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Wednesday, July 31, 1940 When something is too good to be true you soon find out that it isn't.

People who are always fearing the worst usually are no better prepared to deal with it when it comes.

Even the people who do not want something for nothing usually are on the alert for bargains.

When a man tells you he wants your honest opinion he means that he wants it if it happens to agree perfectly with his own.

Looks like the boys and girls most indebted to the custom of wearing clothes are the first to start running around in shorts.

That We May Go On

It is extremely unfortunate that the present emergency in our national defense should have occurred during a presidential election year.

If there were any way to do it under our democratic form of government, we should have been much better off to have declared a political moratorium for 1940, and to have waited until world conditions are more stabilized before we began to rock the boat.

So from the date of the first preparedness speech with which President Roosevelt literally jerked the nation from its apathy until after the election everything that is done will, consciously or unconsciously, be weighed in the political balances; and our crying need for speed and efficiency must go unanswered.

One way by which we can go ahead with our election and at the same time keep the wheels of the preparedness program turning is to name a co-ordinator to serve as chairman of the National Defense Council, to be responsible only to Congress, to serve straight through the crisis of election and inauguration.

There is nothing startlingly new in the suggestion, for during the last war Barnard Baruch occupied a similar post, and the work of the committee which he headed was a model of unspectacular work well done.

In naming his seven-man National Defense Council President Roosevelt made his appointments impartially and with the idea of efficiency. That group has been going quietly about its business and has earned praise from many sources.

Pseudo-Christians

Several weeks ago we wrote an editorial in which we said that never before has the church had a graver responsibility, nor a finer opportunity for service than it has today.

But first, of course, must come a singleness of purposes and a thorough cleaning from within for the church and its people. Bishop Stewart of the Episcopal church in a recent Diocesan Convention Address put his finger on the trouble, and we are quoting herewith an excerpt from his message:

"I am sure that I do not exaggerate when I affirm that two-thirds of our nominal communicants are only marginal churchmen with little to distinguish them from their neighbors in pagantry. Doubtless many of these are what would be called good people,—moved by generous impulses, feeling at times a faint mystical hanker after a higher life, and greatly frightened when sickness or death threatens them; but scratch their beliefs and what do you find? The faith of the church? No. Instead, a pathetic farrago of sentimentality, skepticism, and superstition. Observe their conduct and what do you discover? A thoroughly going worldliness untraced apparently by the spirit of the Crucified. Look for them in church: they are there only on state occasions or social occasions when it pleases them to join in weddings or funerals or the Easter parade, and they are there not as penitents but as patrons, not as adoring worshipers but as critical auditors. Test them by their missionary spirit and they tell you, as unbelievers naturally would, that they don't believe in missions. Analyze your church pledges and you find these fringe-churchmen are a dead weight being carried along by the faithful few. They know little of the work of their parish, less of the Diocese, and nothing of the National Council, or of the widespread work of the church. We are not just idly condemning these pseudo-churchmen, these marginal Christians. We are realistically facing their plight and urging that they should be our first missionary concern. Many of them are not far from the Kingdom if only a real effort were made to win them to the joys of genuine discipleship. And than God we have a faithful remnant, a consecrated devoted nucleus: they are the salt of the earth, but the sale of their lives is diluted in this great cauldron of indifference; and the light of their witness must pass through the opacity of these churchmen who really are no churchmen at all."

Vicious Cycle

Go to the courts of your county with a keen eye, and a number of revelations will be forthcoming. One of the most notable of your observations undoubtedly would be that the majority of the culprits who are brought before the bar of justice are the same ones who have been up before.

There are, in this county, perhaps 500 constant repeaters who if they were not in the county, the duty of the courts would be lessened 75 per cent.

It is this vicious cycle of offenders that deserve the attention of crusaders. What makes them repeaters? Does not society have to accept its share of the blame for this condition? Would not an attempt to rehabilitate these constant repeaters in crime, most of it petty crime, be worth while? The people of our county should look at the situation squarely, and decide for themselves.

At Long Last

So, at long last, Uncle Sam has awakened to the fact that the scrap iron which America has been shipping to Japan and Italy and the other nations of Europe and Asia, might be some day returned to us in the form of shrapnel and shell.

Thinking people have for many years questioned the wisdom of supplying these aggressive nations with the materials with which they have been able to fashion monstrous war machines. Some people have even ventured to wonder if these same guns which this scrap iron was going to make, might not be some day turned upon us.

The sale of the scrap-iron to foreign countries should have been stopped years ago. The United States, boasting that it is a peace loving nation which certainly it is, nevertheless during the past few years has been furnishing Japan a tremendous amount of the material which went into its war machine for an offensive against defenseless, helpless China.

Truth of the real importance of this scrap-iron to Japan is clearly indicated in the threatened reprisals of the Japanese government if an embargo is slapped upon shipments of the metal to the Nipponese.

The measure which has already been signed by President Roosevelt, does not impose an embargo on the shipments of scrap metals to foreign nations, but requires that such shipments, along with those of oil, be licensed, which places it within the province of the government to slap an embargo on such shipments at any time.

Of course, the embargo idea was the main objective, and we think that there should be no time lost by Uncle Sam in seeing to it that all shipments of war materials to what appears to be an unfriendly Japan be stopped.

Why We Should Protect Our Forests From Fire

(BY DORIS FRINK)

A little fire is quick trodden out, which being suffered rivers cannot quench. Fire has been called the most helpful friend man has had in his long struggle upward in the development of civilization. It has kept him from freezing, cooked his food, enabled him to smelt metals, given him power for transportation and manufacturing, and destroyed disease germs, but yet it has caused a great deal of disturbance among the forests. In a message to Congress on March 14, 1939, recommending a detailed study of the forest problem of the United States, President Roosevelt commented:

Doris Frink, 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Frink of Grissetown won first prize in the high school contest at Shallotte with today's essay. Doris was in the eighth grade last year. She likes school, and says that she'll be glad when it starts again. In fact, when she finishes school she wants to be a teacher. One of the youngest winners in the high school group, her paper was one of the neatest and best in the county contest.



upon the relationship between forest and individual and national welfare. He said in part:

"Forests are intimately tied into our whole social and economic life. Wages from forest industries support five to six million people each year. Forests give us building materials and thousands of other things in every day use. Forest lands furnish food and shelter for much of our remaining game, and healthful recreation for millions of our people. Forests help to prevent erosion and floods. They conserve water and regulate its use for navigation, for electric power, for domestic use, and for irrigation. Woodlands occupy more acreage than any other crop on American farms, and help support two to one half farm families. Our forest problem is essentially one of land use. It is a part of the broad problem of modern agriculture that is common to every part of the country.

There are only two causes of fire. They are strokes of lightning and strokes of man. Fire caused by lightning cannot be prevented, but fire caused by man can and should be prevented. Careless logging, tree disease, insects, and grazing are the most important sources of injury to the forests.

All powerful forces are dangerous when their power gets beyond control. When the great power of fire is used in the right direction, it creates wealth rapidly, but when it escapes in the wrong direction, it destroys even more rapidly than it creates. We spend months or even years in the erection of a magnificent building which can be destroyed in a few hours as the flames sweep through it. Fires are dangerous in other ways. They kill the small trees, and, if they don't stunt their growth in such a manner that they cause them to become diseased or destroyed by insect pests. They also destroy seeds, grasses, surface molds, and the humus cover that protects the leaves and twigs against droughts and summer heat, enriches the soil by adding nitrogen, and conserves water for the springs and streams.

Trees are used in vast amounts each year for railroads, lumber, telephone and telegraph poles, and for fence posts; in fact, we use about twenty-three billion cubic feet of wood yearly, but forest fires and insects destroy about two-billion cubic feet more. In early days, when the settlers came to America, one-half of the whole land was covered in forests. Along the whole Atlantic coast was a solid wall of trees with no break except for rivers. They needed logs for homes, wood to make beds, chairs, tools, tables, baskets, fences, spinning wheels, wood to burn, and above all to plant grain for food. They needed money, so they cut down millions of trees and sold the lumber, for all the purposes, and that is just what became of so many trees. Our civilization is so dependent upon forest products that we cannot do without them. How can we cooperate to reduce the great destruction of fires and build our forests as they should be.

While we are sawing our timber, we should take great interest in seeing that the dead trees and tops lie close to the ground and rot quickly, and, if possible, utilize them, because they are a fire menace. We could also keep

SPORT STUFF BY DAVID WATSON

The A's clubbed "Old Buck" in the 11th frame Sunday to snap his win streak at 13. We won't say unlucky 13. . . . As before we didn't think that he would do it. . . . You can always look for the Browns or the A's to do those tricks. . . . See where Vander Meer has won three straight for Indianapolis in his comeback via the minors. . . . He'll be back. . . . Bobby Estalella is hitting .335 for Minneapolis. A former Washington outfielder, he played some of the best baseball in the world at Washington at Charlot, one of Dean's record farms. . . . Dizzy Dean's record at Tulsa is 5-2. . . . The Dodgers have played before 520,068 fans at Ebbets Field and over a half million on the road. . . . More than likely they will make more money this year than any of the other clubs in the majors. . . . Dutch Leonard will teach at the Joe Stripp Baseball School in Florida this winter. . . . Bill McGowan has been umpiring in the A. L. for the past 16 years and has not missed a single game. . . . The Iron Man umpire of baseball. . . . Jim Tabor, Red Sox hot corner man, got married a week or so ago in Boston. . . . Lefty Gomez has a new nickname for Hemsley, he call him "Billy Sunday". . . . The Yanks consider the present situation so seriously that they have cancelled all of their exhibition games. . . . Boner of the week: Joe DiMaggio of the Yanks. . . . With two out in the ninth inning a fly was knocked him. . . . The A. L. ruling is that an outfielder has to throw a fly ball back in before it is considered an out. . . . He failed to do this and dropped the ball the batter advancing nearly to third. . . . He picked up the ball and threw to third base which was not covered and the ball went into the White Sox dug-out. Thus Joe got two errors on one play. . . . Leland is certainly giving the teams in the Cape Fear League plenty of trouble. . . . They have the best pitching staff in the league. Brev, Bullock and Workman are the big three. All have the stuff on the ball. . . . They have the support of all of Brunswick as they are the only entry from this county. . . . It looks as they will play Pepsi-Cola for the privilege of seeing who meets Bert Kites Pirates. . . . Whoever wins will give the Pirates a fit. . . . The Pittsburg Pirates are now beginning to really play ball. . . . They are no longer set-ups as they were at the first of the season. . . . Duke's coaching school, starring Wallace Wade, will open this week at Durham. . . . The Southern football fans will get to see two of the best teams in Dixie play when Duke meets Tennessee. . . . It's the Blue Devils second game of the season. Tennessee will be plenty hard to beat in Knoxville, but we will take Wade's outfit. . . . We think this is Duke's year. . . . Carolina will be in there fighting all of the way, too. Don't count those Deacons of Wake Forest out either with Polanski doing the heavy work. . . . N. C. State and Davidson will bring up the rear in the Big Five. . . . Recalling a long time ago—Connie Mack asked his rookie catcher what he would do if Ty Cobb was on second base and he knew that he was going to steal third—the catcher merely stated: "Fake a throw to third and tag him when he comes home". . . . Connie said, "Right". Boy that's fast baseball. . . . Here it is Jim. . . .

laws pertaining to the forest. To import our lumber and building material, we could keep within our forest budget. Fires destroy many acres of beautiful and valuable timber throughout a single year. With all these manufacturers destroyed, this makes it possible for floods to destroy not only lives, but livestock, poultry, crops, and domestic animals; whereas, if the trees were still growing, their roots might have controlled the flood to some extent as the forests are the best of nature's water and soil holders. They act like a big sponge in which thick mats of leaves and moss at the base of trees are able to absorb many hundred times their weight in water, so that the rain falling in some sudden storm over a forest is quickly soaked up, and later comes to the surface again in the form of springs and streams.

The power of the forest to hold back the soil is even more important than its powers to hold back water. By saving the soil, forests help tremendously in taming the power of floods. For, after all, it is not the water that always does the damage; it is often the untold quantities of earth it carries along with it. Sometimes a flood will carry as much soil as it does water, and that means multiplying its volume by two. The loss of earth is a great waste. Each year millions of tons of America's best and most fertile soil is washed away and forever lost. If we could just prevent floods from carrying earth along, we could decrease the flood's power to do harm. That is exactly what the forests are doing. Like billions of tiny fingers, the rootlets of trees cling about the particles of soil and hold them against the tugging rivulets of rain. Besides the holding action of the roots, the

NOT EXACTLY NEWS

One man we miss seeing about is B. M. Hornsby, a genial fellow whom everybody liked. He and his family live at Victor, Colorado, now. . . . Cutting out the barricade back of the left show window at Watson's did as much to improve appearances inside as did anything else. . . . Dr. Roy Daniel, popular Southport dentist, keeps his victims' extracted teeth in a gallon jug, which is nearing the two-quart level now. . . . He buried two jugful the first of the year, an accumulation of a couple of years. Barber Bell once served for several months as ambulance driver at a large Lakeland, Fla., hospital. He was an undertaker's understudy, but a few embalming sessions convinced him that was not the life for him. . . . Mr. Clyde Council, president of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co., is a bowling enthusiast now and has four alleys at his Lake Waccamaw Anchorage. Mr. Clyde probably will give cashier Prince O'Brien a raise the first time he sees him bowl, because he's an expert. James Prosper Mintz, student at Waccamaw high school, has earned quite a fine local reputation as an amateur cartoonist. William Holmes, Jr., of Shallotte and Edmond Newton, of Southport are two others who may be drawing the funnies for the next generation. . . . When Dr. Roy Daniel swapped Nellie for Rex last week he came into possession of about as much of a five-gaited pleasure mount as you generally find bound up in one horsehide. Mirth and melody are perfectly blended in the

year's best comedy, "The Road To Singapore" which comes Friday and Saturday to the Amoco. Bing Crosby and Bob Hope are the guys; Dorothy Lamour is the gal. (Editor's note: We've seen it; and you'll like it.) . . . We hear that Roy Brew, Leland's classy lefthander, may get a chance to show his wares in a W. Va. semi-pro league. Also that David Watson and D. I. Watson have signed with Leland for the second-half campaign. There is one cow at Magnolia dairy with government records showing that she once produced just a fraction under 10-gallons of milk per day. Ask Mr. George Galloway who is his candidate for county. He has exclusive rights for Brunswick county on one man. . . . In one month you can go marsh hen hunting—if the tide is right. There is a 6-inch reproduction of the North Carolina state seal on each of the historical highway markers—and we never saw the one on the Fort Johnson marker until this week. . . . The most out-of-season sport we've seen this summer was Billie Willis and Johnie Simmons shooting goals on the outdoor basketball court in the garrison Friday. Grass in the garrison was mowed and raked last week, and this should cut this fall's crop of sand spurs considerably. . . . Add Horace Williamson, who is spending the summer here to your list of bird hunting enthusiasts. . . . Because he joined about twelve or fifteen years ago, Ewing is still a member of the very exclusive Carolina Yacht Club. Once a member, always a member, etc.

trees protect the soil in another way. For storms bursting over a forest waste their force against the thick, leafy crowns, and branches and cannot beat upon the unprotected soil as they do in un-forested places. So instead of striking against the earth, loosening the grains of soil, and carrying them away, the water falls gently and harmlessly to the ground. The shade that trees give is still another reason why forests help to control floods. When spring comes and the sun grows hotter, snow in the open places melts very rapidly and often causes spring floods. Beneath the heavy shade trees, however, the snow-banks melt much more slowly and the water, instead of rushing down the stream, flows quietly and gently. That is why, long after the streams from the un-forested hills are dry and useless, streams from the forest are filled with clear, cold water. So there can be no question that one way to decrease the danger of floods is to protect and plant trees about the watersheds of streams. Trees will do their share and more too in holding back the angry flood waters and in keeping the soil in place. Best of all, while they are doing this, they are growing and adding to the wealth of the nations, and as the years pass, if they are used carefully and wisely, they will pay back every cent they cost, besides protecting our streams and hillsides free of charge. If the Nation saves the trees, the trees will save the Nation.

GINNERS SEE NEED FOR NEW DESIGN Ginnery of North Carolina and other Southeastern states have been quick to recognize the need for more elaborate cleaning equipment to handle the increasing amount of longer staple varieties of cotton, says J. C. Ferguson, extension ginning specialist of State College. Probably the spark which set off the increased growing of longer lint was the one-time cotton community plan. In recent years, more and more cotton have turned toward the ginning standardization of varieties realizing that such a plan would work for their general welfare. "Ten years ago," Ferguson said, "fewer than 5 per cent of the gins in the Southeastern states were equipped with tractor-feeders for cleaning cotton before it went to the stands. Today more than 25 per cent of every 100 are employing tractor-feeders to improve the grade of lint turned out from the varieties farmers now grow in to improve the efficiency of the gins."

SHIP POTATOES Much improvement was made this year in the handling, packing, and shipping to market of Pamlico County's Irish potato crop, reports Farm Agent A. Jackson. Three suits of armor worn by Henry VIII of England, on display in the Tower of London show waistlines measuring 54 and 54 inches.

To Advertise Land for Taxes Advertisement of land for sale for payment of taxes due Brunswick county for 1939, will begin in this newspaper the first week in August. PAY UP BEFORE THAT TIME AND AVOID THE EMBARRASSMENT AND ADDED EXPENSE OF ADVERTISING. Chas. E. Gause TAX COLLECTOR