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A Letter From the Governor to Mr. Average Citizen.

My dear Mr. Average Citizen: An intimate acquaintance with you, extending over a number of years, leads me to write you this intensely personal letter. I know that you love the truth, that you despise injustice, that you are a robust champion of the square deal. The possession by you of the cardinal virtues makes North Carolina a truly great State.

The most vital power of the State is the power to tax, and you believe that this vital power should be exercised with a full knowledge of the truth. You believe that from this full knowledge of the truth there will flow perfect equality in taxation.

For the first time in the history of the State you Mr. Average Citizen, have it in your power to write the full truth and perfect equality in the tax books of the State. You have never been called upon to do this before; indeed, you have never been permitted to do this before. But now the General Assembly has enacted a law that places the matter entirely in your hands. The new tax law is written on correct principles. The machinery for its enforcement is adequate and appropriate. The law is so written that it will be easy for the citizen to do right and hard for him to do wrong. But on you, Mr. Average Citizen, rests the responsibility of determining whether or not the wise and just purpose of the law shall be carried out.

Now, Mr. Average Citizen, you will receive a questionnaire and will be called upon to swear before God and to all your fellow-citizens what is the fair market value of your property. When you come to take this solemn oath it will be helpful to you to put to your own conscience this question: "If I did not own this property, but wanted to buy it, what would I be justified in paying for it?" and, again: "If I wanted to sell this property, not at a forced sale, but in the way and on the terms that property of this class is generally sold in this community, what do I really believe I could get for it?" The answer to these questions will point with reasonable accuracy to the fair market value of your property. This fair market value you must write down in your questionnaire, else you will cease to be Mr. Average Citizen and become Mr. Undesirable Citizen.

When you, Mr. Average Citizen, tell the truth about your property, it will do no good for your neighbor, Mr. Undesirable Citizen, to tell a lie about his property, because when the books show truly what the property of Mr. Average Citizen is worth, this evidence will clearly and conclusively show what the property of Mr. Undesirable Citizen is worth. The local and district assessors, when they come to fix the value of property, will be governed by the sworn testimony of Mr. Average Citizen.

And when you, Mr. Average Citizen, tell the unvarnished truth about your property, that truth will wipe out every discrimination and every inequality in taxation in North Carolina. True values are always equal values, but the greatest expert cannot equalize a series of falsehoods.

When all the property in the State shall be placed on the books at its fair market value, many benefits will accrue to you, Mr. Average Citizen.

1. You will have the great satisfaction of knowing that the record written by all the people of

Colored Farmer in Wake County is 105 Years Old.

St. Matthews township, Wake county, says the News and Observer claims the oldest colored man in Wake county, if not the oldest in North Carolina, and citizens of that township who know Len Smith, 105, point with pride to his life in the community.

Len is the father of eight children, forty-two grandchildren, sixty-seven great grandchildren and one great great grandchild. Up to date, the health of the five generations would make a first-class exhibit for the State Board of Health, but Len gives all the credit to "what the Lord has done for me."

The old man, continues the Observer, has made a crop every year except this one since he gained freedom and started to farming for himself. He has made a good living and owns more than 400 acres of land that he has divided among his children in small farms and visits the children every day.

Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy.

This medicine always wins the good opinion if not the praise of those who use it. Try it when you have need of such a remedy.

the State is a true record and not a libel on the commonwealth. This knowledge will wonderfully strengthen the moral fiber of our people.

2. You will know that every discrimination in taxation is wiped out, and that every citizen is carrying his fair part of the burden.

3. As the values go up the rate of taxation will go down, and hereafter North Carolina will be known far and wide as a wealthy State with a low rate of taxation instead of a poor State with a high rate of taxation.

4. The General Assembly has made a pledge not to collect, under the proposed true valuation of property, revenues greater than ten per cent in excess of the revenue collected under the present false values. This means that the total revenues collected by the State shall not be greater than ten per cent in excess of the total revenues collected under the present law. This most emphatically does not mean that no particular citizen will have to pay taxes in excess of ten per cent of the amount he has heretofore paid. A particular citizen may pay less taxes than he has ever paid before. He may pay double what he has heretofore paid. This depends on whether or not he has heretofore paid his fair share of the taxes according to his true worth. If he has paid more than his fair share the increase as to him will be less than ten per cent; if he has paid less than his fair share, the increase as to him will be more than ten per cent.

You, Mr. Average Citizen, will at once perceive the essential justice in this equalizing the public burden. I call on you to lend your vigorous support, first, by example, and then by precept; to this attempt by the General Assembly to build up a taxation system in North Carolina grounded on perfect truth and perfect justice.

By so doing you will help to practically demonstrate that it is profitable in money and, in morals to a people as well as to an individual to tell the truth and shame the devil.

Sincerely yours,
T. W. BICKETT.
Raleigh, N. C., July 11, 1919.

War Orphans of France Dying from Malnutrition and Shock.

The children of France have not yet emerged from the shadow of the war. With peace assured, and a happier future opening before them, it becomes increasingly evident that the child life of France has suffered a shock from which it is difficult to rally; while the birth rate has dropped to 8 to each 1,000 population.

The Fatherless Children of France, an American organization co-operating with a similar one in Paris of which Marshal Joffre is the head, reports that of the children receiving American aid to the extent of 10 cents a day under its plan of securing American godmothers for the little French war waifs, its records show an average of 700 children's deaths per month since the armistice. The help of the American godmothers came too late to save their undernourished, nerve-shocked little ones.

Mrs. Walter S. Brewster, of Chicago, vice-Chairman of the Fatherless Children in France, has been appointed chairman of a campaign to secure American aid for the 60,000 little war orphans whose names are on the lists of the organization as "unadopted" before the signing of the armistice. Ten cents will care for a child for an entire day; \$3 for a month; while for \$36.50 a year the donor may select a child from the lists of the organization's headquarters and be placed in correspondence with it. To adopt a child or make a donation write for information to Mrs. Walter S. Brewster, Room 634, 410 S. Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

Mrs. Gard's Gift to the Patterson School.

The Patterson School is to have a new dormitory for boys, to be known as Gard Memorial Hall. In the July issue of the Patterson School News the Principal Rev. Hugh A. Dobbin, says that he hopes soon to begin laying the foundation of the new building as soon as they get through working the crops, and adds:

"This is made possible by a gift of the late Charles E. Gard, of Lenoir, \$10,000 of which is now available. Three years ago Mrs. Gard gave the school \$1,000 as an Easter offering in memory of her husband. This enabled us to equip our workshop. Mrs. Gard has been in touch with the school, visiting frequently and spending a week with us, sharing our common fare, and observing the progress and needs of the school.

"This building will greatly enlarge the capacity of the school, as thirty boys crowd our present quarters. We hope to put up a building to accommodate fifty boys. The saw mill, blacksmith shop and wood shop, with all necessary timber on the farm, will enable us to build at minimum cost.

"In behalf of the Church and School I thank Mrs. Gard for the magnificent gift and its wisely-directed purpose. Her strong endorsement is an encouragement to me to press forward."—Lenoir News.

Summer Complaint Quickly Relieved.

"About two years ago when suffering from a severe attack of summer complaint, I took Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy and it relieved me almost instantly," writes Mrs. Henry Jewett, Clark Mills, N. Y. This is an excellent remedy for colic and diarrhoea and should be kept at hand by every family.

Make Good For Your Own Sake.

"Simply from a business standpoint, the man who fails to meet his obligations, particularly a public pledge, is making a serious mistake and is injuring his standing in a community in a way that is well nigh irreparable."

Thus does George W. Watts, prominent North Carolina citizen of Durham, view the appeal of the United War Work Committee for payment of subscriptions pledged almost a year ago. This is in contemplation of the state-wide special effort to close war welfare collections.

"It is inconceivable to me that any man or woman who values his self-respect or his prospects of success should be so blind as to ignore this pledge," said Mr. Watts. "It is not simply a question of patriotism or honor. It is strictly business. The person who fails to pay his debts—and a subscription pledge is as binding as any—is mortgaging his future heavily.

These things are known. During the Fourth Liberty Loan campaign it was part of the duties of the executive committee to look up the record of other public campaigns. Many North Carolina people would be surprised to know some of the facts gleaned about their neighbors. It is needless for me to say this semi-public knowledge worked to the harm of those who were in arrears.

"What is true of the Liberty Loan campaigns is true of others. This is the day of drives and we have not seen the last one. The United War Work Campaign committees are keeping close tab on its subscriptions and its records, like those of other campaigns, have not been destroyed but will be available for years to come. Such information does not have to be published to become general knowledge. Every business man knows how swiftly and easily it is carried about and how just such things as this may make or mar a man's success for life.

If I had a friend who had been so unwise—not to speak of other considerations—as to 'renig' on a war pledge, I should advise him to make good for his own sake."

Lenoir Pastors Oppose Dancing.

In The Lenoir News-Topic of last Friday, the six pastors of the various churches of the town, gave their views on dancing, which we publish below.

"We, the pastors of Lenoir, are grieved to learn of the outbreak of dancing among some of our young people, and, being thoroughly convinced of the evils in and dangerous tendencies of the modern dance, out of our pastoral solicitude for the protection and well being of the highest interest of our young men and women, boys and girls, do hereby urge the parents of the town to exert their parental and godly influence to discourage and discontinue this practice, warning them of the extreme danger of the modern dance.

"We also beg our young people to seek their pleasures in practices less dangerous to morals and more in keeping with Christian ideals as recognized by the best people of every community. It is not a matter of small import that Christian ministers, almost without exception, together with the very best people of every community, disapprove the modern dance. Just at this time, when Asheville, Charlotte, Raleigh and other cities of the State are taking a definite stand against the dance, why should we not do likewise."

Spirit of Loyalty.

A member of Congress from New England undertook to raise a sum of money for the Salvation Army's home service campaign fund, and in order to collect as much money as possible wrote letters to appeal to his wealthiest constituents. From one of them one of them he received the following letter. Despite the pessimistic tone of the letter the writer enclosed a check for \$250:

"I have your letter requesting a donation for what you consider a very worthy cause. I flatter myself that I have a spirit of loyalty and generosity. I have contributed to each and every object that has been presented to me, but I have to decline helping your cause for the following reasons:

I have been held up, held down, sandbagged, walked on, set on, rolled over, flattened out and squeezed, first by the U. S. Government for the Federal war tax, the excess profit tax, the Liberty loan bonds and the bonds and the bonds of matrimony; in New Jersey for the state tax, the highway tax, the income tax, the auto tax, and syntax, and every society and organization the inventive mind of men can invent to extract what you may not possess, from the society of John the Baptist, the G. A. R., the women's relief corps, the men's relief, the stomach relief, the wifeless, the husbandless, the childless, the conscienceless, the Navy League, the Red Cross, the green cross, the double cross and every other cross of all colors.

"One of my mills burned down, the hen house and board walk blew away, and, because I will not sell all that I have and go beg, borrow or steal I have been cursed and discussed, boycotted, and talked to, talked about, lied to and lied about, held up, hung up and robbed and nearly ruined, and the only reason I am clinging to life is to see what in hell is coming next.—Gettysburg Times.

Lutheran Church Dedicated.

The Lutheran church of Gap Creek are to be congratulated on the completion of their attractive little church, which was dedicated on Sunday, July 13. At 11 a. m., the congregation assembled outside of the church for the laying of the cornerstone Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Within the stone were placed a copy of the Bible complete; a copy of our Church Book; The Initial Issue of The Lutheran, and a copy of the bylaws and constitution of the congregation. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. J. Yount, father of the pastor. A class of four was confirmed and the Lord's Supper administered. Everybody is cordially invited to worship with us regularly.

D. S. YOUNT, Pastor.

Summer Complaint in Children.

There is not anything like so many deaths from this disease now as before Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy came into such general use. When this remedy is given with castor oil as directed and proper care is taken as to diet, it is safe to say that fully 90 out of every 100 cases recover. Mr. W. G. Campbell of Butler, Tenn., says: "I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy for summer complaint in children. It is far ahead of anything I have ever used for this purpose."

"As pastors we do not wish to deprive our young people of any innocent pleasures, but, on the contrary, we encourage these, and hold ourselves in readiness to assist them in planning for such social gathering."

A Remarkable Record.

More than 93 per cent of the 2,000,000 officers and men of the army who have been demobilized since the signing of the armistice were discharged with a clean bill of health, according to an announcement from the office of the surgeon general of the army. Six per cent of the men were reported to the bureau of war risk insurance for disabilities and one per cent were held on account of communicable diseases, underdevelopment or other causes.

That record is one of which the army medical authorities may well feel proud and may be considered clear refutation of charges that those authorities failed to render effective service. Who is there who does not know of scores of young men who have returned to civilian pursuits in greatly improved health as a result of their military life? Of course not all of the excellence of health conditions is to be attributed to the army doctors, for the mode of living itself was conducive to robust health—if one could escape without wounds. Men who donned the uniform as anaemic specimens of humanity were transformed into vigorous, healthful fellows, while, on the other hand there seem to have been very few cases in which the health of the soldiers was poorer at discharge than induction, except, of course, cases in which the men were the victims of bullets, gas and kindred instruments of warfare.

It is undeniably true that in the early days of the war the loss of life in some of the American cantonnements from pneumonia and meningitis epidemics was appallingly great, due partly to the inadequacy of medical provision at that time. But finally a remarkably effective medical organization was developed and the figures themselves stand as the most convincing proof of this fact.—Greensboro News.

You can do some things next week, but some you cannot.

So don't wait, act now!

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Insure your health before you get sick.

Insure your life before you die for then it is everlastingly too late.

I sell the best policies at universal rates.

GEO. F. BLAIR,
Blowing Rock, N. C.

Don't Quit READING NEWSPAPERS NOW

Just because the war is over, or because you may be busy with raising a new crop, is no reason why you should cease to keep up with the great problems facing the world and the United States.

The period of readjustment is at hand. New conditions are coming to pass and new issues must be met. You must read a daily newspaper to keep informed and to know what is happening and how decisions on important matters are reached.

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