

The Rocky Mount Herald

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Today's Bible Thought

The Lord Is Near: The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and loveth such as be of a contrit spirit.—Psalm 34:18.

The Price Of Peanuts Is Too Low

Hertford County Herald. What is the reason for the disappointing low price of peanuts?

Every indication before the market officially opened was that a profitable price would be paid to farmers this year. Every condition of supply and demand indicated that the expectation of a price for peanuts comparable to the price of other farm products, and of the manufactured products that the farmer has to buy, would be realized this year.

Instead, the price of peanuts on the market today is not as high as the price paid for the last crop.

Not a peanut should be sold at the present price.

Millers of peanuts have no stocks. Their warehouses are empty. Their mills are idle. There is no surplus of peanuts.

There is nothing wrong with the market for cleaned peanuts. The peanut is as fine a food this year as it was last year, or five years ago. Nothing that we have been informed about has supplanted the peanut in the market it has always held. In fact, new uses for peanuts and new methods of processing them, widening their market, have been developed. That there is no surplus of peanuts and that accurate government reports show there are less of them on storage in the warehouses of millers today than at any time in many years, both are proof that there exists a market that will absorb what have been produced this year.

This market will absorb the present peanut crop at much higher price than is now being paid to the farmer. If the farmer does not get the higher price—and he will not if he accepts what buyers are offering now and continues to rush his crop to market as soon as it has been picked—the millers who are buying at the prices now being paid will get it.

There is no reason or excuse that can be offered to justify three-cent peanuts—none other than farmers, many of them, are helplessly and blindly accepting the miserably low prices that millers, whose eyes are fixed on the great profits they will take on the rising market, are offering.

Teachers Must Fight

Extract from Oxford Public Ledger of Tuesday, November 6, 1934

North Carolina school teachers have public sympathy on their side in the contest that looms in the 1935 General Assembly for an appropriation sufficient to pay them an adequate salary and commensurate with the service rendered.

Speaking last week in Charlotte before a group of school teachers, Governor Ehringhaus said he was cognizant of the inadequate salaries paid teachers, but if he made any promise that he will use his best efforts to obtain higher wages for the teachers, the reporter failed to make note of it.

When they discovered their position in the chaos, school people found a couple of years ago they were being shorn of everything beyond the margin of a meager living. And upon their own shoulders can be laid a major portion of the blame for this situation.

Public school men awoke to find their system so far in advance of the public appreciation of the splendid organization, of the high type teachers that were in the system, and of the superb physical plant and equipment that had been set up in every consolidated district, it was impossible to preserve the school in toto.

Clyde Erwin, as successor to Dr. A. T. Allen, comes to the head of the State school system at an opportune time. It ought not to be necessary for a man in the position of Mr. Erwin to get out and fight for finances for the school. The public school is the poor man's institution and he is going to do all in his power to preserve it. The sentiment that originates in the individual home and foregathers around the community school and crystallizes in the county organization and brings pressure to bear on the General Assembly is the thing that will do most to restore the vitality of the teaching profession, the backbone of the community school, lost with the destruction of an equitable salary scale.

The curtailed educational program of the State has brought into most homes where there are children a realization of a fuller appreciation of the school and of the teacher.

But restoration of teachers' salaries in this off-year, politically speaking, is going to be no snap. Governor Ehringhaus is not eligible for re-election and besides, there is

no particular reason, in the eyes of the all-important politicians, why the schools should not be allowed to run along for another year and use teachers to political advantage in making the campaign lively in 1936. If they want anything from the 1935 assembly, the educators may as well gird for a battle.

Views And Observations

News and Observer

"The defeat of Mr. Moses, the Old Guard candidate for Governor of New York, was a foregone conclusion, for he was foolish enough to advocate a general sales tax during the campaign and his successful opponent, Governor Lehman, was an avowed opponent of a consumption tax and, in fact, had prevailed upon the New York Legislature to repeal the sales tax which was enacted sometime ago," observed Willard Dowell, Secretary of the N. C. Merchants' Association.

"I do not believe any man could be elected Governor of any State who championed a sales tax, for thinking people everywhere know that the general sales tax, as Governor Pinchot of Pennsylvania said when he demanded its repeal in his State, 'is simply one more device to put the tax burden on those who are least able to pay.'

"Mr. Moses said 'the sales tax is one of the least burdensome of all taxes.' Least burdensome for whom? Not for the laboring man, the farmer, the small home owner, the merchant, the school teacher, the salaried man, and that vast army of the unemployed, but 'least burdensome' for those who already have more of this world's goods than they know what to do with, least burdensome for powerful corporations, least burdensome for the rich and those who enjoy big incomes. No wonder Moses was defeated and no wonder the great States of New York and Pennsylvania have thrown the sales tax into the discard. North Carolina should be the next State to abandon this unjust and oppressive species of taxation, but will it? Not if our Governor and our State Commissioner of Revenue can prevail upon the legislature to reenact it.

"During the campaign just closed, Governor Ehringhaus and Commissioner Maxwell in their campaign speeches attempted to justify and popularize the sales tax, but it cannot be justified and all their efforts will never popularize it. The sales tax today is the same unjust tax that it has always been, it has not changed one iota, but the Governor and Mr. Maxwell have changed, and how.

"Before election to office the Governor said 'A general sales tax levied by a single state is utterly destructive in its local effect and will drive millions of dollars in business from the merchants of any state where it operates,' and before the sales tax was enacted Mr. Maxwell said 'A sales tax takes little account of ability to pay, and is the most successful form of tax on poverty that could be invented. It stands between the hungry and every loaf of bread and demands its payments in advance. It would take its toll from the very sums that charity distributes to help feed the unemployed and the helpless.'

"Actual experience with the tax proves that the Governor and Mr. Maxwell were entirely correct in their former positions. The tax has not changed so why this effort to justify an unjust tax? I imagine that when these officials speak about the sales tax that deep down in their hearts they have about the same degree of pride in it as the official executioner would have if he were talking about the electric chair," declared Mr. Dowell.

Ought To Change His Strategy.

We have the highest respect for State Treasurer Charles M. Johnson. He is a capable public official. But we confess that he has us considerably confused with respect to his position on teachers' salaries in this Commonwealth.

The State Treasurer is quoted as contending that he was the first public official who advocated increased salaries for school teachers. But he does not state when he first began to advocate better salaries.

Was it before or since he voted against an increase in teachers' salaries in September of last year? He should supplement his announcement with this additional information as to the date when he began his campaign for better salaries for teachers. The public is entitled to the complete record.

Then, too, the results of Mr. Johnson's activities would seem to suggest a change in his strategy. Up to now, as we understand it, he has been saying he is for an increase in teachers' salaries, but voting against it.

Would he not have a better chance of success by reversing this procedure? A vote usually counts for more than talk.

The State Treasurer is a member of both the State School Commission and the State Board of Education. Instead of talking outside for an increase in teachers' salaries, wouldn't he make more progress by voting for an increase where a vote would count?

Tainted propaganda: News that you don't like but can't refute.

Why do some people rush to a doctor for advice and then refuse to follow it.

Advertise, brother, advertise; wiser merchants than you have done it for their own good.

One of the big lessons to get out of life is that you can learn something from almost anybody.

Go to church next Sunday and make it a rule to support all good institutions in this town.

A FARMER'S VIEW OF COTTON ALLOTMENT PLAN

A. W. Byrd of Wayne County, who owns a small farm in Duplin County, makes the following report in regard to the Cotton Situation as it affects his farm:

I usually planted from twenty to twenty-five acres of cotton. My acreage was cut this year to fifteen acres, and I will make twelve bales (500 pounds each) on these fifteen acres. When I received my allotment on this farm of four and one-quarter bales, I thought I was ruined, and I went to bed with the Contract and studied it out.

I received from the Government a rental of approximately \$60.00, of which one-half has already been paid and the other half will be paid between September 1st and some time in December. This \$60 will pay for Tax-Exempt Certificates on three more bales. I read the Contract further, and I found that the Government would pay a parity price of not less than one cent per pound (it may be more) on the 2,125 pounds of lint allotted to this farm. This at the least will amount to \$21.25, and with this \$21.25 I can sell another bale, without any expense to me as a farmer, and from what the Government gives me, I can sell with out expense to me eight and one-quarter bales of twelve bales of cotton.

With the selling of the eight and one-quarter bales at the expense of the Government and without any cost to me except the application of what the Government gives me, I am then required to buy Tax-Exempt Certificates at \$20.00 per bale on the remaining three and three-quarter bales of cotton, which necessitates an outlay of \$75.00 on my part. This \$75.00 goes to the farmer in the drought areas who was not as fortunate as I was here in North Carolina, and for the first time in the history of the Nation the Doctrine of Brotherly Love has been injected into Government. Thanks be to Franklin D. Roosevelt!

Buy let's go further and see where I'm going to get my \$75.00 to pay for these Tax-Exempt Securities. In 1932 cotton seed were selling for 11 cents per bushel, and in 1934 they are selling for at least 55 cents per bushel. From a 500-pound bale of lint an average yield of cotton seed would be thirty bushels per bale, and at 55 cents per bushel would bring \$16.50 per bale, and the twelve bales would bring for the cotton seed yield therefrom the sum of \$198.00. This check of \$198.00 for cotton seed will pay the \$75.00 for Tax Certificates and the ginning of \$36.00 for the twelve bales of lint, and leave me net the sum of \$87.00 out of the cotton seed.

I am therefore thankful to the Administration because I can pay the tax and pay for the ginning and have my cotton net to me at the present market price of more than 18 cents and \$87.00 out of my cotton seed.

I give this statement because it represents the condition of the small cotton farmer. Let's not tear down the barn because the house leaks. Let Congress get rid of the leaks and inequalities.

Control of production is our only hope and salvation.

A. W. BYRD, Mount Olive, N. C.

Additional Federal Money Is Granted For Tarboro Project Tarboro, Nov. 10.—Information which indicated that the Federal government has granted an additional \$80,000 to be used in extending the local water works plant was received here today.

The original federal grant was \$200,000 but that has been deemed insufficient to complete the enlargement, and city officials went to Washington, D. C., to confer there with Federal officials about a further grant.

Work on the project will start soon.

CLARK STREET METHODIST CHURCH H. C. Ewing, Pastor

Sunday School, 9:45 a. m.—L. F. Lane, Supt.

Divine Worship—11:00 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. The pastor will be in charge of services.

Epworth League, 6:45 p. m. Wednesday Evening Service. 7:30 o'clock.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST

Sunday morning service, 11 a. m. Sunday School, 10 a. m. Wednesday Evening Service, 7:45 p. m.

The reading room in the church edifice is open daily except Sunday and legal holidays, from three to five p. m.

JAPAN'S THREAT

That Japan has 34 cargo ships, capable of being turned into auxiliary cruisers at a moment's notice, is the statement of Admiral H. I. Cone, advisor to the Shipping Board.

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