

THE FEDERATION JOURNAL

"Lifting As We Climb"

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Editorials

EASTER GREETINGS

EASTER GREETINGS — To One and All — May the True Spirit of the Resurrected Christ blossom as never before in your hearts this season.

What does the first chirp of the Robin mean to us in the spring? Do visions appear of a new hat, new draperies or paint for the house, or a spring festival for your community?

"EASTER is a challenge to the faith of us all. It should be a time of renewal of this faith. Everything during this springtime is an example of renewal. There is continuity in nature. It should be attached to our faith as well.

EASTER flashes its light about us and gives to us a New Vision of Hope and Confidence."

"A COMMUNITY THAT READS —LEADS."

April 8-14 thousands of communities throughout the United States will be celebrating National Library Week.

Your community and others in N. C. will be pointing up the theme above as they stress reading in their lives and the importance of libraries of all kinds . . . public, school and university libraries as well as individual libraries in our homes.

We will be among the thousands of citizens of all occupations, sensing the importance of reading to a rich, vigorous, and free intellectual and cultural life in their own communities for their children.

The objective, the sponsors of this week hope for, is to, "remind the American people that reading can help them to explore and to satisfy their need for a greater sense of purpose and meaning in their lives; to urge them to use more fully the libraries of all kinds in which the treasures of the printed word await throughout the land."

Never before has reading been so necessary and important. It is the very basis of all education. Responsible citizenship is almost demanded in this age. To exercise

Religious Emphasis

By MRS. BEULAH PERRIN

Almost overnight we have been ushered into a world of New Dimensions. Man traveling at an unprecedented speed and altitude, he had pierced the outer space, explored the depth, split the atoms, harnessed the lightening and made it his servant. But he has failed to subdue what the apostle Paul called the evil propensities of human nature; avarice — selfishness — jealousy — covetousness — prejudice and hate.

Thus the challenge comes to all who claim allegiance with the Prince of peace, to stand up and be counted. If — "The knowledge of the Lord is to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea" — Christians must awake from their

the citizenship necessary to even survive in America requires watchful readiness. Only a wide variety of reading can keep us abreast of what has been, and what is, and train the imagination to forge ahead into what might be in the future.

Personal reading habits are fixed by the interplay of many forces in the school, in the home, in the community and in the general atmosphere of our culture. This should be the concern of every adult. There are many ways we can contribute; create new attitudes toward books, serve on trustee boards or committees, appeals for appropriations increases, secure gifts for library, more attractive libraries, better trained librarians, is naming but a few.

Good readers are better listeners as well as better leaders than are non-readers. Reading is something new and something old, for both of these are blended in the culture of our time. Without partaking of each, no one can call himself a complete person. Clifton Fadiman once said; "Civilized man is a reader." Are we really as civilized as we think?

A statement by Governor Sanford; "In recognition of the fact that our freedom to read imposes a responsibility on all of us to make constant and beneficial use of our library facilities, I am glad to designate the week of April 8-14, 1962 as National Library Week in North Carolina and urge that all citizens unite in this effort to achieve a better-read, better-informed America, to stimulate interest in libraries of all kinds to the end that we realize the full potential of our National purpose."

"READ—AND WATCH YOUR WORLD GROW" — National theme.

sleep of complacency, lethargy and unconcern and hear the words of the Saviour, "as my Father sent me, even so send I you". Whether our contribution is great or small, we can in the spirit of Peter and John render "such as I have in the name of Jesus."

We have reached an hour in the history of civilization which I believe is the most crucial mankind has ever known. We are living in an age in which we see the accumulating consequences of the defect inherent in human nature coming to a climax. Today when you talk to those of the business world; the scientific world; the field of economics; political or whatever line of endeavor, you will find that the thinking, serious minded people agree that the present circumstances are such they cannot continue very much longer without precipitating a crisis on the greatest scale humanity has ever known.

I am convinced that the only solution is to be found in the application of true Christianity in the lives of individuals and nations. The world today is divided into two great opposing camps. In one are individuals and nations whose philosophy of life is wholly materialistic, who not only reject spiritual and moral values, but who have become openly aggressive in the repudiation of all things that in any way recognizes the sovereignty of God, the diety of Jesus Christ and the true Christian way of life.

In the other camp are those who still retain normal recognition of spiritual and moral values. These are the remaining individuals and nations that compose our so-called Christian civilization and say so-called purposely for one of the greatest tragedies of this generation is the fact that much of our Christian civilization is entirely undeserving of the name.

What can we do about it? Individual effort may seem feeble or futile, but like a mother who had exhausted all efforts to save her son from the conflict of war, she put on a clean apron, got her broom and reported to the army headquarters, when ridiculed and asked what she thought she could do. Her answer, "I can let the world know which side I am on." That is what each Christian can do and should do.

It is clear that the only solution lies in the return to the place where we make our professed Christianity real. In the first place take it out of the abstract realm of ideologies and bring it down to a heart relationship with Jesus Christ as a real living Saviour and Divine Lord.

In a meeting I heard a young woman from Africa make a serious indictment and challenge to the Christians of America. She

Scrap Books And Art Exhibits

Time is short and fleeting, for our Annual Convention will soon be at hand.

What of our Artistic and Cultural adventures since we were in Shelby?

The beautiful ribbon awards to the four top club Scrap Books were very attractive last year. Please see that they are returned to Durham. We do hope you will be able to take them back for another twelve months, but we are sure other clubs will be anxious to relieve your club of that beautiful rosette ribbon award.

Seven very fine books were displayed last year for our second year of this activity. We really expect to at least double the number this year.

It was pointed out in the last Executive Board meeting that a permanent State Chairman for the Art Committee has not been secured as yet, but that is certainly no excuse for our exhibit being omitted or its being a small one. The host is arranging space for the displays and we only need to canvass our club women for their masterpieces, then send them on by your club delegate to Durham.

Then we hope our very best work can go on to Washington, D. C. where it will join that of other states connected with the National Association.

said Africa doesn't need the kind of Christianity that is most prevalent in America. She said missionaries go to Africa and teach them that the Commandments say honor thy father and mother . . . obey them for this is well pleasing to the Lord. Then when they come to America they find just the reverse, parents are taking orders from the children.

They teach them that God requires them to keep the Sabbath Holy, and the way it is kept in America you can't tell one day from another.

They teach that the body is the temple of God, and when you enter many of the houses in America you can hardly get your wraps off before they ask, will you have a drink or a smoke. She wanted to know what kind of a temple we thought a Holy God dwelt in.

To me our chief need is to get our Bible down from the shelf or table, dust it off and give council of God its rightful place in our lives.