

The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, APRIL 10, 1933

The Dawn Must Come

By way of the Cleveland Star comes an inspiring thought from the Chicago Daily News which was reproduced in the Editor and Publisher.

It is true, if we may add our own comment, that darkness follows the brilliance of the evening sun. It is also true that the darkest hour is just before dawn. Furthermore, it is true that nothing can hold back the dawn, not even the darkness of early morning.

Those are facts which no one contradicts. But to get back to the article mentioned in the opening paragraph, we note that a list of those commended for bravery is given. The patriots, those guardian angels of the right and of faith are to be found all around us. It is they who have never doubted that the "never-ending cycle of night to day persists and that nothing can hold back the dawn."

Let us look at the list of those the Daily News commends for bravery:

- the cop who shot it out with armed bandits and took his share of lead at \$165 a month that he didn't get.
- the juror who stood by his convictions in spite of threats
- the school teacher who uttered her same old cheerful "Good morning, children," without her breakfast.
- the man who disregarded all advice and kept his property in his own name
- the man who stuck to
- the banker who protected his depositors
- the dairyman who didn't water the milk
- the manufacturer and the merchant who refused to cut the quality and in spite of "hell and high water" kept their flags flying
- and last, but most important, the patriot who has kept his faith in God and America.

The dawn must come. It is coming. The only question is whether we shall be on the job and arise to meet it.

The Weather

It is a common saying that the Winters are getting milder and the summers hotter. Now comes along the United States weather bureau, which has been studying the weather conditions directly for more than sixty years and by reference to old records for more than a hundred years back, and confirms the belief that the past few years have been exceptionally mild.

Since 1908 the United States, especially that part of it east of the Rockies, has been enjoying the longest "warm spell" in history. The average annual temperature has been steadily rising for twenty-five years. Perhaps it has begun to change. The winter just passed was not as mild as the last one, which was the mildest in a century. If we have a cool spring, weather sharps say, we may look forward to a cooler autumn.

Just after the war of 1812 there was a long warm spell, lasting more than ten years. There was another soon after the Civil War. But from 1875 to 1912 the Summers kept getting colder.

What causes these fluctuations in average annual temperature is not yet clearly understood, but knowledge of them is important. For one thing, these changes of climate have a decided influence upon agriculture. They determine the length of the growing season. Wheat production has been extending farther and farther north in Canada for a good many years now. A change of only two or three degrees in the average temperature, shortening the growing season, might materially cut down the wheat area of our northern neighbor. Similarly, the northward limit of the cotton belt is fixed by the average annual temperature.

The weather is one topic of perennial interest. Everybody talks about it although, as Mark Twain remarked, nobody ever does anything about it. It is of interest to everybody because it affects everybody. We have heard of lands of perpetual sunshine, in which the temperature never changes from season to season, where nobody ever has to give the weather a second thought. We have often wondered what the people of those happy isles found to talk about. And we also wonder whether life doesn't get entirely too monotonous where Nature itself never changes.

Negative Side Scores

The observation is made that in the triangular debates for the high schools of Wilkesboro, Elkin and Mount Airy ten days ago, the youthful debaters upholding the negative side of the query won the decision in each instance. The query was: "Resolved, That North Carolina should adopt the sales tax as a feature of the state system of revenue."

Whether the personal opinion of the judges—and it is easy for most of us to consider that which we believe strongly as more logical than what we do not believe—had anything to do with the results or whether the negative teams were just better speakers and presented their arguments more forcefully is a matter of conjecture.

Most of the affirmative teams chose to advocate the luxury sales tax and shied away from a general sales tax in their efforts to build up a logical debate. The negative teams were "loaded" for them on either question and it is not surprising that victory was theirs.

Neither the general sales tax nor the luxury sales tax has much to commend it. Affirmative teams declared that they were advocating a tax on luxuries and seemed to define luxuries as being the things not absolutely necessary to one's well-being. That was a weakness in their armor which the negative champions pounced upon with a vim and vigor that would do credit to real warriors. True enough, they declared, that we can do without going to the show, smoking a cigarette, eating candy and other things of that kind. But should we take that course where would the much-needed revenue that they (the affirmative) seek from that source come from? Besides there are many things, such as electric lights, running water, bath tubs and steam heat, which can be done without but they like the things mentioned as luxuries tend to elevate the standard of living and add to the sum total of happiness in the world.

We only hope that our legislators take note of the arguments against a sales tax and save us from that burdensome form of taxation.

Reforestation

The good that will ultimately result from the reforestation program inaugurated by President Roosevelt for the relief of unemployment is not known. Yet if government money must be spent in relief projects—and it seems necessary—we doubt that Mr. Roosevelt could have found a project which would place more of the money into the hands of the laborer at so little overhead expense.

Our forests are not inexhaustible as we have seemed to think during the past half century. At the rate of destruction during the past 30 years, it would not have been long until the timber supply would be wiped out.

It is very probable that in years to come, President Roosevelt's reforestation program will be looked back upon as one of his most forward-looking steps.

Borrowed Comment

THIS REFORESTATION BILL MADE FOR NORTH CAROLINA (Raleigh Times)

The rapidity with which President Roosevelt shoots bills of the utmost magnitude to congress, to have them come back to him for his signature, is utterly bewildering. Nobody can keep track of them—members of congress, probably, least of all. They, at least, have learned to sign on the dotted line.

The latest of these great measures, however, vitally affects North Carolina, if the state can get its just allotment and if it is given the consideration its history and its condition suggest. Forest care and reforestation. The federal government, when this is read, probably will have been committed to a program calling for the annual expenditure of 200 million dollars to these ends. The state, through the agency of a forgotten man, Joseph Hyde Pratt, and a modest one, J. S. Holmes, has done a great work in these respects, with results to show. Now, primarily it appears, for the sake of aiding the unemployed, the government itself is going into the thing in a big way.

On paper, in the eye of the dreamer, our situation might be called unique. It might be called an example. It might be set up as an illustration and offered as the original laboratory.

"Tar, Pitch and Turpentine." That was what elementary students in geography once wrote down as the industry of "The Old North State." Where are they now?

They are in our burned and abandoned original pine forests. They are indicated in savannas of soured land, unfit for any use. Changing the picture, they are in the bald-headed mountains of western North Carolina. They are represented by a great burden of untaxable land, millions on millions of acres, robbed of their value and thrown heedlessly into the lap of a people unable to take care of them.

Here is a program indeed. The trouble with it is that it looks to the future generations, as we all looked when everybody issued a bond and presented it to posterity.

Posterity finally finds a hole in the seat of its pants.

This Week In Washington

Washington. — The situation here simmers down to a complete national housecleaning. New brooms proverbially sweep clean, and the Roosevelt broom has hardly begun to show signs of wear. Congress doesn't like the assumption of such complete leadership by the President, but the President has the public behind him and Congress hasn't. So it is a safe bet that Mr. Roosevelt will get the rest of his major program through Congress, although not without a good deal of muttering and grumbling. He holds the whip-hand, and nothing scares the average Congressman so much as the thought that the President can go right over his head by means of newspapers and radio, and tell his constituents that he isn't doing his duty.

Moves For Farm Relief

Farm relief, for example: The Senate doesn't want to pass the President's bill, and doubtless will succeed in inserting some unimportant changes. But it will be passed, because Senators don't want to risk the President going "on the air" and telling people that they were willing enough to help bankers but unwilling to help farmers!

Meantime, practical steps toward what Secretary Wallace calls "abolishing anarchy in agriculture" have been taken by the Presidential order abolishing the Farm Board and combining its work with the Federal Farm Loan Board, the Federal Land Banks, the Joint Stock Land Banks, the Intermediate Credit Banks, the Agricultural Credit Corporations set up by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Crop Production Loan Bureau and agricultural association loan bureau. All of those functions will be performed by the new board with Henry Morgenthau, Jr., at its head.

Mr. Morgenthau will pull one of the strongest oars in the whole government. He and Secretary Wallace will share complete control so far as Government can control such things over what farmers may plant, how they market their product, how much they may get for it and how much they can borrow for their farm operations, as well as what they can borrow on farm mortgages.

Unemployment Relief Next

The first stage of President Roosevelt's unemployment relief plan the enlistment of 250,000 men under military discipline for forestry work, seems likely enough to be authorized speedily. It will use money which had been appropriated but not spent

for other kinds of public works. The next stage, it is expected, will be an appropriation of something like five hundred million dollars for appropriations among the states for direct relief. The Administration conceives it to be the Government's first duty to see to it that nobody starves, while waiting for the wheels of industry to begin to turn again.

Money for this and probably for other purposes will be raised by a new Government bond issue of perhaps three million dollars. Long-term bonds bearing a low rate of interest may be offered in small units, as low as \$20, and it is expected that there will be little difficulty in disposing of them. The interest will be a charge on the annual budget but not so heavy as to offset economies already beginning to be put into effect.

Funds from this or some other source, possibly through the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, are expected to be used to shoulder some of the farm mortgage burden, but not to lift it all from the shoulders of the insurance companies and other large mortgagees.

Business and Railroads

One use to which Government funds may be put is the stimulation of business by means of some method of either making loans for expansion purposes or guaranteeing business enterprises against loss if they will undertake to resume operations at full pressure under conditions laid down by the Government. This is one of the plans not yet fully worked out, but generally talked about among President Roosevelt's intimates.

Early action by the Administration for the relief of the railroad situation seems imminent. It is said here that some of the delay is due to negotiations under way between the new Secretary of Labor, Miss Perkins, and the railway brotherhoods, looking toward a reduction of railroad wage scales as a necessary part of any wide-spread re-organization calculated to put the roads on an earning basis.

The railroad plans contemplate a single managing head, similar to the position of Director of Railways during the war. This man will be the supreme boss of the railroads, with the Interstate Commerce Commission acting in an advisory capacity.

Still On Bank Problem

The banking situation considered as a whole is regarded here as in good shape, but with much yet to be done to insure stability. Some few banks which were not in perfect condition have been allowed to open, due to exigencies of state politics. There is going to be some sort of strong Government supervision imposed upon all banks, but what form it will take is not yet clear. It

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CHEVROLET COACH	195.00	95.00
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probably will not be in the form of a Government guarantee, of bank deposits, but it may take the form of requiring every bank which is a member of the Federal Reserve System to contribute to a mutual insurance fund to guarantee deposits. This, with the requirement that every National bank shall be a member of the Federal reserve, is calculated to drive all state banks into the system.

With beer legalized and the proposal to repeal the prohibition amendment likely to be ratified by a sufficient number of states, President Roosevelt has sent for a list of prisoners in Federal prisons for violations of the prohibition laws. He has not said why he wants the list, but some of his friends suggest that he is looking for cell-room for bankers. Several big bankers are under arrest and apparently headed for prison, and it is rumored here that many more will be brought to trial if the present defendants are convicted.

You can tell when the movie is near the end. Women begin to put their shoes on.—Aurora Beacon-News.

San Pedro Gal: "Hello, dearie, what seems to be the matter?"
Long Beach Female: "I have a terrible cold; my head feels all stopped up."

San Pedro Gal: "Too bad, dearie, why don't you try a vacuum cleaner?"

Agronomy Information circulars number 77 and 78 giving information about the value of soil types for certain crops and the results of cotton variety tests for three years, are available to citizens of North Carolina on application to C. B. Williams, head of the department of agronomy at State College.

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