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DEMOCRACY AND THE SCHOOLS

CLEAR THE DECK FOR W. S. S.

War Savings Week is June 23-28. The deck has been cleared for action. Everybody is called on to have an active heroic part in it. The program is:

1. A state-wide appeal in the churches and Sunday schools, on Sunday June the 23rd.

2. A house-to-house canvass in every community on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday to sell 25 cent saving stamps and \$4.17 thrift certificates, and to secure limit club members each taking a thousand dollars worth.

3. A public meeting in every school house, on National War Savings Day, Friday, June 28th, to report sales and pledges, and to secure further pledges to complete the quotas wherever necessary.

Every stay-at-home patriot is called on to set apart that week to serve his country with his savings—not by giving, but by lending to the government and getting in return four and a half per cent interest on tax-free securities.

It is lending week, not giving week; a week devoted to patriotic service along with good sense and sound business.

A HEROIC JOB AHEAD

We are marked up to take 50 million dollars worth of War Savings Stamps in North Carolina by June 28th.

Fifty million dollars means an average of \$20 per inhabitant, counting men, women and children of both races. It means a hundred dollars worth of thrift stamps per family.

That's the job we have set ourselves to finish up by June 28th.

And it's a big job! So big that the best of us have hardly yet realized it's immensity!

We came along the street the other day with a fine chap who was plumping himself on the \$25 in thrift stamps owned in his family.

The fact is, his family owns just a fourth the stamps the average calls for, and barely a tenth the average that well-to-do families must reach to bring up his community to the required level.

Many families will not be able to own a hundred dollars worth of stamps and therefore many other families will need to take many times their quota in order to maintain the general average.

The people of small means, earning small weekly wages or small monthly salaries, have hardly yet begun to realize the pinching necessity for heroic self-denial—either the personal or the national necessity for it.

They will realize it, we dare to say, before this war is over.

Our job is to get the multitude to realize it before it is too late.

The family that has nothing laid by against a rainy day will soon be on the wrong side of the deadline, the increasing cost of living considered.

If families of small means in North Carolina can by saving lay away 50 million dollars, they will have an income of two and a quarter million dollars a year in interest on war savings stamps. It will go a long way toward paying for family bread, bounties, and paregoric.

NATIONAL SELF-DENIAL

As for the national necessity for thrift the simple fact is that our part in this war must be paid for by national self-denial; by reducing to zero the consumption of unnecessary things, by denying ourselves everything we can possibly do without, and thus increasing the national surplus needed to prosecute the war to a successful finish.

Re-investing sums already saved, converting bank account savings or private loans into liberty bonds and savings stamps is important and patriotic, but it does not solve the big national problem of war finance.

This war must be paid for out of our savings. That is the big fact to keep clearly in mind.

The wealth we produce in America is now almost 18 billion dollars a year more than we consume. It must be twice that and more, if our war bill is paid without national calamity now or later. Every man jack of us all is helping to solve the problem, and we are doing it in all the taxes we pay and in every thing we buy or do without.

Our national net earnings available for government uses can be doubled by rigid personal self-denial on a national scale, and the need is urgent.

The government needs war materials—coal, lumber, steel, food, clothing, and the like. Whatever we are

willing to do without frees materials and labor for war purposes. For instance the coal mines are now being worked only four days a week because freight cars and crews are short. Meanwhile, 300 freight cars were sidetracked at one factory center the other week and loaded with automobiles—not with tractors and trucks but with pleasure cars. The Washington authorities suffered a spasm of indignation. And they said things and did things in a hurry.

It is a wise man who saves and invests in savings stamps, and gets back government interest with his left hand while he pays taxes and bills with his right. The man with a busy left hand is a wise man these days. It is a kind of left-handedness that means long-headedness.

AWAY OVER THE TOP

Chapel Hill district subscribed its allotment of the second Red Cross War fund twice over and more. Our share was \$500. By noon of Monday the first day of the drive, this amount was over-subscribed and reported to headquarters. By noon the following Monday the total reached \$1,148.30 and contributions are still coming in.

Carrboro contributed \$341.65 toward this total, as follows, the Durham Hosiery Nos. 4 and 7, \$200, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Ward \$25, and the mill employes, nearly 300 subscriptions, \$116.15.

The country contributors were the Bethel Sunday School \$15, the Damascus neighborhood \$7.60 handed in by W. A. Long; and Mr. L. P. Canada, Mrs. Canada, and Mr. and Mrs. Vance Daniel.

Chapel Hill contributions up to May 27, amount to \$782.45. They number 181, not counting the numerous small gifts to the war pot. Three people gave \$25 each, three \$20 each, sixteen \$10 each, and 58 gave between \$5 and \$10 each, or \$588 all told. The balance \$194.45 was given by 117 people in amounts ranging from 5 cents to \$4.

The people active in the canvass were Messrs. J. M. Bell, George Howe, Collier Cobb, L. A. Williams, J. S. Holmes, and the banks of Chapel Hill.

A SNAIL'S PACE

Somehow the folks in general have not gotten hold of the bigness of the War Savings Campaign.

Up to May 1st, our savings stamp purchases in North Carolina amounted to only four and a third million dollars. Our sales amounted not to \$20 but to only \$1.39 per inhabitant, and 23 states made a better showing.

However, we are getting under headway somewhat. Our April sales amounted to one and a half million dollars, or 61 cents per inhabitant and only 15 states did better.

But what remains to be done by June 28 is to sell stamps amounting to \$18.61 per inhabitant or \$93.05 per family.

It's a man size job. But in North Carolina as in Nebraska it is the women and children that will do it, if it is ever done.

Nebraska has taken 20 million dollars worth of stamps and leads the Union with per capita sales amounting to \$14.51. Think of that for a state with a population not much larger than the white population of North Carolina! They are mainly rural and mainly foreign but they believe in the United States and in the safety of their savings.

How Nebraska Did It

Nebraska jumped into the lead because the school children, the boy scouts, and camp fire girls were organized by the mothers and the club women of the state for a systematic, house-to-house, face-to-face, personal campaign of solicitation.

The banks helping, remember. Every bank in the state kept stamps for sale, and was active in aiding the canvass.

We can go over the top the same way in North Carolina.

That is exactly what the National War Savings Week means.

The mothers, the club women, and the teachers are urged to plan for a great War Savings Campaign the week of June 23-28, and to plan in advance with the banks for active help and guidance.

Get the preachers and Sunday school teachers lined up for definite assistance in informing the people of every community about the war savings campaign and what it means. This is a matter of importance because our school vacations have already begun. However, the children are now free to see the people whose names you hand to them.

WHILE WOMEN WAIT

Edith Dailey

Into the discard, silently
They cast their silk embroidery.
Their hands, with unaccustomed work
Tremble oftentimes, but do not shirk;
And words are few for hearts are full—
And tears are knitted with gray wool—
For men their trust with truth must keep
While women wait, and knit, and weep.

WAKE COUNTY BULLETIN

The Wake County Bulletin, published by the Wake County Club of the University, is just from the press and gives a quantity of information of interest and practical value. George B. Lay, of Raleigh, is editor-in-chief and business manager; W. H. Stephenson, assistant business manager; O. R. Cunningham, R. C. Maxwell, T. P. Harrison, Jr., and J. R. Pearson are the other members of the editorial board.

"Wake County, Economic and Social," is the title of the bulletin, and both these sides of the life of the county are engagingly discussed in the following articles: "A Short History of Wake," by J. R. Pearson; "Raleigh, Our Capital City," by W. H. Stephenson; "Natural Resources, Industries and Opportunities," by O. R. Cunningham; "Wealth and Taxation in Wake County," by R. C. Maxwell; "Farm Conditions, Farm Practices and the Local Market Problem," by T. P. Harrison, Jr.; "Seven Year Gains in Wake County Rural Schools," by O. R. Cunningham; "Where Wake Leads," by G. B. Lay; "Our Problems and Their Solution," by G. B. Lay.

The reason for the book and others like it that have been published is well given in a foreword by Albert M. Coates, president of the North Carolina Club, as follows:

This work is an expression of a distinct movement beginning in the University of North Carolina. It purposes to relate education to immediate, practical service. It is significant as expressing the growing interest of students in the practical problems of citizenship, which augurs well for the future. The interest manifested in it by the business men of Wake county, who have made possible its distribution, is expressive of a new spirit in business which seeks its welfare in promoting the welfare of those it serves.

It is difficult to conceive of a more admirable object than to relate education to immediate, practical service. Our counties are not what they ought to be by any means. Education is not doing what it might to make them better. The University Club studies will reveal the defects and it will be easier to cure those defects when their nature and extent have been ascertained.

Wake County Failings

The failings of Wake probably are more stressed in the bulletin than are its virtues. And that is as it should be. A county, like an individual, should be able to get along handsomely without praise, though the editors of the Wake Bulletin find much occasion for favorable comment. Constructive, helpful criticism it should welcome. Its virtues it probably knows for they are not achieved unconsciously. But its faults it may not know unless they are revealed. There is not room here to enumerate and elaborate on the various things that Wake county could do to make itself a better county in which to live, but a few of the defects pointed out in the Wake County Bulletin might be cited.

Two-thirds of the total area of the county is uncultivated; the county is crippled by farm tenancy and the crop loan evil; Raleigh is not the sort of market for rural Wake county that it might be; farmers pay too much attention to the money crops and too little attention to the food crops; there is insufficient co-operation between the bankers and merchants on the one hand and the farmers on the other; Raleigh has too high a death rate; the county schools, while good, lack much of being up to the best standards of the country as a whole.

This is a bare hint of some of the shortcomings of the county revealed in the bulletin. These and suggested remedies are elaborated informally. The bulletin is a book of nearly seventy pages. It should be read by all those who are interested in the development of Wake county and Raleigh. The Raleigh business men and corporations whose financial assistance made the book possible and the energetic young men who have assembled and reduced to readable form the mass of information about the county have rendered the county a service of real value.—News and Observer.

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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USING THE SCHOOLS

Ever since this nation decided to cast in its lot with the Allies and to fight autocracy in defense of democracy, the public schools have been used by the government to aid in the contest. The captains of our national life have thus acknowledged and recorded the fact that our public institutions of learning are the very best media through which to reach and organize the might and power of our people. This attitude once more puts the official stamp of approval on our public schools as the instrument of democracy and public enlightenment.

What They Do

It will be interesting, therefore, as well as suggestive to review rapidly and incompletely the lines of activity which have been and now are being pursued in the public schools throughout the nation. Attempts have been made to get reports from the schools in this state, but hardly a dozen have had the time or inclination to reply, hence it will be necessary to consider the work being done in the larger field of the nation as a whole.

Information Centers

Perhaps no one feature is more uniformly found in the war work of the schools than their use as centers of information about the war. Definite instruction has been given the pupils in the causes, aims, and purposes of the War; in the nature, use and value of War Savings Stamps and Liberty Bonds; in the need and means for food conservation, etc. This information has been thus relayed from the government through the pupils to the men and women in the homes.

School auditoriums have been used as places in which to assemble the people and there to give instruction directly to the people. School papers and magazines—as in Winston-Salem—have been made the organs for American propaganda. Literary and debating societies have made their programs largely patriotic in nature and the members have been enlisted in first-hand campaign work.

ROCKINGHAM ANALYZED

Rockingham County; Economic and Social is a new bulletin that has just gone to the printers. It is the work of the Rockingham County Club, in the workshop of the North Carolina Club at the University, during the chance intervals of a busy college year.

The chapters are: Foreword, E. C. Branson; Historical Background, T. D. Stokes; Natural Resources, T. D. Stokes; Industries and Opportunities, L. H. Hodges; Wealth and Taxation, R. B. Gwynn; Facts About the Folks, E. F. Duncan; Farm Conditions and Practices, C. H. Smith and N. A. Womack; Home-Raised Food and the Local Market Problem, T. D. Stokes; Non-Food Crops, T. D. Stokes; Our Public School Rank and Progress, E. F. Duncan; Where We Lead, T. D. Stokes; and Our Problems and Their Solution, W. E. Price.

It has been good for these young men to explore the problems of life and business, progress and prosperity in their home county, to hunt down the conditions and causes that cripple and disable her civilization, and to puzzle at the ways and means of lifting her to the very highest levels of noble achievement. It has been a self-educative preparation for competent citizenship and intelligent public service.

They have come to believe that it is a shame for any Rockingham county citizen to be ignorant about Rockingham county, no matter how much he may know about Greece and Rome.

This bulletin ought to be used as a text-book by the seniors in the high schools of the county and by the public school teachers in their professional studies. It might well be thumbed thoroughly by the preachers as well as the farmers, merchants, bankers, and manufacturers of the county. All of them will find it full of food for reflection.

Home-Bred Citizenship

The study of Rockingham county by Rockingham boys at the University is well worth while, but the study of Rockingham county by Rockingham people in Rockingham is even better; and it is the next step forward in the developing democracy of Rockingham.

The people who have a genuine, generous interest in the welfare and well-being of their home-county could

Practical Uses

But the work has not stopped with this informational type of activity. The home economics classes have not only given instruction in food conservation but have modified the demonstrations so as to teach how well-balanced meals may be prepared and yet conform to the wishes of the food administrators. The manual training classes are busily engaged in the business of making splints, tongue depressors and boxes in which to ship Red Cross supplies, canes, crutches, etc. The sewing classes have aided the Red Cross workers in making handkerchief napkins, wash cloths, mufflers, pillow slips, etc., as well as in making garments for the refugees, hospital garments, operating socks and masks.

Special Courses

The school authorities have also felt the need to establish new courses in such subjects as wireless telegraphy, automobile repairing, electric wiring, machine shop work, gas engine work, etc. In many places special evening classes and part-time classes are in operation. Special efforts have been made to reach and teach the foreign-born and the native-born of foreign parents. In Portland, Oregon, special courses have been instituted in pipe bending and caulking for the direct purpose of helping the ship building industry in obtaining competent workmen. Schools located near military training camps, as at San Antonio, Texas, have been placed at the disposal of the military authorities.

All Together

In fact there is scarcely a single phase of the public school work unaffected by the war or not directly contributing to the winning of it. Teachers, principals, and superintendents are giving freely and fully of their time and of their best thought to help our nation in its fight for freedom, justice, and right. The educative process is slow but once set in motion it is irresistible. Time only can estimate the worth and power of this magnanimous attitude of the public school system with all its forces working together for a common end.

do no better thing than to bunch up in Rockingham for studies of this sort. "Local Study Clubs: Essays at Citizenship" is a new University Bulletin that shows them just how to do it. It can be had free of charge upon application to the Extension Bureau here.

It may be important for the big outside world to know about the resources and advantages of Rockingham; about the opportunities she offers to capitalists seeking profitable investments in producing enterprises, and the bargains she has for western farmers in her soil and seasons, good roads, and excellent schools. But it is far more important for Rockingham to have an intelligent grip upon her own problems of life and business.

The future of a county depends upon native intelligence, native genius, and native home-bred leadership far more than it does upon imported capital however large, or imported men however fine and capable.

Democracy develops from within. It can not be laid on from without, dropped down as manna from above, or imported as a blessing from abroad. It must be the free outward expression of inward grace and grit. Every community rises, if it rise at all, by heroic tugging at its own boot-straps.

This is our American ideal of democracy, and it must be the ideal of Rockingham and of every other county and community in the United States.

DO NOT KILL THE PIGEONS

Under this title the Scientific American warns the American people that the Pigeon Section of the Signal Corps is training thousands of carrier pigeons for communicative service with the American Army, and that many have been shot by hunters in ignorance of the fact that they are seriously interfering with one of the most useful branches of war preparation.

Any pigeon in the air may be a carrier flying under training from a government loft. All persons are therefore urged not to shoot at pigeons, and to warn others, especially boys, against doing so. Persons coming into possession of pigeons labelled "U. S. A.—18" are requested to report the fact at once to the office of the chief signal officer, Land Division, Washington, D. C.—A. H. Patterson, U. N. C. faculty.