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Friday, September 1, 1939.

Human Life Is Cheap

Human life has always been cheap on the battlefield, but gradually life is becoming cheaper in the midst of peace and plenty. We were once shocked by the highway-slaughter record, but that record is now almost accepted as a matter of course. At one time we rushed the victim to a hospital, accepting the costs willingly with the understanding that human life was at stake, that financial obligations were secondary.

Hardened to the modern way of slaughter and possessing little human sympathy for the suffering, we allow wreck victims to suffer and almost die before we will guarantee hospital costs. Some of the victims, no doubt, are responsible for their own fate, but that should not be accepted as an excuse by us to shirk the responsibility of relieving the suffering.

The people of Martin County and a liberal government in State and Nation are paying too much for welfare activities to allow an accident victim to be hauled from pillar to post while death hangs over his head.

Too everlastingly much money has been spent building up agencies and then having the real purposes of those agencies virtually ignored. The method of handling a recent accident in this county by a civilized people was little less than a disgrace. The victim, apparently seriously hurt and unconscious, was hauled about for two hours while friends and agency heads wrangled about who would accept the cost of his treatment. It is no credit to those in charge of the welfare of the people to handle such cases in a haphazard manner. When it comes to economy, we should not go to suffering and dying humanity to save a few dollars.

We read the story of the Good Samaritan on Sunday and practice the ways of the Levite on Monday.

Running Away with the Bag

Having virtually eliminated the poor fellow in the happy hunting grounds, members of "sportsmen's" clubs are now trying to run away with the bag. They are voicing stringent opposition to the proposal to divert a small portion of the revenue derived from the sale of hunting licenses to the forest preservation program.

These sportsmen are urging the conservation department to hatch and release quail, rather than protect the habitat of the bird. It has been pointed out that the department in years past hatched and released 1,500 quail in the State at a cost of \$18,000 or \$12 per bird.

With these facts to ponder over, it would seem that diversions of funds derived from the sale of hunting licenses is in order even if the funds were used to supplement the grants to the aged, needy or dependent children.

The Difference

Britain's unemployed, 1,256,424 according to the records, is the lowest total Britain has had at any time since 1929. Germany is actually pressing women into jobs meant for men and

has no unemployment problem. Nor is Italy grumbling about her idle.

These nations are that way because of intensive spending on armament, and it is agreed that this armament spending has raised purchasing power of so many workmen that the increased spending of these workers has produced a small boom in retail and distributive business.

Here in America we have been spending like a house afire; have been priming the pump continuously for six years; spending for bridges, roads, houses, dams, conservation and reclamation projects. Even the boondoggling of the leaf rakers may be considered preferable to employing the hands and time and talent of men to the building of implements of destruction. Yet our unemployment has not noticeably decreased.

Professors and students of economics can't figure it out. These other nations are spending for implements with which to murder and destroy; we have been spending for things that will may be set down as assets of more or less permanency. There is nothing permanent about armament. We build it today, tomorrow it is outmoded.

But our spending has been extended to every community in the nation. And there it is turned back into the channels of trade. What becomes of it then? It is an old American custom for somebody to be where money is—with a bag. The federal dollars that have been spent have gone into somebody's till. In our national uncertainty, maybe it has been carried to shelter, where it has failed to provide a continuity of jobs. We wouldn't know. We are only saying "maybe".

Thanksgiving Day Change

Marshville Home.

A great deal of criticism of President Roosevelt for changing Thanksgiving from Nov. 30 to Nov. 23 has come from football teams and others interested in a financial way, but so far nobody has claimed that we cannot feel as thankful for health and spiritual blessings on Nov. 23 as we could on the 30th. Another evidence that our major holidays are highly commercialized. Take the commercial slant out of Mother's Day and even that would be just another day with the average person.

It is interesting to listen to and read about all this objection to Thanksgiving Day being moved up a week, making it fall on Thursday, Nov. 23, instead of November 30th. Thanksgiving, like all other major holidays, has become so commercialized that we have lost sight of the original purpose of the day. It is supposed to be a day set apart about the close of, the harvest season on which to return thanks to a merciful Creator for bountiful crops and other blessings throughout the year. As to what day of what month we observe Thanksgiving should and would make little difference if we could only return to the original purpose for this holiday and actually use it as a time for feeling thankful. It might as well come in the month of August as in November, but for the fact that there is little money at that season and commercialization of the day would prove a flop. The only real objection I can see to moving up the date is that it makes liars out of calendars and almanacs.

Why Not Send Winchell to the Moon? Labor.

Of course, we may be all wrong but to our to enable Admiral Byrd to make another journey to the South Pole, plant Old Glory on a few more icebergs and thus prepare the way for another lecture tour and more radio talks by the admiral himself.

The admiral's distinguished brother, Senator Byrd, approved the appropriation; so did Congressman Woodrum, also of Virginia. Both of the gentlemen have been yelling "economy" at the top of their lungs—especially when Congress has been considering proposals to help hungry human beings. But they didn't even gulp as they voted a fortune to the admiral.

There is a serious side to this absurd Antarctic expedition. Argentine has already protested. It wants to know why we are wandering down to its end of the Western Hemisphere. Argentine's protest may seriously disturb our plans for establishing more harmonious relations with Latin America.

The next thing we know someone will be proposing an appropriation to send Walter mind just about the silliest thing this Congress has done has been the appropriation of \$340,000 to Winchell to interview the Man in the Moon

Old-Age Assistance Is Not A Charity, Commissioner Says

Transfer of Widows Broadens Assistance Program In State

Transfer of certain widows of Confederate veterans to the public assistance rolls has come in for considerable comment from different sections of the state, some of the widows being reported as feeling they were becoming objects of charity by means of the transfer.

Mrs. W. T. Boat, State welfare commissioner, has pointed out more than once that old age assistance is not a public charity but is parallel to a pension or farm parity payment. None of the widows transferred were removed from the pension rolls unless they met the old age assistance requirement of need and the amount of their monthly grant was made equal to the monthly pension payment.

By means of the transfer, many old people were able to share in the government grants who would not have come within their scope for at least two years more and the contingency of a larger legislative appropriation for assistance.

Ordinarily each county pays a fourth of the cost of grants to the needy aged, but in the case of the transferred widows the entire cost is borne by the state and federal governments, thus releasing about a quarter million dollars more to be spread among the counties to take on additional oldsters who are in need.

The welfare commissioner has stressed the fact that the majority of those on the old age assistance rolls are persons over 65 years of age who in former years have contributed their share toward the county and state tax burdens and who have, through the misfortunes of upset economic conditions, found their savings wiped away in their old age and needing just a little bit more to give them a decent standard of living.

The recipients have raised children and sent them through school and out into the world to seek their own living. Sometimes the children are able to contribute adequately to the support of their parents, in which case no government grant would be available, but when there is no other income available, or contributions from relatives are not sufficient to provide a decent mode of life with a few necessities, state, county and federal funds combine to make up for the lack in varying amounts up to \$30 a month.

Historical Guide Book Available

A guidebook giving the location of 215 Historical Markers erected along the highways of the State, together with the wording on each marker, has just been published by the State Historical Commission and the Department of Conservation and Development and copies are now ready for distribution. Not only is this book a guide to all of the places of historical interest in North Carolina which have been marked, but it is also a condensed history of state insofar as it has been transcribed onto these highway markers. Dr. C. C. Crittenden, secretary of the State Historical Commission, pointed out.

Since only a limited number of these guidebooks have been issued, it will be necessary for those desiring copies to write either to the State Historical Commission or to the Department of Conservation and Development for them. The booklet is not only expected to be in demand from tourists and students of history but from school teachers and others who may desire a condensed and concise handbook listing the principal places and personages in North Carolina history.

The guidebook lists only the 215

The state's dependent children are another matter that state welfare officials feel should be more adequately taken care of. They hold the position that mothers who have to work in factories and small-paying jobs can do a better job of raising their children if they were allowed sufficient income to stay home and train their offspring instead of having them roam the streets and alleys during the hours when the mother is out winning bread.

In all probability, adequate aid to dependent children would go a long way toward cutting down North Carolina's unenviable juvenile delinquency and make better future citizens of the young boys and girls now absorbing crime from the kindergardens in the gutters.

highway markers which had been erected along principal North Carolina highways since the program to mark the principal historic places adjacent to the principal highways was started in 1935. This program has been a triple project carried on by the State Historical Commission, the Department of Conservation and Development and the State Highway and Public Works Commission. The historical commission has done the research work, assisted by a committee of historians from the state's leading universities and colleges, the Department of Conservation has done the actual locating of the markers, while the highway department has supplied the funds for the markers and has done the work of erecting them.

Henderson Dairymen Add Electric Sterilizers

Several Henderson County dairymen are expected to add electric sterilizers to their equipment in the near future, reports Farm Agent G. D. White.

Things To Watch For In The Future

Miniature kitchettes may be built into some 1940 auto models. . . . Transparent doilies and table mats made of celluloid. . . . An electric iron which automatically lifts itself when not in use. . . . Sport shirt with "self-closing collar," requiring no buttons or snaps. . . . Automatic air-conditioning for smoking pipes, with a valve in the stem which opens when the bowl of the pipe gets too hot for the smoker's comfort. . . . Ten-pin game for the home with the pins made of plastic.

Boll Weevil Taking Heavy Toll In Bladen County

There was a reduction in the number of small cotton producers who planted cotton in Bladen County this year, but the boll weevil is taking a heavy toll of the crops of those who did plant, says J. R. Powell, farm agent.

Reita Theatre—Washington

Sunday-Monday	September 3-4	"WATERFRONT" with Gloria Dickson and Marie Wilson
Tuesday	Sept. 5	DOUBLE FEATURE "Behind Prison Gates", with Brian Donlevy "New Frontier" with the Three Mesquiteers
Wednesday-Thursday	September 6-7	"THEY ALL COME OUT" with Tom Neil and Rita Johnson
Friday-Saturday	September 8-9	"NEWS IS MADE AT NIGHT" with Lynn Bari and Preston Foster

Turnage Theatre --- Washington, N. C.

Sunday-Monday	September 3-4	"Hotel for Women" ANN SOUTHERN and JAMES ELLISON
Tuesday-Wednesday	September 5-6	"Our Leading Citizen" with BOB BURNS
Thursday-Friday	September 7-8	"Goodbye, Mr. Chips" ROBERT DONAT and GREER GARSON
Saturday	September 9	"Southward Ho" with ROY ROGERS

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