

THE ENTERPRISE

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W. C. MANNING
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Friday, May 17, 1940.

Time For A Distribution

Critical of everything that Washington does for the common masses and going so far as to declare the federal administration is going dictatorial, North Carolina's Raleigh is now beginning to squirm for its own leanings toward a closed dictatorship. The people are beginning to wake up to the fact that the powers-that-be in Raleigh have just about gagged the voices and swiped the money bag. And now the people are appealing to Raleigh for a few crumbs in the form of the intangibles tax.

It is true that Raleigh has taken over this obligation and that obligation, but in taking over those obligations it gobbled up the revenue, applied a dictatorial policy in controlling the schools, the roads, and goes on to tell the counties and towns what they must do and must not do.

After getting the road system started at county expense, the State took over the roads and the revenue along with them, leaving the counties burdened with a debt that fell squarely on real estate. In this county, the State left the taxpayers holding the bag to the tune of just about half million dollars.

Then the big intangibles steal followed in due course, the State further padding its payrolls for the ever-increasing commissions while the counties were directed to accept increasing obligations with their sources of revenue riddled.

North Carolina should return the intangible tax income to its rightful owners, and also return some of the authority that has been taken over by Raleigh dictators.

Guardians Or Dictators

Not so long ago the owner of a vast farm acreage and the head of a farming system that boasted more than half hundred tenant families passed away at a ripe old age. For years the actual tillers of the soil looked to its owner for guidance, the account of the owner's death explained.

Possibly it was a happy and advantageous arrangement for both the owner and the tenants. We do not know. But it is an obvious fact that the South has builded a dictator system for handling its dependent tillers of the soil, a system that in too many cases knows no human values and makes all important the percentage return on investment with the human flesh included as a part of no more or less importance than the mules, goats and swine and other chattels.

There are today a few guardians, good ones too. But the tenant system as a whole is no better than that Hitler is trying to perpetrate on the world. It is quite possible that the tenant is to blame, to some extent at least and more so than the landlord in many cases. Regardless of who is responsible, the very apparent fact remains that the system exists and that no one

seems to be making any great progress under it. There is no concerted movement other than advanced by the Farm Security Administration underway to correct the system. The landlord, in most cases, is not taking the initiative to convert a tenant into a land and home owner, and the tenant is showing no great interest in improving his own lot. So, we just continue to drift along, getting deeper into the mire and accepting as inevitable those practices that tend to hold in check any progressive movement and to tear down the social structure of our country.

Civilization At The Cross Roads

Civilization has been at the cross roads before, but at no time in history has the enemy threatened to turn the clock back and blot out the progress of the years than right now as Germany sends its sweeping hordes down upon innocent and peace-loving peoples.

While Hitler rages in Europe to threaten innocent people, we, in America, are proving his ally in his movement of destruction when we express no concern for those who are in the path of his iron heel. "It's their war. Let them fight it," we are quoted as saying. Probably it is their war, but we are not so far removed that we will escape its effects and possibly its direct sting. Who knows? We spent millions to promote justice and guarantee freedom in this country, and yet we sit with folded arms as a down-trodden people try to hold high the torch of liberty in the name of an advancing civilization against a ruthless foe.

It may be a bit fantastic to believe that Hitler will look to the west should he conquer Europe and hold its destiny in the palm of his hand. It is no more fantastic now to believe just that than it was just a few years ago to believe that an ordinary paper hanger would rise up and seriously threaten the equilibrium of the whole of Europe.

To date, Hitler marches on, his plans being learned only after he has marched. And if the reports are reliable, it would seem that he would receive a warmer welcome in Mexico than he has received in Norway or others he has victimized by his plan of invasion.

It is not necessary to send the American youth to the far-away battle fronts, but this country will miss a great chance to unload its surplus goods and at the same time help a struggling civilization if it fails to act in the impending crisis.

When nation after nation is brought under the heel of oppression and the economic balance of the world is threatened by a mad man, it would appear that civilization is again at the cross roads.

Chamberlain Folds Up His Umbrella

Sir Neville Chamberlain, recently resigned as Great Britain's Prime Minister, folded his umbrella before the storm and in the cause of peace stepped down from the high position. The old man has been bitterly assailed, and possibly he was due some of the criticism heaped upon him by those who would have directed the war in a different way and without the facts that were available to the umbrella bearer.

But some how or other we hold a great deal of respect for the man. Just a few days after he had withdrawn from Norway we learned why. But we jeered at him for not whipping the Germans there. And, too, the old man must have been thinking of some mother's son or the sons of thousands of mothers. If peace could be had by conciliation even with humiliation, he wanted peace by that method and not by war.

Remembering the old gentleman in this light, we cannot help but believe he was laying the foundation for victory and ultimate peace in spite of Hitler's great air power and the far-flung claims that come so regularly and systematically out of Berlin.

Probably we and the world, at large, would be better off if time was spent for reflection before we plunge into unknown ventures ill prepared and ignorant of the true facts.

A right act strikes a chord that extends through the whole universe, touches all moral intelligence, visits every world, vibrates along its whole extent, and conveys its vibrations to the very bosom of god.—Binney.

WATER WINGS OVER EUROPE



CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTIAN

Bible school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m. and evening service at 8 o'clock. Pastor speaks at both services.

Young People's meeting at 7 p. m.
Woman's Council meets Monday, 4 p. m.

Mid-week service, Wednesday, 8 p. m.
Daily Vacation Bible school each day during the week beginning at 9 a. m. Commencement Friday night.

A rally for the Young People's conference to be held at Wilson by the Disciples of Christ for this area will be held Friday evening of this week, May 17, at Williamston Christian Church at 7:30. Mr. Cecil Jarman, of Atlantic Christian College who heads the religious education work of the state, will be present. Many young people from the churches of this area will attend and the local young people are making plans to assist Mr. Jarman in his program.

POPLAR CHAPEL

Services will be held at Poplar Chapel Church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and that night at 7:30 with Rev. Caton, of Edenton, in charge.

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

Trinity Sunday.
Church school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning prayer and sermon, 11 a. m.
Evening prayer and sermon, 8 p. m.

The Woman's Auxiliary will meet Monday afternoon at four o'clock with Mrs. L. T. Fowden.

The St. Elizabeth's Auxiliary will meet Wednesday night at 8 o'clock with Mrs. Sam Woolford.

BAPTIST

Bible school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m. Sermon, "What Our Heavenly Father Is Like."
Young People's meeting 7 p. m.
Evening worship, 8 p. m. Sermon, "How Far Can You Trust Your Conscience?"

In the morning service next Sunday special recognition will be given to our fathers.

NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in Deed of Trust executed to the undersigned trustee by Abe Spruill, dated December 24, 1936, and recorded in the Register of Deeds office of Martin County in Book P-3 at page 197 default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness, thereby secured and due demands having been made upon me by the holder of said indebtedness, I will on Monday, June 17, 1940, at 12 o'clock noon offer for sale for cash at auction, the following described property:
One (1) house and lot, being lot

No. Seven in Block E of the Brown Field, map of said field is recorded in the Public Registry of Martin County in Land Division Book No. 1, page 274, and is referred to for a more definite description.

This the 12th day of January, 1940.
B. A. CRITCHER,
Trustee.

North Carolina, Martin County. In The Superior Court.

County of Martin vs. Lizzie Hawkins. Under and by virtue of an order of sale and judgment in the above entitled proceeding made by L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County, on Monday, the

13th day of May, 1940, the undersigned commissioner will, on Thursday, the 13th day of June, 1940, at twelve o'clock noon, in front of the courthouse door in the town of Williamston, N. C. offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash the following described real estate, to wit:

Adjoining the lands of Samuel Staton and others, being lot No. 2 in the Moore field in that square marked "C" and lying on the North side of Centre St., adjoining Samuel Staton's lot, being the same lot deeded to W. V. Ormand by J. G. Godard, recorded in Book Y-1 at page 365.
This the 13th day of May, 1940.
CHAS. H. MANNING,
Commissioner.

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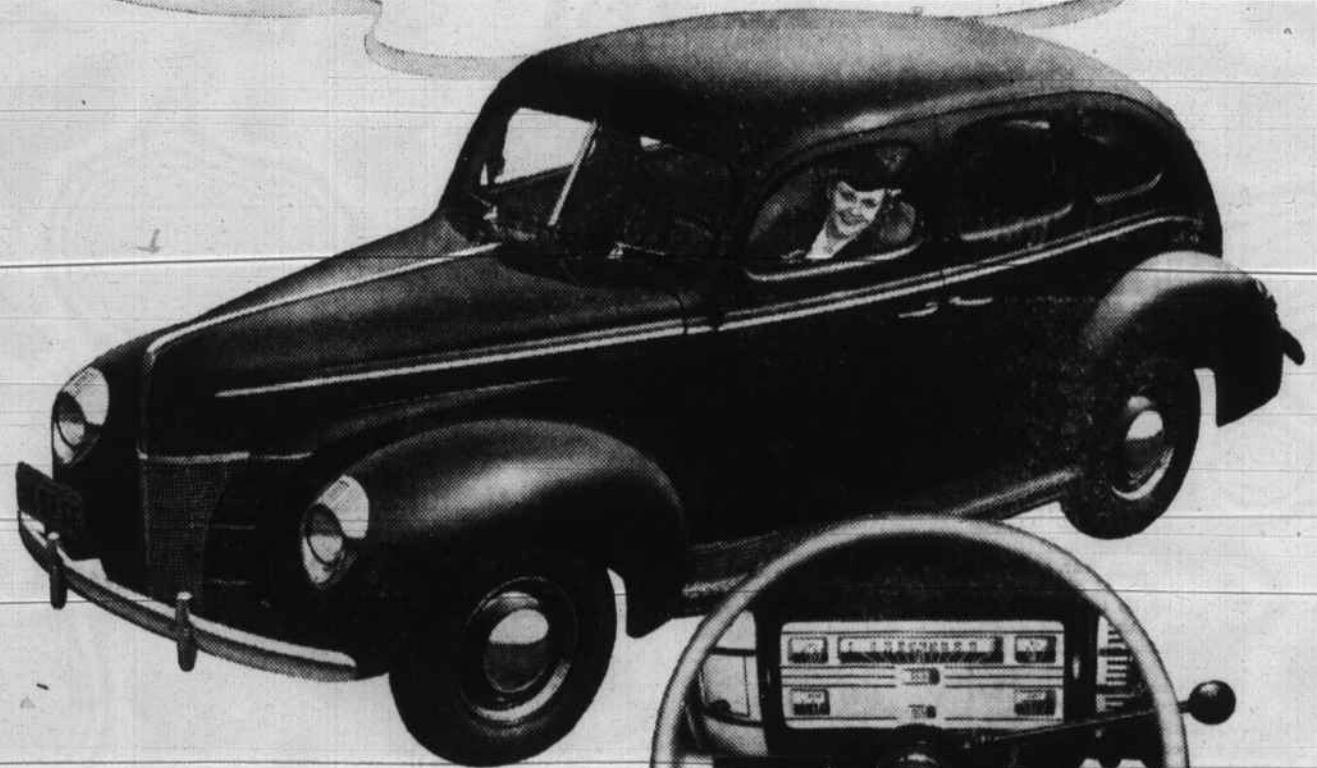
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