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THE BIG THINGS OF A COUNTY.

No county can ever become really great which does not recognize and conserve its greatest assets.

The agricultural interests of a county and people are great and no county in a rural district can ever become great that neglects the development of its farms.

The industrial interests of a county should never be neglected. Big cotton mills and other manufacturing enterprises are big things in the building up of a community.

The roads and highways are mighty developing agencies in our rural life, and important as they are, they are not the biggest things.

The banks and the stores and the shops are of great importance to any county or community, but there are greater things than these.

The churches and the Sunday schools have a most important part to play in the development of a county and without them no county or community can become great in the best sense of the term.

But after all, the biggest things we have are our children. They are the greatest assets any county, State or Nation ever had. They are the stuff men and women are made of. They are the stuff from which statesmen and diplomats and preachers are made. No county can ever become great, it matters not what else it may have, if it neglects its children, or in other words, it can never rise to the heights within its reach if it fails to give to its children the very best opportunities it can afford. And its best opportunities are not measured by political expediency. The demands of the times, the rights of the child to have the best—these are higher and better than the expediencies or the exigencies of politics. Those in authority must observe the rights of the child and conserve those rights. This is a great day of conservation and conservation can be turned in many ways. There are possibilities before our children which only the county and the State can conserve.

The County Board of Education of Johnston County is asking for more money in order that the children of Johnston County may have the best possible opportunities to develop their minds and their lives. The teachers are the poorest paid of any members of any of the professions. They are paid lower salaries than printers, plasterers, carpenters and a dozen other trades. When we come to build a barn even, we pay the man who builds it a higher average daily wage than is the average paid the teachers of the State. When we want a printer we have to pay him a larger salary per year than the average high school principal in North Carolina gets. These are just a few comparisons.

But when we come to employ the man or the woman who must have charge of our children five to six hours a day during the most plastic

period of their lives, we are not willing to pay them as much as carpenters and printers get. We are content to take anybody we can get so he comes cheap. This policy is not right. It is not just. And the reason that it is so hard to get those in authority to plan for us to have more money for our schools is because the rank and the file, those who need it most, do not rise up in their might and demand it. If the County Board of Education of Johnston County needs more money for the proper conduct of the public schools of this great and rich county the Board of County Commissioners should be proud of the opportunity that comes to it to do a bigger and better work in the building up of the schools of this county. The amount the Board has been asked for is but little and will not be felt much by any one. But it will greatly aid the schools of the county.

Once there was a County Superintendent of Schools who had a vision of bigger and better things for the children of his county. He laid his plans before his Board of Education. This Board was big enough to see the need and it proposed to ask for an increase of the taxes for the public schools. On the first Monday in July when this man's term of office expired he went before the Board of County Commissioners and asked for an increase in the tax rate for the schools. But there was a man on that board who was "agin" it. He was the spokesman for the board on that occasion, and the first thing he did was to ask the Superintendent if he did not know that the move he was making was going to cause him to lose his position as the head of the schools of his county. This Superintendent rose up and really looked bigger than he was when he said that he was not asking anything for himself, but he was begging for the little children of that great county, that the county did not owe him one cent but that it did owe much to the children of the county.

The spokesman for the County Commissioners then turned to the county attorney and asked if the board must levy the tax. He was answered in the affirmative and that board of commissioners had to give that county more money for schools in spite of themselves.

And what became of the County Superintendent who had the temerity to ask that more money be raised to give the children of his county better schools? Did he lose his job? No. He still holds it. He was then getting about fifteen hundred dollars a year as county superintendent. Now, we are told, he is getting a salary of twenty-five hundred a year and the schools of his county are going forward with a new impetus. The school man had a vision that was bigger than his own job or his own salary and he dared to speak for the children. The men who were afraid to give him what he asked, finally did it under protest, but the good work went on and the great party then in power in that great county is still in power. It has even grown stronger because its representatives, who were the representatives of the people, dared to do right.

The Board of Education of Johnston County under the leadership of Supt. Royall is asking for more money to run the schools of Johnston County because it is sorely needed. The law says that when the County Board of Education asks for a special tax to give the necessary term of school in every district in the county that the Board of County Commissioners shall grant the increase and levy the taxes asked for.

The Board of Commissioners of Johnston County is composed of good strong men, men of good judgment and men of good business qualifications. That they will grant the request of the Board of Education goes without saying.

The Government crop report just issued promises an increased production. Now all together for the conserving of these products.

MR. ARCHER'S PROMOTION.

News comes from Greensboro that Mr. Frederick Archer, who has been Superintendent of Selma Graded Schools for the past four years, has been chosen Superintendent of the City Schools of Greensboro at a salary of \$2,400 a year. He has accepted the position and will leave Johnston County to become associated with the schools of the live county of Guilford and the progressive city of Greensboro. The Herald rejoices with Mr. Archer in the great success that has come to him as an educational leader of the State, but on the other hand we very much regret to see the county lose its ablest school man. His going from us is a distinct loss to the educational interests, not only of the town of Selma and community, but to the great county of Johnston. He was a recognized leader here, and a real leader never long remains unknown to other sections. Mr. Archer has wrought well and the handsome graded school building at Selma and the fine school system he has established there are living monuments to his worth and work in the educational life of Johnston County. Our loss is Greensboro's and Guilford's gain. That he will prove a worthy successor to the fine men who have headed Greensboro's schools in the past is not doubted by any who know Mr. Archer. He is reckoned as one of the educational leaders of the younger men in the school work and has great possibilities before him.

AIRPLANES AND AVIATORS.

The supreme need of the hour, according to our English cousins, is a large supply of airplanes and aviators. The German airplane raid over London Saturday morning in which nearly two score people, non-combatants, were killed and more than one hundred injured shows the great importance of being ready for the ruthless invaders. This is the seventh raid over London within the past two months and shows how daring the German airmen are. They must be met, not only by a force as large and well trained, but the Allies must have double or triple the number of airplanes and aviators that the Germans have to make the war in the air more effective. Here is where America can come in.

The people of London are furious over the raid of Saturday morning, feeling that the authorities are not properly safe-guarding the defenseless ones. The raiders came flying low and slowly, says the press dispatches, and were twenty minutes passing over the city. The protectors of the city were evidently taken by surprise, or they would have inflicted greater injury to the enemy planes than the dispatches indicate. With the number of attacks made on the great city within the past few weeks, it seems that a large force of aircraft defenders ought to be on guard every hour and be prepared to inflict great damage on the airplanes of the enemy when they make their appearance.

TO HELP OURSELVES FIRST.

In a proclamation issued by the President Sunday night the government's policy was shown to be help ourselves first, then give all the aid possible to the Allies, and then if we have anything to spare, help the suffering neutrals. The time has come when America must see to it that the Central powers get no aid from us in the way of supplies through neutral countries or otherwise. The instructions to the neutrals now are "Do not let Germany have anything we send you or you will have to go hungry." Now if these countries love Germany so much, or stand so much in fear of her, that they must divide what they get from America with Germany, the time will soon be here when what they get from America will not amount to much.

America is fighting now for world liberty and it is the highest duty of the nation to-day to see that no help shall in any way go out from us to the enemy nations. We are making and conserving food that we and our allies may not go hungry while the battle is in the balance. And every

time a neutral country furnishes food to Germany because America has furnished it, there is a weak spot in our policy, and that is what the President is trying to guard against.

The commodities which will be put in the list bill under control will be coke, coal, fuels, oil, kerosene, gasoline, food grains, flour and meal, fodder and feeds, meats and fats, pig iron and steel billets, arms, ammunitions and explosives and many other things necessary to conserve at this time to strengthen our position.

THE UPHEAVAL IN CHINA.

Whatever else China may be the old sleepy nation of the East is able to keep in the lime-light. For the past five or six years not many weeks passes that China does not get front page position in the big newspapers.

Last week the news came out of the East that the friends of the young Hsun Tung had been placed on the throne of the old empire by General Chang Hsun. The former President of the so-called republic, abdicated and placed himself in the hands of the young emperor and begged him to punish him for assuming to rule the great Chinese Empire, even though he was forced into the responsible position by the army.

But now another story comes out of the East to the effect that the young emperor, Hsun Tung, has abdicated, finding the throne rather shaky. The republican forces have defeated the emperor's army and he is seeking to flee with all hope of escape cut off, if the press reports are founded on truth.

On top of all these reports comes a delayed message from Tokio that the whole affair is brought about by German intrigue. No one doubts it. It has long been seen that the German is ready for anything that will upset a republican form of government. Wherever there is a nation enjoying liberty and freedom German intrigue is found also. The old Roman orator whose constant cry "Carthage must be Destroyed" finally brought victory to his people. The cry today must be changed to "Germany must be Destroyed." The safety of the freedom if the world demands it.

VIOLENT REACTION IN COTTON.

Few people, says Dun's Review of last Saturday, looked for a break of 275 points in the cotton market last week. Sharp recovery occurred Friday and there was little net change from the closing figures of June 30th. Most of the previous shakedown of prices, says the New York financial paper, was experienced before the holiday, with all the new crop deliveries dropping 150 points on Monday alone, and a Washington dispatch announcing that the Senate had decided to add the southern staple to the list of commodities to be controlled by the government was responsible for the spectacular movement. On Thursday the lowest levels were established at 24.75 for July cotton. The local New York spot quotation slumped to 25.45c, or a loss of nine dollars a bale.

Dun's Review further says: "General improvement throughout most of the cotton region was indicated by the Government's regular weekly bulletin, and talk about the crop is not quite so pessimistic now it was a while ago. Yet Monday's official estimate, which was overshadowed by other news from Washington, showed the prospect condition on record for this period, though it was a trifle higher than a month ago, 70.3 per cent against 69.5. As expected, the acreage figures disclosed a small decrease, about 4 per cent, and the prospect on June 25 was for a yield of not much more than 11,600,000 bales, excluding linters."

Reunion of Johnson Family.

On July 19th, the family and family connections of Mrs. Elizabeth Johnson, of Meadow township, Johnston County, will hold a reunion at the old homestead now the home of Mr. J. C. Johnson. All family connections and friends of the family are cordially invited to be present with a well filled basket and enjoy the reunion. Several hundred are expected.

Very truly,
J. C. JOHNSON.



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