

THE STATE PORT PILOT
Southport, N. C.

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Wednesday, August 7, 1935

When the cat's away the mice won't play—if the cat did what he ought to be before he left.

This is the season when chronic complainants wish that winter would hurry up and get here.

The kind of English a man uses is a pretty sure index to his background and training.

There are plenty of men who are not making a decent living for their family who can tell you right off the bat how to run the government.

If the people of Louisiana had kept Huey Long home, chances are that Congress would already have been adjourned.

The wise person is one who trains himself to do more than one thing well, thus providing additional outlets for his abilities.

During the past week-end we traveled through several of the leading agricultural counties of North Carolina but nowhere did we see any prettier crops than may be found in some sections of Brunswick county.

Charles VII.

Charles VII, the prince whom Jeanne d'Arc had made king of France 32 years before, died in 1416, at 56, having starved himself to death!

He so feared being poisoned by his son and heir that abstinence from food became an obsession. When he would have eaten he could not, for his passages had shrunk up.

Changed Attitude.

In recent years a great change has taken place in the attitude of citizens of the United States toward their government.

When it was first established by our forefathers, our government was set up by the people to serve a common need and to be supported by them. More recently, citizens of our nation seem to have adopted the attitude that the government owes them a living and that one of its primary functions is to act as an equalizing agency through which the financial accumulations of the wealthy may be disbursed to the mass of the people.

There are in this country 175,000 different governments — city, township, county, state and Federal. There are 3,250,000 people employed in some branch of governmental work. Their total salaries are \$4,500,000,000 each year.

Every dollar that is paid out by the government of the United States has been paid into the treasury in taxes. As the number of bureaus and employees increases, so does our tax rate. It is time to remember that the government is ours to support and that it is to our own interest to see that its operating expenses are within the bounds of reason.

Congratulations In Order.

Members of the Port City Civic Club in their regular meeting Friday night extended their congratulations to Captain Fred B. Leitzsey upon his recent promotion from rank of first lieutenant. We join with them in wishing Captain Leitzsey continued success in his career as army officer.

Captain Leitzsey and his assistants are doing great work at the local Citizens Conservation Corps camp. Visitors at the camp are immediately impressed with the cleanliness and good order that is everywhere apparent. Improvements are constantly being made.

These things are true of the physical equipment. Even greater changes are

made in the men who report for duty during their periods of enlistment. A varied program of vocational training is being conducted during the recreation periods by Educational Director Zach M. Williams, and some of the men in the camp who have had the advantage of a college education are conducting special classes for their fellow-workers who have never advanced beyond the primary grades.

The men are willing workers and are carrying out the program of forest protection and reforestation that was mapped out for them when the camp was established in Southport. This work, together with the vocational training which the men are receiving, makes the work of the local camp well worth while.

After It's Sold.

The border belt tobacco markets open Thursday and during the next few weeks farmers of this county will be paid for their crop they have spent months of hard work to produce. During the next few weeks of agricultural independence there are a few sobering thoughts they should bear in mind.

Debts come first. The business future of no man is any better than his credit. Necessities are next—a new supply of clothes for the entire family, some furniture, perhaps, and other things that have been needed for some months, but the purchase of which has been deferred until fall.

Then there are certain luxuries that will add greatly to life on the farm. The extent of these, of course, will be governed by the money available for these things after debts are paid and necessities provided. In some instances, there may be money enough for the installation of a private power plant, with water for the home. These things will be a joy to any farm family. And a radio. There's something that will bring more actual pleasure to the average family than any other thing. Nothing can do more to keep rural inhabitants closely in touch with the outside world.

Usually it is the man of the family who goes to market with the load of tobacco. It is to him that the money is paid. Don't forget, men, that you didn't make the crop by yourself—that had it not been for other members of the family there were times when your tobacco might have been a total loss. So include them when you celebrate your seasonal prosperity. Let the luxuries that result from your tobacco crop be things that every member of your family can enjoy.

Reduce It Further.

During the past few years there has been a slow, but steady, decrease in the nation's fire loss.

The decrease is extending into 1935, according to figures issued by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. During the first six months of this year, loss totaled \$136,460,000, as compared with \$158,064,000 during the same period in 1934.

The trend is encouraging—about a decade ago the annual fire loss ran in excess of \$500,000,000 a year. However, it is still much too high. At least eighty per cent of fires are unnecessary—at least eighty per cent of them could be prevented by thought, care, perhaps the expenditure of a little money.

Every citizen should voluntarily enlist in the fire-fighting army in an effort to further reduce this useless waste. He should periodically inspect his property, and correct any hazards that exist from basement to attic. Piles of papers, improperly stored inflammables, old or amateur electric wiring, defective furnaces, pipes and flues—these are among the great causes of fire in dwellings. And a prolific outside source of fire that is especially dangerous during summer months is dry, uncut grass.

Any local fire marshal or fire department is glad to give a citizen assistance in the matter of discovering and eliminating fire hazards. Insurance companies are equally cooperative. Ignorance of hazards, like ignorance of the law, is no excuse—the knowledge that will prevent fire can be easily obtained.

In the long run, fire loss determines the cost of insurance, and if we lower losses it will be reflected in our premium rate as soon as it is proved that the waste is going to stay down. Fire loss increases taxes and is a burden to every member of the community. Fire prevention should be regarded as both a privilege and a duty—that saves lives and money and preserves irreplaceable resources.

Washington Letter

Washington, August 7.—With hopes for adjournment growing brighter, ambitious legislators are following the inference of the old hymn "rescue the perishing." Legislative measures, vital to the political future of their sponsors, are being dragged from committee pigeon-holes in an effort to breathe enough oxygen to secure their passage by the Senate and House. History shows that in the mad rush of the last days many important measures are lost in the shuffle. Committees, which for one reason or another, have bottled up many of these proposals, are now subjected to pressure from the particular lawmakers or groups interested in their enactment. As the time grows shorter, compromises which were rejected are now gladly accepted in an effort to expedite the consideration of controversial measures. One of the favorite sports of the day is guessing as to the exact date of the Congressional adjournment. The best opinion has been the adjournment between August 15 and 24. The extent of the current warfare against the Administration tax program is the real uncertain feature.

A brief survey of the political and legislative fronts reveals a jittery condition. Promised a short and probably uneventful session beginning next January, Congress is inclined to get the big chores done before adjournment. The idea is to give assurances to the lawmakers that they will have plenty of time to campaign for re-election next year. Veteran solons are not deceived by the rosy promises, for these war-horses know full well that a five-months vacation among the home folks may upset the best laid plans of political leaders. Unable to read a portion of letters from their districts, the legislators will be obliged to listen while building their fences for the coming campaign. A wise Senator or Representative follows the winds in his own halliwick more than the orders of his party chieftains.

The public reaction to a proposal restricting the power of the Supreme Court as retaliation for declaring the NRA unconstitutional has effectively sidetracked a national referendum on the issue. The New Deal is, however, trying out the machinery for another amendment to the Constitution, which would wipe out exemptions now given to Federal, State and municipal securities and make these items subject to taxation. An amendment of this sort has a popular aspect as the average citizen is not interested as an investor. The question of financing local projects requiring cities and counties to issue bonds figures prominently. The tax exempt feature is always an inducement to buy and without this marked advantage, these securities may find real competition from bond issues.

Searching around for ideas which will give employment to millions of men and women is not as easy as it appears to the layman. The President has nearly five billion dollars to spend on work relief projects. In order to insure the utmost care in the allotments, an application, submitted by a municipality or state, must go through many critical hands before it is approved. Already rumblings against the requirement of taking employees for these projects off relief rolls rather than on a selective basis are heard in official circles. These complaints are particularly loud among the Federal agencies requiring a high type of technical skill when the same is not usually available from the relief rolls.

For instance, several projects which require skilled engineers are being held up because the administrators believe it a waste of time and money to employ unskilled laborers now on relief. The untrained worker fits into certain activities, but preliminary surveys are out of his line. Business men who ordinarily would not object to visits of competent tax officials are protesting invasion of their private affairs. The Treasury Department has instituted a delinquent tax survey in the twenty largest metropolitan areas.

The possibility that the Federal old age pension bill, an unemployment insurance measure, will soon become a law creates some concern as to its ultimate effect upon relief rolls. All governments since the days of Queen Elizabeth have been puzzled as to ways and means to stop voluntary pauperism. The fear is felt that many individuals, driven from state and Federal relief rolls under the edict of "work or starve," will attempt to "chisel" on their elderly relatives who are beneficiaries of old age pensions. For centuries, it has been proven that the

drone was usually better lodged and fed than the worker, a condition which is causing Federal relief administrators no end of trouble. Some local officials seeking to put a stop to lucrative loafing at the taxpayers expense are adopting drastic methods while others are utilizing psychological means of persuading the unemployed as to the dignity of labor and self-support as against pauperism.

A survey of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration of rural workers showed that of the employed heads of rural households on relief, 29 percent had shifted from the occupations they had usually followed before the depression, and most of these men had gone one or more steps downward on the occupational ladder. Men who usually had owned farms now were renting them or working on their men's farms as laborers. Some were performing unskilled work in non-agricultural industries. Farmers were least inclined of all workers to change to other occupations. Relief administrative officers called upon to assign men and women to new Federal projects would like authority to make tests in order to weed out the unfit. However, politics enter the picture and this practical policy will probably never be adopted.

Ask Six Millions For Public Works

Forty-One Applications Are Made In North Carolina; Baity Urges Haste

Chapel Hill, August 7.—Forty-one applications for loans and grants amounting to \$6,248,577.02 under the new \$4,000,000,000 work-relief program have been received today by H. G. Baity, acting state director of the state PWA.

In North Carolina there are 39 non-Federal projects estimated to cost \$5,467,417 now under construction, Mr. Baity stated. Thirty-seven non-Federal projects built at an estimated cost of \$3,630,925 have been completed and are now in use. Twelve additional projects amounting to \$1,665,250 have received allotments and soon will be under construction. Applications for projects should be got in the State office with all possible speed, Mr. Baity urged.

More than 4,500 Federal and non-Federal PWA projects costing nearly \$1,800,000,000 are now under construction in the nation, it was announced. Mr. Baity said that the July report shows that 13,238 projects costing \$685,421,693 have been completed and are in use, that 4,514 projects costing \$1,787,187,135 are under construction and that 1,426 projects costing \$321,026,225 have received allotments

and are in various stages of progress preliminary to construction. Expenditures for materials was reported, amount to \$1,000,000, for wages \$485,000, and other expenditures \$650,000, making a total of \$2,135,000.

How the PWA has filled the gap until the new program is fully under way was revealed in the announcement by Mr. Baity that PWA has under construction 1,555 non-Federal projects throughout the country, the estimated cost being \$726,900,000.

Weekly Quiz

1. Who was the wife of George Washington?
 2. What is entomology?
 3. What is the capital of Wisconsin?
 4. In which state is the natural Bridge?
 5. When did the League of Nations come into existence?
 6. How many persons lost their lives in the sinking of the Titanic?
 7. How much is a fathom?
 8. What is a filigree?
 9. What is another name for fire-dog?
 10. How far is it from London to London?
 11. Who is president of the University of North Carolina?
 12. What is a weald?
- (Answers on Page 5)

Final Tax Notice

ALL LANDS UPON WHICH 1934 TAXES HAVE NOT BEEN PAID WILL BE ADVERTISED FOR SALE AUGUST 14th.

PAY YOUR CITY TAXES NOW AND AVOID EXTRA COSTS.

J. E. Carr,
Tax Collector, CITY OF SOUTHPORT

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Will Appreciate Your Account

\$5000.00

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