

Unveiling of Marker

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presence and splendid behaviour, stating that a special table had been set for the Old Confederates and another for the World War Veterans, but that there would be enough for all to have a snack and after the benediction, a sumptuous dinner was served on the grounds, to which all did a full share of justice.

Thus closed another great day for Hertford County.

Speech by Hon. W. R. Johnson

"Friends:—We have met today in a common cause. Here we lay aside all class distinctions and as one big family gather around the shrine of patriotism, in one great purpose.

"We have not met to sing the praises of any dead or living hero—our cause is common to Hertford County.

"When civilization trembled in the balance and German greed claimed that nothing would satisfy his insatiable appetite except to be fed on nations, empires, and kingdoms; when nations and kingdoms were bled white and innocent woman and children were thrust aside or walked over rough-shod under the iron heel of Imperialistic despotism, an thousands were daily fed into famished maw of the war god, and its brutality became so monstrous and the German military forces became too reckless and unmindful of the rights of the innocent nations; and America was denied the freedom of the seas and our kith and kin were sent to the bottom of the Atlantic without warning, without excuse or without conscience, and civilized warfare was disregarded and the helpless nations were seized by the throat and attacked, it was then that the eye of hope was turned with its pitying cry to America, to release them from the grip of the ruthless Hun; it was then and not until then that to stand longer idle would be to pass by on the other side like the priest and the Levite did on the Jerico road as described in the 10th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel.

"The war toxin was sounded and the word was flashed over the wires that we must get ready, that the enemy in his deadly march must be stopped.

"The response in Hertford County was determined and heroic and I remember as Chairman of the Draft Board for Hertford County, how the numbers would come before me and express impatience and at times, by special request, I entrained them and let them go in advance of their serial numbers and right here I want to emphasize the fact that no more loyal and courageous men were ever received at the training camp than those who went from Hertford County.

"When you answered the call, you did not answer with the idea of hunting for the fortunes of war. When Caesar's legions fought they were looking for the spoils of victory, for they knew that the vanquished foe would be brought back in the clanking chains of slavery,—but a higher mission urged you onward and when the ocean transport swung out in the channel and its great engines began to throb and its prow began to cut through the liquid blue of the mighty deep, your hearts carried the high ideal of the great Wilson, the altruistic spirit of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, with a vision large enough to know that that phrase was as "sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal," unless a world democracy was established, "of the people, by the people and for the people."

"Such was your mission and while the German Monarch fought relentlessly, it was then when the American Expeditionary Forces reached the other side that his empire began to totter and fall under the force of the American valor, in which you veterans of Hertford County took part.

"This coming together is to commemorate the valor of the dead and the living soldiers who went from Hertford County.

"The marker which will be unveiled today will stand as a monument to their unflinching faith, to your unflinching courage through the ages and when the tooth of time shall have gnawed away the inscription chiselled in its side, posterity through whose veins your blood will flow will replace it and hallow today's coming together, but long before that day shall come, yes, during the lives of some of us who are standing here, may the ideals of President Wilson be enacted into international law among all the nations of the earth, when the words of the prophet shall be fulfilled, "they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nations shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more." You veterans did your part League of Nations is finally adopted

then the dead prophet who has lain silent in his unmarked tomb through the centuries will speak in thunderous tones: "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

"A parting word to you veterans and then I am done! You answered your country's call and you did it so proudly and gallantly and this applies to the negro soldier as well as to you and to them in the near future will be also unveiled a marker. You won the fight and today the Kaiser is a fugitive. Your work you did well. Peace has been declared and you have returned to a grateful people. We are proud of your record which you made in that desperate struggle. It is a part of the history of Hertford County; it is a part of the history of your dear old state of North Carolina; it is a part of the history of your great Nation; yes, it is a part of the history of the World, but, remember that "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war. I thank you."

Speech of Hon J. C. B. Ehringhaus

Winton, N. C., September 27, 1923.

On occasions such as this, though realizing that our ceremonials, given over largely to speaking, are the best tribute we can offer, I have been impressed with the necessary incompleteness of the same. For somehow it seems incongruous suggestion that mere words should be the vehicle of consecration for this symbol of a peoples pride and patriotism. Nothing which we may say can dedicate, can consecrate this tablet. The service which it represents, the lives here symbolically pledged and symbolically given to our country's cause, work in themselves a consecration so high and holy as to make of this ceremony a meaningless and unnecessary occasion, an almost flippant trifling with those vitally real but unseen things which are a part and parcel of man's highest aspirations and attainments. The real consecration lies not in what we here say, but in what they say, whose stars here shine forth, have done. Our feeble expressions are but an effort to visualize and vocalize the spirit behind their unselfish offer of strong young bodies as a vicarious sacrifice to redeem Freedom and Peace to Mankind.

And so its is to brave hearts and true, which in the crisis that is past, flinched not nor faltered no matter what the call, to those who, having ever in mind the victory their faith had fashioned clear, fought and bled through dark and troublous days to the last glorious day of attainment, to those who sleep, who proudly paid the last full price of consecrated love for freedom's cause with their dear blood, whose service stars, first blue, by one grand sacrifice freed of all alloy, have turned to gold; to those, too oft forgotten, who through no fault of theirs were not privileged to see the red glare of war or measure in glorious combat their steel with steel, but nobly wrought at their post of duty in the homelands border; to the mothers, fathers, wives, and sweethearts who through anxious days with hearts a-tremble turned glad eyes always to lighten the hearts of their soldier boys; to those too at home who unselfishly answered each call for sacrifice of wealth or comfort, to these soldiers all, we dedicate this tablet and with them pledge anew our love to thee our dear, dear country.

In days of storm and days of joy,
"Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers,
our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,"
Have ever been with them and Thee.

The months since April 1917 have been full of overflowing. For the first time since 1898 we have been compelled to arm ourselves and fight for righteousness sake. Again has the war tide swept over us and grave as were the problems which came with it, today five years after the close, we are still face to face with several of the more intricate problems of reconstruction and peace. Those who met and solved the riddle of the devastated South in '65 have mostly passed beyond the field of active endeavor and these problems must therefore be met, as was the recent one of furnishing man power for the conflict, by men of a younger generation. From the past, we can, in the main, gather only the inspiration of a splendid example.

It is impossible on an occasion like this to attempt an adequate review of the manifold and complex problems of the hour. These concern, in the main, the great toiling masses of the country though they effect the life of all. In a Democracy such as ours, in a land dedicated to equality of opportunity, any sort of autocracy or bureaucracy, whether of government or of social or economic life has no place. Nor do we need the hydra-headed, self despoiling remedies of socialism or bolshevism with their horrible doctrines of racial equality, abolition of the family; nationalization of women and kindred fallacies.

These indeed are so repugnant to our refined Southern natures that I fear we are apt to recoil too far towards the reactionary in attempting to avoid them. The world is still on the bring of ruin and we must avoid the maelstrom. We need and must have clear headed and statesmanlike consideration of the problems of the hour lest we too become prey to the terrors which have ravaged others.

Pre-war conditions and the demand by the then belligerents for certain commodities necessary for the prosecution of the war, sent prices for these higher and higher. Gradually this condition spread to all other commodities and our entrance into the war, having diverted a large part of our industrial effort to war enterprises, contributed to this general rise. The abnormal inflation of the currencies of the world, made necessary to meet war conditions, played a part too in the general boosting. Yet, by the exercise of governmental supervision and price fixing powers granted or exercised during the war, some check was maintained. With the advent of peace came the abandonment of these governmental restraints and in the early days of a free and unhampered market, exhilarated by the demands of impoverished Europe clamoring for materials to rebuild herself and furnish her own peoples, the cost of living mounted to staggering proportions.

The war profiteer, unleashed, became a peace profiteer of stupendously insatiable greed and the man whose ability was measured entirely by his salary, who lived from hand to mouth, in the daily grind, was desperate in his efforts to make both ends meet. An illustrative of the results which flowed from such conditions hear the following.

"According to the report of the Commissioner of Education the average salary paid teachers in the United States increased from \$534.31 in 1915 to \$630.64 in 1918, or 17 per cent in three years, during which time the wholesale price of all commodities rose SEVEN TIMES as much."

This was typical and after four years of post war government effort towards "normalcy" (whatever that word means) we are still grappling with the problem of the high cost of living, with conditions, under a recently revised and increased tariff enactment, pointing steadfastly to an accentuation rather than alleviation of the problem. And yet under a recent date the newspapers of New York solemnly warn us that the "era of prosperity" has reached its crest and is now receding," before we, of the South, have actually realized its approach. When I view the still persisting chaotic and uncertain conditions which surround us, I wonder, in the light of this intelligence, where we were when the cyclone of prosperity struck us.

Again present industrial conditions are intolerable and while certain progress has been made readjustments are yet necessary. Having given to the peoples of the world as a result of our participation in the war, an opportunity to work out their own political salvation it is necessary that we readjust our own scheme of living to afford to each individual the opportunity for development to which of right under a free government, he is entitled.

From a very thoughtful address delivered before the War Emergency Reconstruction Conference of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, I quote a single paragraph in an Industrial creed promulgated by the author and which is the pith of the entire address:

"I believe that every man is entitled to an opportunity to earn a living, to fair wages, to reasonable hours of work and proper working conditions, to a decent home, to the opportunity to play, to learn to worship and to live, as well as to toil, and that the responsibility rests as heavily upon industry as upon government or society, to see that these conditions and opportunities prevail."

This my friends is not the language of some bolshevik recently escaped from Russia, but it came "mirabile dictu" from the lips of a representative of the very citadel of privilege, an officer of that chief of corporation sinners, the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, one John D. Rockefeller, Jr., son and successor to the great original.

Thus we see that even Privilege has caught the drift of present day currents and wisely seeks to grasp time by the forelock.

These illustrations I have used, though typical, are at best mere generalizations. And purposely so for in this way can I best illustrate the point I wish to make. What is the answer? What is the proper method of solution of these difficulties? Legislation?

That is the usual answer and in my judgment it involves the usual mistake. We are entirely too prone to seek through legislation the remedy for our ills. Do our children stay out too late? Pass a law to prevent it

Is our neighbor inclined to open his windows while his daughter regales her suitor with the latest jazz selections after our sleepy hour arrives? An ordinance is passed to stop it. Do our aesthetic sensibilities shudder at some incongruous collections of architectural misfits in a certain section of our growing town? The City Council should be called upon to abolish the nuisance. The health and well being of the citizen must be cared for and the police power of the State is broad enough to cover every conceivable situation. What is true in the small things is true as well in matters of greater importance. Well considered remedial legislation is advisable and necessary of course but it is not all sufficient. We must recognize, and I believe we are coming more and more to realize that this is not the only method by which to attack the evils of our industrial and social life. Indeed such efforts only scratch the surface and no matter what our religious conviction may be, no matter whether we view the problem from the standpoint of Moses, Saint Paul or Ingersoll, we must and are coming more and more to realize that the only sure solvent for most of the ills, industrial, economic and social, with which the body politic is afflicted, is a practical application of the moral code (if you will) of the lowly Nazarene.

In discreetly striking at these evils through well considered legislation we should and can curb them to a certain point, but beyond this legislation is futile for you cannot legislate morality in to the heart of man. The Code of Moses delivered from the thunderswept heights of Sinai has not stopped entirely the evils which it banned though backed by the sanction of Omnipotence, and drastic sumptuary legislation, though backed by the power of a sovereign state, is foredoomed, in a large measure, to innocuousness.

Instead of passing laws to keep our children at home after night we should control them at home, they need personal persuasion and example, not policemen. Make their homes so attractive that they do not wish to stray abroad. Instead of controlling through ordinance the musical offerings of our neighbor's daughter, we should, along with that neighbor, bend our efforts more and more towards inculcating in the hearts of our young, a wholesome respect for the rights and feelings of others. Instead of rushing to the legislative assembly with a law for every evil, real

or imagined, we should engage our energies in the work of teaching by precept and example the doctrine of loving our neighbor and doing unto him as we would be done by. There is already too much law and too little love in the world.

I regard as a most healthful and helpful sign the ever increasing activities of the various civic organizations, like the Rotary, Kiwanis, Civilians and Lions clubs, throughout the land. When business and busy men by common consent lay aside an hour or more each week to discuss with sympathetic intelligence, not the means of increasing their own profits, but of improving and bettering the condition of their less fortunate fellows and unselfishly serving their brethren, there is room for hope that

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Notice of Administration

Having qualified as administratrix of the estate of W. E. Sessoms, deceased, late of Hertford County, N. C., this is to notify all persons holding claims against the said estate to present them to the undersigned administratrix at Ahoskie, N. C., on or before the 27th day of August, 1924 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This 27th day of August, 1923.
MRS. BEULAH E. SESSOMS,
Administratrix estate W. E. Sessoms.
8-31-6t.

Now is the time to get the winter garden started. Head lettuce, onion sets, carrots, beets, turnips, radish, cabbage, collards, celery, and various greens may all be planted now.

OFFICE NOTICE

ATLANTIC DISTRICT FAIR ASSOCIATION

AND

Fair Demonstrator Agent's Office

Upstairs in Feldman's Wooden Building
Corner Main and Catherine Street

AHOSKIE, N. C.

Office days of Fair Association: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
Office Day of Demonstration: Every Saturday.

All farmers are invited to visit this office on Saturdays. Consultations on all farm problems invited.

W. D. BROWN, Farm Agent

W. J. JENKINS, President Fair Association

C. E. REYNOLDS, Financial Secretary

FARM FOR SALE

On November 3rd, 1923

11:30 A. M.

I will offer for sale at Auction; my farm known as the Jno. D. Gatling home place, adjoining the Jno. D. Bridger farm.

This farm contains about 260 acres; six horse crop in high state of cultivation; two good dwelling houses and good out buildings. Good growth of timber. Land adapted to cotton, tobacco, peanuts, corn, potatoes and truck.

Terms to be announced at sale.

Place of sale on the premises.

J. C. BRETT

AHOSKIE, N. C.