

THE ENTERPRISE

Published Every Tuesday and Friday by the ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO. WILLIAMSTON, NORTH CAROLINA.



W. C. MANNING Editor — 1908-1938

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(Strictly Cash in Advance)

IN MARTIN COUNTY	
One year	\$1.75
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OUTSIDE MARTIN COUNTY	
One year	\$2.25
Six months	1.25

No Subscription Received Under 6 Months
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Entered at the post office in Williamston, N. C., as second-class matter under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all communications to The Enterprise and not individual members of the firm.

Friday, May 1, 1942.

Following In The Footsteps Of France

It is possible that this country will struggle to victory and retain some of its civilization, but it has been pointed out by thoughtful and mature minds that we can't survive as a strong nation for long unless we mend our ways. "We are following in the footsteps of a degenerated French nation," a student of history and human nature was quoted as saying recently.

What did he mean? Well, we are so engulfed in thoughtless and harmful acts that we are unconscious of the dangerous drift this country finds itself in today.

Reporting on crime activities as they are engaged in by increasing numbers of our youth and many older people, too, a peace officer counted about forty young couples in a drunken condition around a dance hall in this community during the course of a recent night. Similar activities in the byways and hedges are not uncommon. Serious things mean nothing to these people. They don't even try or care about trying to balance their daily lives by mixing pleasure with good acts and deeds; no, unconsciously perhaps, they are burdened with a craving desire to do the sensational, to gamble with their very lives. Observers described conditions in France not unlike those seen here. Possibly French "culture" was more advanced when that once-great nation bowed down in its degenerated state to accept the yoke of a heathen, a slave driver and destroyer of that which is good in the sight of God and all righteous-thinking men.

We have actually reached the place where those who do not contribute to the social uplift of their community, state and nation are outspoken in their criticism of others of their ilk. Could it be that we have reached the point where we are blind to our own faults, but wide awake to the faults and shortcomings of others?

Soldiers traveling over the country, not all of them to be sure and possibly not a majority, but still too many, are following the forming lines to the liquor stores, to the gambling joints, to the places of pleasure and to houses of questionable repute. They are in those forming lines because the lines are there. It is reasonable to believe that the soldier would fall in line and march with the civilian to church. The example is offered in bold relief; it does not lead to the house of worship. No wonder army officials talk much about building up the morale of the soldier. The army is fighting a fight without the whole-hearted help of the civilian population. Wayward women, the bootleggers, the fleecers and others of their type have flocked to the army and defense centers, not to support the war effort but rather to add momentum to the surging tide that is sweeping us forward to an uncertain destiny.

The people of France, not all to be sure, were able to finance the basic things in life after paying the price demanded by the night life in Paris. Today, we are spending more money for liquor and questionable pleasures than we are paying for education, religious institutions, charities and civic undertakings combined. We are talking about war. We are blowing off about defense activities. But we are too busy dealing the cards to find time to visit the sewing rooms of a humane organization. We are too busy following the races, walking the golf green, and yelling at the ball game to take part in a minor defense activity. We are too everlastingly lazy to exert our rapidly decaying bodies in support of a noble effort to be it for war or peace following war.

Eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow you might die. That's our policy as a people, and that policy holds poverty and want, sorrow and death possibly not tomorrow but for some day not far distant. Socialism, communism, grand larceny in the high places and politics possibly aided the downfall of France, but the people reveled in debauchery and boisterous living and degenerated to meet and accept regretfully with bowed heads, the yoke that was being prepared for themselves.

We may not find time to do all of the things we are called upon to do in the name of war and country, but one thing is certain the people of France are finding time to do the bidding of a ruthless heathen. We are following in the footsteps of France.

Get Right To Loosen Up The Wallet

Americans can well get ready to loosen up their wallets and prepare to accept their individual and fair share of the burden in financing the war, supporting efforts associated with the prosecution of the war, and maintaining those undertakings advanced in the name of and for the good of humanity.

Martin County people, beginning May 4th, will be asked or politely instructed to buy more War Bonds and War Stamps than they ever bought before. They will soon be asked to raise and give gratis \$1,100 for the United Service Organizations. They are being asked to raise several hundred dollars for the promotion of cancer control work. They will be asked to pay higher taxes. Briefly stated, they will be asked soon or later, to put the war effort first and self last.

The program will cost billions, but the price we are being asked to pay is dirt cheap for what we are getting. So loosen up the old wallet and make certain that Martin County will do its part in meeting war obligations and in supporting every organization associated with the war effort or with the basic advancement of all people.

Labor And The Press

We do not favor a law dispossessing all industrial management and ownership. We do not believe it would serve the best interests of the U. S. A., now in the throes of a war with the Axis, to deprive all industrial corporations of control over their property. We do not believe that all officers of all corporations are racketeers and scoundrels who might better be in jail.

Nobody, to be sure, has suggested that all corporation owners and managers should be jailed or even dispossessed. We merely state our position for the record in case anybody does. It is quite probable, however, that nobody will—at least nobody with the power to spread his views in large type over the front pages of mass-circulation newspapers or on the covers of slick-paper magazines.

Indeed it is amazing how calmly the press accepts and how effectively it hides the big news out of Washington. For several days now this news has concerned the industrial slowdown caused by cartel agreements between reputable U. S. industrial corporations and German concerns, the additional slowdowns caused by deliberate violation of priority orders on the part of two big steel companies, and sabotage of production by Nazi sympathizers.

It is a little frightening to think what might happen if the American public added up all this news and concluded that its young men would be killed because powerful men responsible for the policies of Standard Oil of New Jersey, General Electric, duPont, Jones & Laughlin, Carnegie-Illinois and Brewster, to mention only a few of the biggest, either have placed private profits above the national good or are actually working for an Axis victory.

But doesn't the news about these companies add up to something like this as a matter of chill fact? The evidence shows that Standard withheld information about the most promising synthetic-rubber process from the U. S. Navy. General Electric has limited the supply of tungsten carbide, a substance indispensable to war production. DuPont has kept an improved explosive-ignition agent away from the British. All these companies have been doing business under cartel agreements with Germany.

Recent news from Washington about the conduct of these and other companies certainly would be added up to a "traitorous wave" by the newspapers if the newspapers were not so admiring of these companies and so beholden to them for advertising. It took much less adverse labor news for the press to produce a "strike wave" scare which still is, despite the complete absence of strikes, keeping Congress under pressure to pass anti-labor legislation. Yesterday the Senate agreed to postpone consideration of anti-labor legislation for another week, but it did so reluctantly.

The unpleasant conclusion that a very powerful part of U. S. industry doesn't have its heart or even its brains in the war effort is inescapable on the face of the news record. Some industrial managers are convinced that Hitler can't be licked and already are getting ready to back a negotiated peace, and then to resume business with him under old pre-war cartel agreements. Others think he can be licked and will be licked quickly and they, too, want to be ready on a moment's notice to resume business-as-usual. A very few believe Hitler will lick us and want him to lick us on the theory that we shall have either Communism or Fascism after the war and that Fascism is preferable.

Some of these men doubtless should be jailed and may have to be before we are through. Others, like the managers of Brewster, will have to have their plants taken away from them. But a majority of American industrial managers—an overwhelming majority—are loyal and doing their managerial best, which is the best in the world, to win the war.

That's why we don't want the public, the newspapers or Congress to become so hysterical that they generalize the recent news about industrial disloyalty into a demand for jailing all industrial managers. We know there will be no such hysteria. The only danger is that there will be too much tolerance of the guilty minority—that it will be too well defended by the newspapers and by Congress.

We wish some of the same tolerance were evident in their handling of what they persist in calling "the labor problem," as in their handling of "the managerial problem."—Kenneth G. Crawford in the newspaper "P. M."

In the War Filling the Churches?

By REV. JOHN HARDY Church Of The Advent

"Don't you think more people are turning to religion in these anxious days? Don't you think people are going to church more now than a year ago?" These questions are asked us quite often by people who attend church regularly and who look hopefully for improvement on the part of other people.

By and large we find no evidence of any decided swing toward the church because of the pressure of war-time anxieties. Some church people who already have reasonably good church habits are all the more earnest because they are conscious of peril to the things which they value most. Some who have heretofore been careless are being brought up sharply as the national emergency enters the family circle and they come in search of courage and assurance at the Throne of Grace. The chaplains in our armed forces will find opportunities to reach men who have normally been quite out of touch with church life. Yet against this must be balanced those who will curtail their church activities in order to devote more time to war work; also those who will be embittered by loss, sorrow and suffering and will turn against God in personal resentment; also those who will be thrown off balance by the change from civilian to military life and will come out of the services with less religion than when they were inducted.

I do not believe there is likely to be any significant migration into the Kingdom of God in the near future. There would be something unhealthy about it if the church acquired the habit of watching hungrily for an increase in its numbers every time the conditions of secularized living become too burdensome for the unchurched public. It is not conducive to good Christianity for people to drift negatively into the Kingdom of God because life is too difficult without some such haven of refuge.

It is the positive drawing power of the Risen Christ that binds men and women securely into the Christian community. The church was commissioned to bear steady witness to the Risen Christ. Christian expansion depended on the regularity and persistence of that witness. Sometimes the response comes more readily than at other times, but the basis of progress never changed. It is not different today. The church cannot depend on having people thrust through its doors in "return to religion" which is really a flight from the hard realities of a war-stricken world. If one is to question the loyalty of fair-weather Christians, one may not be too certain of the loyalty of dark-weather Christians either. The church needs to be manned with all-weather Christians.

CHRISTIAN

Bible School, 9:45 a. m. Morning worship with other churches at the Williamston High School, 11 a. m.

Young People's meeting, 7 p. m. Subject, "New Jobs in a New Day. (Vocations)."

Evening service, 8 p. m. Subject, "The Living Church—Its Missionary Passion." Observance of the Lord's Supper.

Monday, 4 p. m., Woman's Council meets at the church.

Tuesday, 8 p. m., Junior Philathea Bible Class meets with Mrs. Jim Manning.

Wednesday night's service, 8 p. m. Subject, "What the Church Expects of Its Members."

The Senior Philathea Bible Class meets Friday, May 1st, at Mrs. J. C. Manning with Mrs. H. L. Barnhill as joint hostess. A full attendance is desired.

HOLINESS

A revival meeting will begin at Bethany Pentecostal Holiness church on May 4th. Rev. H. M. Pope will be the evangelist.

The public is invited to attend. Services will begin at 8 o'clock each evening.

"Worn Out" Army Shoes To Prisoners

Raleigh—Uncle Sam's soldiers are wearing out shoes by the carload but some of these shoes aren't being wasted.

Prison Director Oscar Pitts says shoe rebuilding equipment at Central Prison in Raleigh is more than sufficient to repair the old shoes for use by the state's 9,000 prisoners. W. Z. Betts, Director of the N. C. Division of Purchase and Contract, revealed that an initial order of 42,000 pounds of old army shoes had been purchased at a cost of 10 cents a pound from Fort Benning, Ga.

These shoes are in all states of repair, some needing new soles, others minor repairs. Most of them are worn out only on the bottom and are being re-treaded with the results that they are better shoes than have been previously issued. Another point, these shoes are already "broken in."

Hugh Wilson, Central Prison Superintendent, estimates that in addition to figuring the initial cost of 30 cents per pair, (army shoes weigh about three pounds at ten cents a pound) that average repair cost will not run over 85 cents.

Prisoner's shoes of the same type, but of a poorer quality have been costing \$2.76 on state contract. By using the old army shoes, total cost will average about \$1.25 or less per pair.

CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

4th Sunday after Easter. Church school, 9:45 a. m. We are very glad that Mrs. Bowers is beginning a cradle roll class and hope that the parents will cooperate by bringing their children.

Sunday morning for the 11 o'clock service we will, with the other churches in town, take part in the baccalaureate service for the graduating class at the high school auditorium.

The Woman's Auxiliary will meet at 4 o'clock on Monday. Since Mrs. Lewis Schenck, the Church Periodical Club Secretary, of Windsor, is to meet with the Auxiliary, we are very glad to have the new secretary with us for the meeting.

The Auxiliary will meet with Mrs. Titus Critcher. Celebration of the Holy Communion on Thursday at 11 a. m.

ST. MARTIN'S, Hamilton Evening prayer and sermon at 6 p. m. Sunday.

CEDAR BRANCH

Dr. William R. Burrell, pastor of the Memorial Baptist Church in Williamston, will preach at Cedar Branch Baptist Church Sunday evening at four o'clock, E. W. T. Dr. Burrell held a pastorate in this county 25 years ago, many of his friends remembering him as a very able speaker. He still retains that power today. It is hoped that the membership of the church will avail themselves of the opportunity of hearing him, and the public is invited.

PRESBYTERIAN

Williamston—Church school, 9:45 a. m. Commencement sermon at High School at 11 o'clock. Circle No. 1 at the home of Mrs. F. M. Manning on Monday night at 8 o'clock.

Bear Grass—Church School at 10 o'clock. Notice change of hour. Commencement sermon at Bear Grass High School at 11 o'clock.

Roberson's Chapel Church School at 12 o'clock.

Poplar Point—Church School at 3 o'clock. Poplar Point daily vacation Bible school will begin Thursday, May 7th, at 9:30 o'clock.

BAPTIST

Morning service at the high school auditorium.

Bible school at the church at 9:45 a. m.

Dr. Burrell will teach the T. E. L. class Sunday. All members are urged to be present and visitors are welcome.

Baptist Training Union, 7 p. m.

Evening service, 8 p. m. Pastor's topic: The Ideal Christian.

Prayer and study service, Wednesday, 8 p. m.

"All our Doors stand open for you—for our hearts' right hand we give you."—Longfellow.

METHODIST

Church School, 9:45 a. m.

There will be no preaching service at the church Sunday morning on account of the commencement sermon at the High School auditorium by Rev. J. W. Hardy, of the Episcopal Church.

Epworth League, 7 p. m. Evening worship and sermon, 8 p. m.

On account of the commencement exercises Wednesday night, there will be no mid-week prayer service.

HOLLY SPRINGS METHODIST

The pastor will fill his regular appointment at Holly Springs Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock. The community is cordially invited.

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE Having qualified as Executor of

the Estate of F. L. Haislip, late of Martin County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased, to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 25th day of March, 1942, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 26th day of March, 1942. Wachovia Bank & Trust Co., Executor, Estate of F. L. Haislip, m31-6t Deceased, Hamilton, N. C. E. S. Peel, Atty.

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AT HARDISON'S MILL ----- 10:30 to 12 m.
AT BEAR GRASS ----- 1 to 3 p. m.

Every **FRIDAY**
AT OAK CITY ----- 9 to 11 a. m.
AT HAMILTON ----- 11:30 a. m. to 12 m.
AT GOLD POINT ----- 1 to 2 p. m.

Every **SATURDAY**
AT WILLIAMSTON ----- 9 to 11 a. m.
AT EVERETTS ----- 11:30 a. m. to 12:30 p. m.
AT ROBERSONVILLE ----- 3:30 to 5:30 p. m.

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NEW HOURS— In order to conform more easily with the hours our employees are able to work and due to the fact that the new War Time is one hour earlier than Eastern Standard Time, we will BEGINNING MONDAY, MAY 4th, OPEN OUR STORE AT 9:00 A. M. INSTEAD OF 8:30 O'CLOCK.

Belk-Tyler Company
DEPARTMENT STORES