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W. C. MANNING
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Friday, June 26, 1942.

Plan Now For The Future

It is conservatively estimated that nearly \$400,000 will have been spent for alcoholic beverages in this county by the last of this year. Forgetting the moral issues involved for the present, one can find much to think about from the practical standpoint.

The United States government has not made a more urgent appeal to the people than the one urging them to save, to invest in war stamps and bonds. It is true that the money so invested will be used immediately for prosecuting the war, but it is also equally true that the government is looking ahead and anticipating the needs of the people a few years hence. Every dollar saved now will be available in time of need later. It has been the policy of the administration to come to the aid of those in need during past years. There was no other way out. But there is a way out now and we must plan today for tomorrow. The man who squanders his money today should be told that there'll be no relief and little mercy shown him when adversity strikes tomorrow.

Some say it will be a job to record the names of all purchasers, that such action would jeopardize one's freedom. It will be a job to handle such an undertaking, all right, but it will be far easier to do than that it will be for a bankrupt country to have to accept the squanderers as relief subjects in the years that lie ahead.

Those who strive to earn their way and meet their obligations have been patient with the relief programs in recent years, because they realized that the recipients were victims of a cruel world in many instances. But when they see the names of countless squanderers on the relief rolls in the future they can be expected to rebel. And to tell the truth there is little incentive for one to sacrifice and save just to be taxed later on to help relieve those who squander and throw away now.

There are exceptions, of course, and no one can conscientiously object to accepting his fair share of the burden to take care of those exceptions, but free him of all unnecessary burden in the future by warning and urging the squanderers to prepare for the proverbial rainy day. There's going to be a day of reckoning sooner or later and the best time to prepare for that day is now. And we can do much in the way of preparation other than diverting our money from liquor purchases to the purchase of war stamps and bonds. It may be difficult to do, but we can pare our living costs, cut out the non-essentials and eliminate our claims to fancy whims and desires. It will be far easier to battle the cub now than it will be to tackle the big ole bear later on.

Walking In The Steps Of France

Despite the claims by a hostile press that labor caused the downfall of France, the real facts are that France bowed down in debauchery and was caught in its weakness. It would seem that we are trodding the same road traveled by a once proud French people. They squandered their money and cheered when moral bars were lowered and decency was thrown to the four winds.

One doesn't have to go out of Martin County to witness a dangerous trend that is fast sweeping us off our feet, unconsciously perhaps. Just look around and examine the facts. The legal liquor, beer and wine sales in this county last January, February and March, it is conservatively estimated, exceeded one hundred thousand dollars. That amount was spent when the government of the United States was pleading with everyone to buy stamps and war bonds. We were asked to support our own blood and kin in the war, but we preferred to squander more money than we diverted to the war effort, to education and to religion.

Turn to the courts and gasp at the increasing demand for a suck at the public teat. More illegitimate brats and the offspring of divorcees are knocking at the relief door than will die from natural causes and from the war combined.

The modern march is so rapid that these and similar happenings escape public notice, but

few weeks pass but what a deserted wife and mother goes to the courthouse urging the law or the welfare board to intervene in her behalf. Just a few days ago a deserted mother with two small children appealed to the courts for relief. The husband a few years ago divorced his first wife and left several children. After bearing him a child, the second wife was dumped on the world to bear his second child. The husband had returned to his first wife.

Such cases, to be sure, are not so numerous, but their number is growing, the liquor sales are increasing, and public indifference is mounting. With this morbid foundation we are moving into a crisis, possibly one of the greatest ever known in all history. The question is, will our stamina and moral courage stand the test, or will we cave in as France did and bow down in slavery, swamped in our own degradation?

Patriotic Windbags

The war has produced its slackers, its quitters, its deserters and its heroes, but large scale production has been centered on patriotic windbags. The first to boast how willing they are to work and do for the war effort, these patriotic souls are the first to be seen under the pleasure car steering wheel with the ingrained gall to demand a supplementary gas card for "business." They are not seen in the sewing rooms. They pledge to buy war savings stamps and bonds, but they just don't get around to that important task. But they are seen crowding into the amusement houses, buying many things they could do without and doing many things they could well leave undone.

It is still a free country, and criticism should be slow, but deliver us from those who should about what they are willing to do and who never get around to doing it.

Look Up At The Stars

By Ruth Taylor.

"When it is dark enough, you can see the stars."

Do you feel downcast and disheartened? Do you feel that there is no ray of light on your horizon? That all is gloom, that the war and its attendant evils are too much to bear — that ahead there is nothing?

"When it is dark enough, you can see the stars."

Look around you. The lads you knew have gone to war. Careless and thoughtless, you called them—but when their hour came they went with shoulders squared to courage and a gay tilt to their chins. They gave up cherished ambitions and went to face hardships, change, privations, even death. They are stars in the sky of your community.

Look around you. See how your neighbors have accepted the restrictions of war, uncomplaining and cheerful. Notice how gladly they do without those things which they thought were necessities: the housewife learning to make do, buying carefully and spending little; the business man re-regulating his business in order to do his part; the man who works with his hands, putting aside his hard-won long-sought standards of living, to speed production; the farmer, keeping everlastingly at back-breaking toil to raise the food for Victory. Here are real stars in your sky!

Look around you. See how unified your community is today. Notice the new sense of being an active partner that has come over hitherto pre-occupied citizens: how your fellow townsmen are joining in Civilian Defense, backing the U. S. O. and the War Bond Drives, giving of themselves as well as of money. Here are stars in your sky.

Look around you. See the courage in time of trouble, the fellowship of sorrow, the brotherhood of disaster. Everywhere there is evidence of a growing selflessness, of greater neighborliness, an impatience with selfishness, a striving for the right. There are imperishable stars in your sky.

"When it is dark enough, you can see the stars." Look up and rejoice!

Ideals

You are today where your thoughts have brought you; you will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you. You cannot escape the result of your thoughts, but you can endure and learn, can accept and be glad. You will realize the vision (not the idle wish) of your heart, be it base or beautiful, or a mixture of both, for you will always gravitate towards that which you, secretly, most love. Into your hands will be placed the exact result of your thoughts; you will receive that which you earn; no more, no less. Whatever your present environment may be, you will fail, remain, or rise with your thoughts, your vision, your ideal. You will become as small as your controlling desire; as great as your dominant aspiration.—Selected.

The Sacred Pledge

News and Observer.

Every day some fresh reason appears to justify the sacred pledge of the Democratic party, and seconded by the Republican party, for a nine months school for every child in the state. The Shelby Star says the state of North Carolina spends \$22.62 every year on each public school pupil. It spends \$255 a year to maintain each mile of highway, and \$240.76 a year to support and supervise each convict.

If Europe is Bolshevized after the war, it won't be due to the Soviets, but to mistakes of our own.—Harvard Professor Samuel Cross.

THE BEAST OF LIDICE



—Baltimore Sun.

Repent Or Perish

By BERNARD T. HURLEY
Pastor, Methodist Church

Whenever any great public calamity happens, there are never wanting some persons who are always ready to point out the special sin which has provoked it. They assume the role of interpreters of Divine Providence, and usually their interpretations are colored by their private prejudices and theories, and, therefore, contradictory. Furthermore, they are usually careful to exclude themselves from the operation of vengeance on the grounds of superiority. This doubtless was the case with that group who related to Jesus the story of a terrible atrocity that happened to some Galileans worshipping in the Temple, "whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices."

It is not recorded that they passed judgments on these unfortunate and inferior Galileans, or that they vocalized any opinions concerning the cause of the tragedy. However, it is to be assumed from the question that Jesus immediately asked that he knew the thoughts they had in mind and their reason for reporting this story to him. It is quite evident that they wanted Jesus to agree with them that God had visited his wrath upon them because of their sins. "Do you suppose," asked Jesus, "that these Galileans suffered these things because they were greater sinners than all the rest of them?"

And here Jesus makes a startling statement of truth. "I tell you, no; unless you repent you will all perish likewise." And he went on to ask them another question about the eighteen men who were killed by the falling of the tower of Siloam in Jerusalem: "Do you think they were the worst sinners in all Jerusalem? I tell you, no, and unless you repent you will all perish as they did."

Jesus uncovered their own sins, and leaves them facing their own guilt. These who were sitting in judgment upon others were brought suddenly to judgment on account of their own sins.

Maxwell Anderson, in the play, "Key Largo," makes one of his characters say: "This thing was on my chest, and I had to get it off. Something broke inside me, my nerves maybe. I was willing to eat dirt and be damned. I ate dirt and am damned." The whole world stands before the judgment seat of God today. It has eaten dirt. It cannot stand it much longer. The world has sinned. Hence, this orgy of blood and tears.

The Axis powers are not the only sinners. To be sure they have sinned. They have been the aggressors. They precipitated this terrible calamity upon unsuspecting and unprepared nations. But are the democracies without sin? Jesus doubtless would say to them: "No, except ye repent, ye shall likewise perish." To a great extent Jesus has been politely bowed out of our lives. We have refused His cross, and have failed to share with him the burdens of a needy world. We have given ourselves to the passion for power, for profits, and for pleasure. We have banished the idea of hell from our minds—punishment for our wrong doings—and in so doing we have turned our earth into a veritable hell and now we are frantically trying to banish it from the earth. This cannot be done effectively and permanently until we first repent of our own sins and enthrone Christ in our

CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

The 4th Sunday after Trinity.
Church school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning prayer and sermon, 11 a. m.

ST. MARTIN'S, Hamilton

Evening prayer and sermon, 6 p. m.

Piney Grove Baptist

There will be services at Piney Grove Baptist Church Sunday evening at 8:30 o'clock. We shall begin our Bible study of the book of John. It is very needful that we study God's Word at all times, but especially now in these dark days, when so many people are wondering what is just ahead. We should do as David did, make it a lamp unto our feet and a light to our path, that we may pass over safely. So come to the service. There will be a book for you.

RIDDICK'S GROVE

Regular services will be held at Riddick's Grove Baptist Church on Sunday evening at 8:00 o'clock. It is hoped that the membership will be present, and the public is invited.

CHRISTIAN

Bible school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m. Subject, "The Cure for Fear."
Young People's meeting, 7:30 p. m. Subject, "Summer Sundays."
Evening service, 8:30 p. m. Subject, "Wheels."
Choir rehearsal Tuesday, 8:30 p. m.
Mid-week service Thursday, 8:15 p. m. Subject, "The Will of God for Me."

hearts as Saviour and Lord.

Sin cannot be justified on the grounds of human frailty, nor can we excuse ourselves because of the dual nature that is within us. This dual nature is honestly expressed in the words of "Tommy Atkins":

"Our Padre he says I'm a sinner,
John Bull he says I'm a saint;
But they're both bound to be wrong

For I'm neither of 'em, I ain't.
I am a man, and a man's a mixture
Right down from his birth;
Part of him came from heaven,
And a part of him came from the earth."

The whole trouble is we have allowed that part of us that came from the earth to get the upper hand. We have allowed the tiger to take the place of the dove.

Furthermore, we try to justify the violations of the moral law on the grounds of expediency or palliate our wrong doings on the flimsy excuse we hear so often, "Everybody is doing it." "How can a man be a Christian in such a world?" was the outcry of a man who had lost every-

METHODIST

Church school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship and sermon, 11 a. m. Subject, "Our Youth."
Epworth League, 7:30 p. m.
Evening service, 8:30 p. m.
Thursday evening prayer service, 8:30 p. m.

Attendance upon the public services of the church is not only an obligation entered into when one took the solemn vows at the altar when uniting with the church, but it is a great privilege to be enjoyed. What a glorious thing it would be to see the people thronging the churches once again. Why not start the church going movement Sunday morning? During the months of July and August the churches will unite in the evening services. The first union evening service will be held at the Baptist Church.

thing during the depression. His master passion was money making. God was only incidental in his life. He had built his house on the sand, and when the storm came, it fell. Thus it will be to individuals and nations who ignore God and his moral order.

Repentance and faith toward God are essential to both individual and national salvation. God will hear the cries of his people when they cry unto him from the depths of broken and penitent hearts. Victory over our national enemies by superiority of materials for war, sheer force, and grim determination of a free people is possible. But such a victory would not bring about a lasting peace. Let us not forget that we must repent or perish. "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5.

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Sugar - Saving Tips . . .

In home baking, delightful cakes, cookies and other good things can be made by using sweeteners other than sugar. Molasses, sorghum, honey, light and dark corn syrup and maple syrup are available and are excellent substitutes. All of these sweeteners contain some water since they are in liquid or "syrupy" form. Therefore a few changes must be made when these are used. Cut out these rules and paste them in your recipe book:

- 1—Never substitute other sweeteners for all sugar in baking recipes. Equal parts of sugar and other sweeteners give excellent results. One-fourth sugar and three-fourths other sweetener gives good results.
- 2—When using molasses or sorghum, reduce liquid one-fourth cup for each cup of molasses or sorghum used. Allow one-half teaspoon of baking soda for each cup of molasses or sorghum.
- 3—When using honey, reduce liquid one-fourth cup for each cup of honey used. Use slightly lower oven temperature to prevent over-browning.
- 4—When using corn syrup, reduce liquid one-fourth cup for each cup of corn syrup used. Light corn syrup is better for light cakes, breads and cookies. Dark corn syrup is good in spice and other dark cookies, cakes, breads.

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