

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE

AND RENO RECORD

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"Happy Days Are Here Again"

Christmas is here again. It seems such a short time since we last heard the tinkle of bells that told of the hurried visit of Santa Claus. To youth the time seems long and dreary from one holiday season to another, but gray hairs make a difference, a big difference.

A lot of water has gone under the bridge since last Yuletide season. There has been a lot of anxiety, fancies and real: there has been a lot to depress, but a monstrous lot to exult. It has been a hard year to lots of us, but if we analyze the cause, we will find most of it can be laid at our own door step. There is a lot in the state-of-mind; of course it is hard to persuade ourselves that our tooth isn't aching when we know jolly well it is, but even that is possible.

Let us resolve that for one whole week we will not think in terms of "hard times". Let's give the kiddies a nice little present that we can afford, and the madame a box of candy, and Mother, bless her heart, let's give her a little love. Let's be kids again, just for a week. Next year is going to be better, anyway, so why cast a shadow on its birth.

The Tribune would like to grasp the hand of every one of its subscribers, and wish them happiness and much merriment; it cannot do this in person, but it can and does it in spirit. We are trying mighty hard to measure up to our responsibilities; we are trying to serve our patrons the best we know how, and we think we merit the good will and the good wishes of every one of them. We shall assume that this is so anyway and in return let us say:

"May your Christmas come by a beautiful road,
A road of twelve-months long;
May every mile be as sweet as a smile,
And every hour be a song."
Merry Christmas, all of you-ias.

Should Have Full Support

Those who heard J. R. Page, president of the proposed Co-Operative Tobacco Marketing Association, when he addressed the farmers here some days ago, were convinced of the sincerity, honesty and integrity of the man as an individual and were impressed with the justness of the cause he represents. It is a pity that he was not heard by every tobacco farmer in this and adjoining counties.

The plan he outlined and which was published in its essentials in the last issue of the Tribune, has the approval of intelligent business men and farmers, as well as Governor Gardner and other leading State officials who are known to have the interest of the tobacco farmer at heart. It is a plan based not alone on theory, but on common sense. But it is a plan that must have the support of a majority of those most interested in its purpose, if a full measure of success is to be attained.

The farmer, working as an individual, can succeed when the products of his farm is diversified, when he produces a variety of things which are in seasonal demand, but when he tackles the staples such as cotton and tobacco, he is as helpless as a babe in arms. As an individual he does not have a thing in the world to say about what he shall get for his product—he takes what is offered, whether or not it cost him more to produce it than the price he gets.

But as a part of a great organization, the tale is different. He thus is able to keep in touch with the supply and demand, and if he will heed the information passed out to him, he can so govern his planting as to make one acre bring him just as much revenue as two acres, and with half the work.

We would like to see the tobacco farmers of Surry county give this association their full support; we would like to see them plant half a crop next year, and devote the other acreage to live-at-home products and begin the diversification that is the sole salvation of the rural sections.

Playing Politics With Misery

President Hoover openly charged Congress with "playing politics at the expense of human misery", and while that august body raised a rough house when they heard what he had said, the records do not show that anything has been done to disprove the charge.

Reading the reports of congressional and senatorial proceedings one gets the idea that our statesmen consider their mission in Washington one that has as its main objective the purpose to jockey for positions, and to embarrass some individual or faction.

For all we know President Hoover may have been all wet in his recommendations to Congress, but instead of taking up precious time by pausing to give him a spanking, our lawmakers should go ahead and do something constructive about it. If there is not suffering in the land there soon will be, and yet for twenty days grown up men have been engaged in calling one another names, and getting nowhere.

Congress spent eight months messing with a tariff bill which was left in worse condition than it was found. A score of tariff experts, unconcerned about political fences could have turned out a better job in 30 days. A score of intelligent business men could cut the heart out of "emergency relief", dissect it for faults, and put the thing in motion, with plenty of time left to do their Christmas shopping. But Congress is not built that way. The more we see and hear of congressional maneuvering, the more respect we have for a cock fight.

We are not so sure that President Hoover was wrong when he said that Congress was "playing politics at the expense of human misery."

Bank Rumors

Judge McRae called the attention of an Asheville grand jury to the seriousness of circulating false reports about banks, and pointed out the law made and approved for such cases. He charged that they should bring indictment if they found sufficient evidence to warrant. Judge McRae further stated that eleven western North Carolina banks had recently closed, not because they were insolvent, but because confidence had been undermined by insidious rumors to the extent that runs resulted, which caused them to close their doors temporarily.

Grape vine telegraph seems to have radio beat a block, when it comes to grudging malicious reports from ear to ear. An innocent little statement enlarges with the telling, and the damage is done—damage that time alone can repair.

The circulation of falsehoods about a bank is dangerous, not alone to the bank, but to the depositors, and for that reason the state has provided punishment for such offenders. Unverified rumors about banks should not be repeated, and a few jail sentences for those who start them would at least be educational.

False Economy

We yield to no one a greater desire to see every dollar of tax money saved than can consistently be saved, particularly right now when tax money comes hard, but the thing can be overdone. It is not good business to starve a horse, if we would expect a full day's work from him; neither is it good policy to "cut off one's nose to spite the face."

The following comment from The Charlotte Observer, under the same head as we are using, about county curtailment, has so much of good horse-sense in it that we are printing it in full:

"A few days ago the board of commissioners of Catawba County decided to dispense with the services of the home demonstration agent for that county. This decision has aroused quite a bit of protest in the county, as was to have been expected. The Observer has noted a similar inclination in some other counties during the past few months, and with quite a bit of regret.

"Probably no group of men and women in North Carolina is today rendering more needed service to the State at large, as well as to the farming community, than the farm demonstration agents and the home demonstration agents. These people are, essentially, educators. They educate not only through the giving of counsel and information but through demonstrations. They educate not only the on-coming farmers and farm wives of the State, but the adult farmers and farm wives as well. No one would think of dispensing with the services of the teachers in rural schools and yet while our counties employ from a dozen to several score teachers in schools at a very considerable cost in some instances they seem inclined to apply the pruning knife to the only positions in the entire county governmental organization through which constructive service can be rendered to that greatest of all classes of producers—the farmer and the farm family.

"This is not only false economy, it is suicidal. Those counties which attempt to get along without farm and home demonstration agents at this time when adjustments in our agricultural policy are so desperately needed, are going to find themselves lagging behind the procession. The purchasing power of such counties will be reduced, or at least not increased, and the merchants, bankers and other business interests of the urban communities of these counties, because of that fact, will suffer along with the farming communities."

A farm demonstration agent, if he is the right kind, can earn his keep several times over; if he is not the right kind, there are plenty who are. Farmers as a class, need leadership. They have neither the time nor the inclination to take things through to a finish, on their own hook. The farm agent, versed as he should be, in the myriad farm problems, can advise and offer suggestion, which, if heeded, will increase farm products and farm values, and thus increase revenue with which to meet county expense. If this be true, then who can say that it is good policy to "kill the goose that lays the golden egg?"

Doubtless there are farmers who will applaud the county commissioners of Surry county for withdrawing support from the farm demonstrator's budget, thus eliminating his office, but such are in the minority, if they have a full appreciation of the value of the demonstrator's service. Certainly they are not representative of the great body of forward-looking agriculturists, who see in their neighbor's success a toe-hold for their own.

There is such a thing as false economy, and the big man is he who can visualize the line of demarcation.

How Big Is Your Heart?

There will be many a pitiful little stocking, full of holes, worn many times since the last tubbing, that will be hung up with a longing heart—but maybe only to meet disappointment. Just think of some little girl or boy, bright-eyed, full of life, putting up the stocking Christmas Eve full of hope and breathless with expectancy, only to meet cruel disappointment early next morning. Here is where you can do something really worthwhile. You can bring cheer into some home where it may be otherwise lacking. You know best how and where this may be done, but the opportunities from which to choose are plentiful this year. Hunger weakens, and cold bites. Look about you and see if there is not something that you want to do to relieve distress and bring happiness to replace the gray dullness of want.



Develop Local Markets For Poultry Products

There is no valid reason why North Carolina markets should buy a large part of their poultry and egg supplies from outside of the State. Present importations are large and therefore the opportunity exists for poultry growers to develop local markets in a profitable way.

"Local growers may capture these markets if they take the same pains as their competitors to produce a quality product and do a little judicious advertising," says N. W. Williams, poultryman at State College. "It is most important, however, to produce a quality product. In marketing eggs, careful grading is of utmost importance yet few of our local poultrymen pay any attention to this. Therefore, they place on the market, eggs of a wide range in size, shape, shell color and shell texture. Then too these mixed eggs go in any kind of container that may be handy. When these local eggs are placed side by side with those produced by the large out-of-state concerns, the locally grown products look back."

It is not alone that the eggs must be packed in attractive containers and well graded, they must also be consistently good, says the poultryman. They ought never to be over 48 hours old and preferably infertile. One bad egg slipped into a container by accident might ruin the trade of a valued customer. Then, too, fresh eggs are used largely in the diet of babies and invalids. Those purchasing for such purposes rightfully expect consistency in products.

The same fundamental reasoning applies to marketing broilers locally, says Mr. Williams. The grower must study the demands of his market and endeavor to meet them. The season of best price should also be studied. Milk-fed broilers, finished in good shape, when everyone else is not selling them, will return a good profit to any local poultryman.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT TO BE GIVEN

A Christmas pageant, "The Pilgrims of the Night", will be given tonight (Tuesday) at the Methodist church by the Sunday school class of Mrs. B. E. Pulliam. The public is cordially invited to attend this service.

Mrs. Poindexter Entertains Two-Four Club

Mrs. James Poindexter was hostess to the Two-Four Bridge club at a luncheon at Hotel Elkin on Thursday. The Christmas colors were carried out in the luncheon appointments and the guests were presented with brass candlesticks as favors.

During the afternoon bridge was played. The games were attended with much enthusiasm. In the final count, Mrs. E. C. Grier was found to hold highest score and Mrs. William Price second high, each was presented with an attractive souvenir. Mrs. Poindexter also presented Mrs. Price, who is a bride of the autumn, with an honor gift.

Those making up the tables were: Mrs. Price, Mrs. E. C. Grier, Mrs. Paul Gwyn, Mrs. B. E. Pulliam, Mrs. Albert Bryan, Mrs. Eugene Spainhour and Mrs. Poindexter.

Holcomb Church

An announcement that came as a complete surprise to friends here was the wedding of Miss Ina Church, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Church, of Boonville, and Odell Holcomb, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Holcomb, of Jonesville, which was solemnized at Independence, Virginia on December 19, Rev. Hanna officiating.

Mr. Holcomb is one of Jonesville's most promising young men; he is connected with the Holcomb Bros. company, of this city.

At present the bride and groom are making their home with Mr. Holcomb's parents.

If you are interested in a little truck or poultry farm, I have ten or twelve little farms all on good roads from 1 to 4 miles out of town. Can divide in 5, 10, 15 or 25 acre lots. Would trade for town lots. Easy terms during Christmas. Oscar Martin, Jonesville, N. C. Itc

SORE THROAT? DON'T GARGLE

This Doctor's Prescription Gives Quicker, Better Relief

Don't suffer the pain and discomfort of sore throat. Use a doctor's prescription called Thoxine guaranteed to relieve with the very first swallow. Not a gargle but a pleasant tasting medicine which relieves the soreness and goes direct to the internal cause.

Thoxine will relieve your sore throat or coughing quicker and better than anything you have ever tried or your money will be refunded. Safe for the whole family. Ask for Thoxine, ready for use in 25c, 50c and \$1.00 bottles. Sold by Turner Drug Company.

SOCIETY

Mrs. Lillard Hostess

Mrs. Mason Lillard was hostess to the members of the Thursday afternoon Book Club and several additional guests at her home on Gwyn Avenue on Thursday afternoon. A general review of the club books of the month and current topics of interest were the main discussions of the meeting.

An additional pastime was a geographical contest, in which the knowledge of the guests of the counties of North Carolina was tested. In drawing for the club prize, Mrs. W. W. Whitaker was most successful. To Misses Ruth Eads, Artellee Puit, Gertrude Michael and Elizabeth Anderson, teachers in the high school, who were especially invited guests, the hostess gave lovely souvenirs.

Following the program, the hostess served an elaborate collation, in two courses, in which the Christmas motif was charmingly accentuated.

Officers Elected for Methodist W. M. S.

The group meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church, was not held last Friday on account of the weather. The reports of the officers for the year have been sent to the corresponding conference officers. It is very gratifying to know that the budget was paid in full. The new officers are: President, Mrs. Mason Lillard; Vice-President, Mrs. J. S. Atkinson; Secretary, Mrs. Herbet Graham; Treas-

urer, Mrs. C. G. Armfield; Supt. of Children, Mrs. E. F. McNeer; Supt. of Social Service, Mrs. W. W. Whitaker; Supt. of Supplies, Mrs. W. A. Shores; Supt. of Publicity, Mrs. W. S. Reich. The new circle chairmen are Mrs. Etta Paul, Mrs. Errol Hayes, Mrs. J. S. Atkinson, and Mrs. Harold Click. The members may get the new circle cards from any of these.

Miss Webber Entertains

Thursday evening Miss Maxine Webber entertained the members of her club with a delightful party at her home on Church street. Attractive decorations, suggestive of the approaching holiday season, were used throughout the home. During the evening dancing was enjoyed.

Refreshments, consisting of sandwiches, cake, hot chocolate, nuts and mints were served buffet style. The hostess was assisted in entertaining by Miss Irene Roberts.

Those enjoying Miss Webber's hospitality were: Misses Flora Royal, Elizabeth Evans, Irene Roberts, Hilda Lewis, Thorburn Lillard, Frances Grier, Lucile and Maxine Mathis, Mano Brown, Edith Neaves, Sarah Click, Catherine Hall, Pauline Masten, and Mary Maguire. Messrs. Lee Neaves, Evan Marshall, Gavin Dortch, Davis Reece, John Evans, Fred Hobson, Clyde Hall, Dwight Bailey, Harry Barker, Jr., Sig Holcomb, Joe Royall, Tommy Hendren, Clay Church, Edwin Morrison, Bob Eidson, Gordon Bell, Robert Kirkman, Watson Byrd, Glenn Bailey and Sam Atkinson.

MAY ALL YOUR DAYS BE HAPPY DAYS

HERE'S TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH IN 1931

To close the year 1930 without expressing our sincere gratitude for the many favors shown us, would be leaving one of our principal obligations unmet. Without your business our business would be a failure, and we genuinely appreciate the support given us in the past. If our merchandise and service has been up to your expectations, we hope by an even greater effort to merit a continuance of your valued patronage and good will.

May the Yuletide Season Bring You Joy, Health and Prosperity In a Bounteous Measure

SOMERS & CO'S. 5-10 TO 99c STORE
Elkin, N. C.

Open the Gates for 1931

HERE'S TO YOUR HAPPINESS HEALTH AND PROSPERITY

EVERYBODY AT OUR HOUSE WISHES EVERYBODY AT YOUR HOUSE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

May the Christmas spirit prevail, and bless you with all the good things of life, omitting nothing that would add to your happiness throughout the coming years.

HERE'S TO YOUR SUCCESS IN 1931

W. J. Snow Furn. Co.

ELKIN, NORTH CAROLINA