regrettable that our Town Council decided to take such hasty action in voting to recommend a change in the town charter relative to tenure of office of Council members.

It was ill-considered and ill-advised for these very good reasons: (1) No change in the town charter should, morally or ethically, be considered without a vote of the people or at least an expression of a majority of the people by means of a mass meeting. Less than a week before their hasty action the Town Council had voted against this measure. (2) It smacks too much of politics. No one is indispensable. On the surface it looks too much as if some one is afraid of losing their job. (3) It was too hasty. Any such decision of such far-reaching significance should be acted on only after calm and studied deliberation. (4) They had no justifiable reason for such action, or at least they did not make known to the public.

It seems to the writer that there is nothing wrong with the present method of electing our town officials. Now, at least, if we don't approve of the way our Councilmen are conducting town business we don't have to wait four years to elect new ones. We have altogether too many boards in town now that have life tenure in office. For goodness sake, let's not let this happen to the Town Council.

A READER.

Holmes Speaker At Lions Club Meeting

Continued From Page 1, Section 1

Morale was very low.

It was about this time that the people at home and at General Headquarters became aware of what had happened in Russia under similar circumstances when the Russian government was overthrown, thus unleashing the hounds of Bolshevism on the world. The "powers that were" knew that might happen to American soldiers unless something was done to make him a little happier in his lot in Germany and France.

General Pershing realized that unless something was done to improve morale there was a danger of a million and a half soldiers getting out of hand. He appointed a committee of 20 officers from rank of major up known as a Committee on Morale. This committee did much to raise morale by making it easier to get leave, organizing sports and entertainment. On this committee was Teddy Roosevelt who conceived the idea of a civilian organization of veterans. He invited the members of the committee to a dinner in Paris. The other members of the group fell in with the suggestion.

There was some feeling that it was wrong to organize a civilian army. Roosevelt won over the idea and sold it to General Pershing, but he stipulated that attendance would be at the member's expense and on his own leave. There were in France at that time two divisions containing a high percentage of North Carolinians, the 30th and 81st. The 30th was on the way home, but many North Carolinians attended the first caucus in Paris on April 30th. At first there was much discussion about whether the group would be composed of both officer and enlisted personnel, and whether or not it would be limited to persons who served in the A.E.C. It was finally decided that it would be composed of all military personnel, including the Nurse Corps, and including those persons who did not serve overseas. It was also at this first convention that the name American Legion was given the organization among many other names suggested.

The first meeting in the United States was held at St. Louis in May. It was at the St. Louis meeting that the preamble was adopted, which has become a classic in English literature—"For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes."

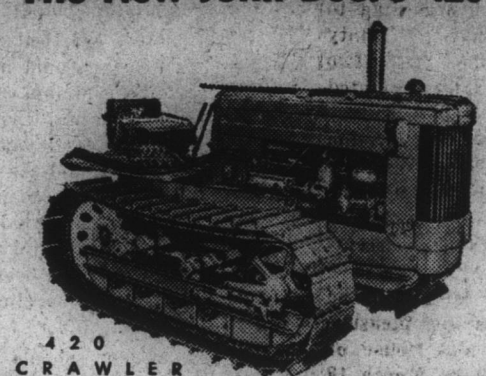
During the first national convention, which was held in Minneapolis

on November 11th, a parade was being held in Centralia, Washington, at which time the parade was fired upon by the Industrial Workers of the World. Four were killed and word was received at the Minneapolis convention, and the convention adopted Americanism as one of its main objectives and war was declared on Bolshevism.

Some of the projects the Legion has undertaken have been American Education Week, Boys State

oratorical contest, Junior Legion baseball, and many others. One of the outstanding projects of the Legion is the "Back To God Movement," said Holmes, stating that the movement was sincere in this movement and that if an active program such as this were not carried out the preamble would be meaningless. The Legion encourages such things as family Bible reading, family worship and prayer.

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