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Today and Tomorrow

By FRANK P. STOCKBRIDGE

Mergers

Consolidation of several small enterprises to make a single large one is not confined to manufacturing industries. Senator Arthur Capper, of Kansas, who knows what he is talking about most of the time, says that more than a million acres of Kansas farm lands are now owned by corporations, and that recently one corporation bought thirty farms in the winter wheat region and merged them.

Corporate farming is more of a business enterprise and less of a mode of living than farming by an individual. According to Senator Capper, these farm corporations hire men who leave their families behind, to go out in the fall and put in the crop. In summer they hire other men to come in and harvest the crop. The rest of the year nobody lives on the big farms.

That seems menacing to the Senator from Kansas. He thinks it will result in depletion of the soil, thru lack of crop rotation, maintenance of fertility and diversification. It is hard to believe that any group of capital engaging in business on a large scale would be so short-sighted as not to take those things into consideration and apply the most modern principles of agriculture to their enterprise.

Trademarks

It would be interesting to make a list of words which were invented to serve as trademarks for a particular product, but which have come into general use to describe anything resembling the original article. "Celluloid" is one of those words; it strictly means only the product of the Celluloid Company. "Kodak" is another; the name belongs to George Eastman's cameras but we use it to mean any small camera. When you say "Colt" everybody familiar with firearms knows you mean a large-caliber pistol. Probably nine men out of ten in the region where "five-gallon" hats are worn refer to their headgear as "Stetsons." "Winchester" is almost a synonym for "rifle." And everybody refers to the abbreviated masculine underwear which is now in such general use by the trademark of the first of its kind, "B. V. D." mark of the first of its kind, "B. V. D.'s."

The adoption of such words in general usage is one of the ways in which language grows. A hundred years from now probably nobody will say "druggible" but everybody will know what you mean by a "zip."

Longevity

Human life is not getting any longer, according to the men who make a business of studying vital statistics. The average life is longer because a larger proportion of babies live to grow up. Fewer people die in childhood and early life than formerly, but the man who reaches fifty-four, which is the average expectation of life of every new-born baby in America, has no better chance of living to seventy than his grandfather did; not so good, according to some.

Certainly the average life of a President of the United States is shorter than it used to be. Colonel Leonard P. Ayres of Cleveland, one of the world's famous statisticians, points out that Mr. Taft lived longer—72—than any other President since Millard Fillmore, who died 56 years ago. Out of the first eight Presidents, Washington, who died at 67, had the shortest life. John Adams, living to 90, the longest; the others were 85, 83, 80, 78, 73, and 68 at the time of their respective deaths. The average life of the eight was 80 years and a half. The four latest Presidents who died averaged only 66 3-4 years of life each; McKinley and Harding died at 58, Roosevelt at 61, Harrison and Wilson each at 67, Hayes at 70, Cleveland at 71 and Taft at 72.

The job of President of the United States is getting harder, for one thing. For another, nearly all men work more intensively and wear out their hearts and nervous systems earlier than men did a hundred years ago.

Gasoline

The average motorist uses 571 gallons of gasoline a year. Every State now imposes a sale tax on gasoline, ranging from two to six cents a gallon. The highest rates are in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and New Mexico. That is natural, since those States have the largest highway systems in proportion to population and taxable property values. In Massachusetts, where the tax is only 2 cents and distances are shorter, the average motorist uses only 400 gallons a year and pays \$8 toward highway maintenance and improvement. Last year the total gasoline tax collected in this country was \$449,731,000.

The gasoline tax is one tax at which few persons grumble seriously. It is a tax the benefits of which are directly enjoyed by those who pay it.

Twenty-two poultry club members out of 40 enrolled in Polk County last year, completed their work and made reports. The 22 members report an income of \$549.52 from their work.

Thirty-nine farmers of Cleveland County have entered the corn growing contest being conducted in that county this season by R. W. Shoffner, farm agent.

HIGHWAY OFFICERS OF N. C. AND TENN. REACH AGREEMENT

North Carolina Truckmen, Held Up at State Line Recently, Will Be Allowed to Operate in Sister State. Alabama-Tennessee Officers Have Same Misunderstanding Over License Plates.

The Democrat of May 8 carried a story relative to the halting of several North Carolina truckmen at the State line by Tennessee highway patrolmen, who demanded that Tennessee license plates be purchased for their vehicles or that they discontinue their operation in that State. Since that time a North Carolina patrolman called on officials of the sister State and reached a satisfactory agreement. A similar instance occurred recently on the Alabama-Tennessee line, and the Anniston (Ala.) Star of May 14 has the following to say about the unpleasant incident:

"Information coming from Montgomery, Ala., has affected that healthiness that has existed between Alabama and Tennessee over trucks of one state crossing into the other have been terminated by an agreement, said to be satisfactory to both sides. It is unfortunate in the extreme that a controversy should have arisen over the question in the first place, and it is gratifying to know that the difficulties have been adjusted satisfactorily to all concerned."

"The trouble could have been avoided by a little intelligent negotiations between representatives of the two states, with a give and take attitude, it seems, and it is very regrettable that his was not done. Both states have suffered as a result of the ill will engendered and it is a reflection on both that there should have been misunderstanding of this nature between them."

"The quarrel started, it was said, when the Attorney General of Tennessee ruled that Alabama trucks making occasional trips across the line must procure Tennessee license tags. In accordance with this ruling, several Alabamians were arrested, and Alabama authorities set out to retaliate by dealing in like manner with Tennessee truck drivers who crossed over into this State. The Alabama officials were said to have been prompted by the law of this State which says that visiting motorists shall be extended the same courtesy as is accorded Alabama motor vehicles in the State from whence the visitors come. In other words, the Alabama law provides that outsiders shall be given the same consideration which they accord visiting Alabamians."

A rather tense situation developed along the border and bad feeling was evidenced on both sides of the line, but Chambers of Commerce, business men and officials of both states went to work to effect a peaceful settlement of the controversy, and it appears from reports that their efforts have been successful. The Attorney General of Tennessee was induced to reverse his ruling and harmony has been restored in the relations between the two commonwealths."

"It seems strange that states would wrangle over a matter so trifling. Disputing over the recognition one should accord the license tag of the other is not the way to get along and achieve the ends the leading citizens desire for each State. With all Southern States now making a bid for a share in the Northern tourist trade, they should refrain from stirring up bitterness and strife among themselves and work together for the advancement of the welfare of the entire section."

BEAUTY OF THE MOUNTAINS FEATURED IN HOLLAND'S

"The mountains and valleys of Southwestern Virginia, Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee comprise one of the most beautiful parts of America," writes Hugh Hammond Bennett in an attractively illustrated article about the mountains of these States.

Using Hollands as his vehicle, Mr. Bennett says: "Sitting on a comfortable carpet of bluegrass, one looks out from any hillside upon picturesque valleys where peace and beauty and rural fragrance abound. From distant pastures, the tinkling of cattle bells floats soothingly to the ear. In the lowlands and along the slopes beyond, farmers are busy erecting spires of new-cut hay. A soft lush haze clothes the hills and ridge crests of the middle ground; smoky purples lie deeply and mysteriously over towering ranges on the horizon. Bees diligently sipping nectar from clover blossoms never cease their agreeable droning."

"Under the spell of rural loveliness, one is disinclined to move. The magic of the landscape, the lure of the season, the pleasant aroma of grass, clover blossoms, and new hay get deeply and grippingly into the soul. Sunshine and bracing air contribute feelings of physical and mental contentment. Surely, the soul that fails to find delight and inspiration in such rural atmosphere is an intransigent one, calloused, neurotic, or merely nonexistent."

WOOL COMMITTEE CONFERS WITH MARKETING EXPERT

The committee for the wool association of the county met with a member of the State Division of Marketing recently, and after considerable deliberation decided to do nothing definite with regard to the sale of wool until today (Thursday). The committee is unable to give the farmers and dealers definite information until this meeting, however, the indications are that a better price is going to be made.

Mrs. J. Roby Wilson Dies Sunday Morning

Mrs. J. R. Wilson, aged 60 years, died at her home near Reese in the Beaver Dam neighborhood, Sunday morning, succumbing to an illness which had its beginning more than three months ago. Funeral services were conducted Monday from the Beaver Dam Baptist Church, of which deceased was a faithful member. Rev. P. A. Hicks, of Boone, was in charge of the services, interment being made in the nearby cemetery.

Mrs. Wilson was a member of one of the best families of this region, being a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Sherrill. Although of an unassuming disposition, she was a leader in church work always, a sponsor of all movements calculated to better her community, and one of the noblest Christian characters Watauga County has ever known.

Surviving are the husband and ten children, who are numbered among our best residents. The father and mother are also living.

Valuable Property Is Sold to Wilkes Men

A deal was closed last Saturday, whereby Messrs. C. D. Coffey and Son of North Wilkesboro became the new owners of the Frank Payne lot in Boone, formerly the residence of Dr. R. K. Bingham. Mr. W. W. Mast, of Valle Crucis was the owner, and tells The Democrat that it is likely the new owners will later on utilize the corner for business purposes. The consideration was not made public.

The lot is situated at the corner of King and Blowing Rock streets and is one of the most desirable properties in the city.

DR. WILL GORDON CLOSES SECOND YEAR AT COVE CREEK

On last Sunday Dr. Will O. Gordon closed his second year as pastor of Cove Creek Baptist Church. The two years gone by, said Dr. Gordon to his congregation Sunday morning, have been pleasant, "people and pastor are at peace, having labored together in Christ Jesus is perhaps the direct and happy relation of this happy relation." Dr. Gordon continued:

"On the first Sunday in June I begin my third year with you, and I trust that we may continue in this bond of fellowship for the work's sake as co-workers together with God." A large congregation attended the services on Sunday morning, and one of the most impressive and beautiful communion services was conducted by the pastor, in which a large number of members shared. The church year closes, having made many creditable achievements during the year."

SERVICES AT METHODIST CHURCH SUNDAY, MAY 25

The Sunday School will convene at 9:45 a. m. At 10 a. m., Dr. Chandler will deliver his lecture on the Sunday School lesson to men. At 11 o'clock the congregation will join in the memorial service at the Lutheran Church. At 8 p. m. the Rev. W. E. Poovey will preach.

The District Conference of the Mount Airy District will meet for a two-day session at the Boone Church Tuesday, May 27. The opening sermon will be preached by Dr. Chandler Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. About sixty preachers and as many lay delegates will be in attendance at this meeting.

MOORE RECITAL PLEASE LARGE AUDIENCE IN NO. WILKESBORO

(Wilkes Patriot)

On Thursday evening, May 8th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Gwyn, James Moore, tenor, gave a recital under the auspices of the Woman's Club. Mr. Moore's program was a delightful one, varied enough to suit all tastes, but well balanced, and his singing was a real treat for all music lovers who heard him.

Mr. Moore possesses a voice of unusual sweetness and beauty of tone, and while it lacks somewhat in volume, his accuracy of pitch, and the ease and expression with which he sings, make it a pleasure to listen to him. His diction and phrasing are good, and his interpretation shows him to be thoroughly musical. In fact his sympathetic interpretation of each song is one of the most pleasing features of his singing.

The program opened with a group of old Italian songs, both of which Mr. Moore sang very artistically. The second group consisted of sea songs and negro spirituals, revealing Mr. Moore's versatility, each song being particularly well rendered. The aria "M'appari from 'Martha,' in the third group was one of the loveliest numbers on the program. In the last group, all in English, each song was beautifully sung. "The Kerry Dance," "Conquest" and "Trees" perhaps making the greatest appeal to the audience. At the conclusion of the program Mr. Moore graciously responded to prolonged applause by singing several encores, the last one, the ever welcome old favorite, "Annie Laurie."

Mr. Moore was assisted by Miss Lis Scroggins, who played pleasing accompaniments, and showed technical skill and interpretative ability in her solo numbers, "Forest Sounds," by Dennee, and "The Music Box," by Liadow.

The Woman's Club is to be congratulated on bringing an artist of Mr. Moore's ability to North Wilkesboro.

The new \$2,500,000 race track to be built in Chicago, to be ready in 1930, probably will replace Aurora.

SATURDAY LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR THE PRIMARY

Those Who Expect to Ballot in June Primary Must See That Their Names Are on the Books During This Week. Little Apparent Political Activity Here. Republicans Unconcerned as to Nominee.

Democrats and Republicans who expect to participate in the primary on June 7th for the nomination of candidates for the United States Senate will have to see to it that they are registered before the end of the week as the books will close next Saturday. The Attorney General holds that voters must register in person, not by proxy and not by telephone; that the Constitution requires the personal appearance of the registrant and no statute, it is pointed out, is sufficient to nullify this requirement.

While a new general registration is not being made in Watauga, there are many who are entitled to participate in the primary, who for various reasons are not registered. It is important that even those who do not think of voting at this time have their names recorded, for after Saturday a change of mind will be too late.

To all outward appearances, Wataugans are so far not very active politically. Democrats, whether for Bailey or Sherrill, are working on the quiet, while the Republicans do not seem especially concerned as to which candidate will appear on the ticket in November.

The registrars for the various townships of the county are as follows: Bald Mountain, W. S. Miller; Beaver Dam, Grover Johnson; Blue Ridge, R. F. Tate; Blowing Rock, Dick Bailer; Boone, A. D. Wilson; Cove Creek, J. S. McBride; Elk, P. G. Carroll; Laurel Creek, Ed Hagaman; Meat Camp No. 2, L. E. Beach; North Fork, W. S. South; Shawnee, W. L. Welch; Stony Fork, C. D. McNeil; Watauga, Martin L. Herman.

Merchants Announce Big Selling Events

Besides the regular advertising the Democrat carries this week news of a number of special merchandising events which have been arranged by the stores of the city. The Boone Clothing Store uses page 8 to call attention to the first sale of men's apparel in the history of that business. Spaulding's announces a spring clearance sale on page three, while the Boone Chevrolet Company lists used car values on page six. D. J. Cottrell is doing the unusual in offering his merchandise at auction and tells about it on page four.

In addition to these special events, to which the readers' attention is directed, Mr. G. E. Mock announces the formation of a business class in Boone; Central Tire Company has an interesting message on tires—that is, Goodyears; Carolina Stores publish latest grocery offerings and the Carolina Theatre, Blowing Rock, gives out a new movie program.

All these new advertisements are interesting and tell their own true story of why it is best to trade at home.

COUNTY SINGING TO BE HELD IN BOONE ON FIRST SUNDAY

The semi-annual county singing, which is eagerly looked forward to by a large majority of the people of this county, is scheduled to be held at the courthouse on the first Sunday in June, according to announcement made by J. M. Hodges, president, and N. L. Harrison, secretary of the organization.

From present indications it would appear that the singings this year will exceed all previous efforts. Many classes from adjoining counties are expected to participate and a general good time is promised all lovers of music. Various classes of the county are urged to make their arrangements to attend.

LUTHERAN CHURCH WILL CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

On the fourth Sunday in May last year the Lutheran Church of this town was dedicated. All who attended member the wonderful sermon of Dr. Foy, and the splendid addresses of the day.

Next Sunday, May 25th, the church celebrates its first birthday. A noted minister of the State is expected to preach in the morning, and a missionary from Japan is expected for the afternoon. The American Legion meets for a special service at 11 o'clock. A picnic dinner will be served on the grounds, and every one is asked to bring well filled baskets.

At 2 p. m. the afternoon service is to begin. This will start with a special song service conducted by the Rev. Sam Sox of Hickory. He will also sing in the afternoon.

Everybody is cordially invited, and there is a hearty welcome for all.

BISHOP CANNON FORGIVEN BY METHODIST CONFERENCE

Dallas, Texas.—The climax of a two-weeks' religious controversy was reached Tuesday when Bishop James Cannon Jr., of Washington, D. C., begged and received the forgiveness of his church for speculating in stocks with a New York firm, since taken over by Federal authorities.

Delegates to the Quadrennial Conference of the M. E. Church, South, watched the gray-haired, crippled temperance leader tensely as he listened to the report of the Episcopacy Committee clearing him of blame. He sat with bowed head.

Auxiliary Will Sell Poppies Saturday

Mrs. R. D. Hodges has been named as chairman of the Legion Auxiliary committee which will have in charge the annual poppy day sales Saturday, and an active working organization is being perfected so that a record-breaking quantity of the little paper flowers may be disposed of during the day. The proceeds of the sales go directly to the relief of disabled World War veterans, and their dependents. The poppies are manufactured in veterans hospitals, bought by the local organization, and at the price of a dime, a profit is realized for local relief work.

THE POPPY

Mrs. L. S. Isaacs, Chairman of the local Legion Auxiliary, hands in the following story of the poppy:

Before the world war the little wild flower grew all over Belgium and France, about the same quantities over the fields as our American daisy grows. The poppy flowers in great quantities as they grew, were of great beauty. They grew along the edge of our war time trenches beneath the great entanglements of barbed wire, about the shell holes, and especially over the thousands of American graves, this same red blossom grew. It was remarked many times daily among our brave American soldiers, "We will be the next soldiers pushing up poppies." Hence the soldiers of all nations came to look upon the poppy as the sacrifices of their dead comrades, who had fallen by the wayside.

The American soldiers brought back with them from the fields of Flanders engraved indelibly in their hearts with the memories of their brave comrades they had left on the battle fields, which gave the poppy sacred significance.

This sacred little poppy flower of remembrance to our great world war heroes, for the men who had poured out their life's blood around the roots of the little plant for nourishment.

The poppy has been worn in America in honor of the war dead since the close of the war in 1918. This is why we urge each and every person to honor this nation's heroes who died so bravely in that great struggle.

We feel that every American who remembers the great services of America's manhood who died in the war and who had a feeling in their heart for the men who came back from the war disabled, will buy a poppy and wear it. These poppies are being made each year by our disabled soldiers, to whom a part of the money is sent back so that the once-wounded soldiers may buy their little necessities for this life's comforts. The remainder of this money is being retained by our local American Legion Auxiliary in Watauga county for the purpose of caring for the ex-service men's wives and children who are unable to help themselves. Please let us insist that you do not refuse to buy at least one of our sacred war memorial flowers. The poppy which you buy may be one from the hands of your own neighbor or relative under treatment in a government hospital following tuberculosis, nervous and mental breakdown, gassed patients, gun shot patients, all of which are dying daily. Therefore do not hesitate for the sake of our war memorial. Buy this flower and wear it as a honor and a memorial in honor of the world war dead.

You will not find ex-service men refusing to buy a poppy, therefore why should you? Think of the heroes of the Germans, which did not spare our comrades lives, separated American families, who entered into this great conflict, because our boys were sent across to help turn back the enemies that liberty might prevail in the world.

How can you afford as American people to sadden the hearts, even of our living comrades saying nothing of the ones who now sleep, to see you on poppy day, May 24, not wearing one of our sacred flowers.

Remember had it been your son or relative:

"I never see a poppy red
But reminds me of our soldier dead
Each waiting in his tent of clay
The dawn of Resurrection Day."

"While drowsily above his bed,
The Sleep Flower hangs its crimson head—
A sign to those who wait and weep
He giveth His beloved sleep."

Memorial Service to Be Held Sunday Morning

A memorial service will be held at the Lutheran Church in Boone Sunday for the soldiers from Watauga who lost their lives during the World War. Rev. J. A. Yount, the pastor, will be in charge of the service, and the congregation from the Methodist Church will join in the memorial. The American Legion is anxious that all ex-service men with their families attend. A section of seats will be reserved for them, and the program as arranged by a Legion committee will be particularly interesting to the veterans. The service will begin at 11 o'clock a. m.

ROBERTS IS CONFIRMED AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

Washington.—Confirmation of Owen J. Roberts of Pennsylvania, as Supreme Court Justice, Tuesday was in marked contrast to the rejection of Judge John J. Parker, the first nominee for the vacant chair.

The Senate spent eight days debating the Parker nomination, finally rejecting the North Carolina jurist. Tuesday it confirmed Roberts without a single word of opposition or a dissenting vote.

STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE CONFERS DEGREES ON CLASS

Huge Crowd Attends Commencement Exercises. Superintendent A. T. Allen Speaks on "Educational Crisis in North Carolina." Eighty-one Students Receive Two-Year Certificates.

Appalachian State Teachers College, elevated to a standard institution by an act of the last General Assembly, Friday morning at 11 o'clock conferred bachelors' degrees on 13 of its four-year graduates, these students being the first to complete the required work.

Business men of the town closed their shops for a two-hour period, and the citizenry turned out en masse to attend the commencement exercises at the school. Among the audience which packed the auditorium to overflowing could be seen the faces of many students who received their education here when the old Appalachian Training School was a three-grade institution, rating little if any higher than the average country high school of today. They had returned to their Alma Mater to celebrate its initiation into the A-grade class, and to witness the many changes that have been wrought since their graduation.

Following the invocation and the singing of a hymn, Dr. B. B. Dougherty, president, introduced the commencement speaker, Dr. A. T. Allen, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who used "The Educational Crisis in North Carolina" as the theme of a most instructive discourse. In Dr. Allen's opinion, the present financial depression which has been felt in practically every section of the State has caused many of the people to regard taxation of all classes with disfavor, and has bred a sort of contempt in the hearts of a certain class of taxpayer for the educational system which annually consumes more than thirty million dollars of the State's revenue. These citizens are divided into three distinct classes, said the speaker. One group claims that the taxpayer is not getting his money's worth, and that the system employed in the elementary and high schools of the State is unsatisfactory and garish. They do not suggest a reduction in the expenditure, but have formed the opinion that they are getting a bad bargain.

Another faction, referred to by Dr. Allen as the "overbought crowd," complains that North Carolina provided its educational program too high, and laid an almost unbearable burden on the shoulders of its taxpayers. And the third group of the opposition, the "excess opportunity" bunch, claim that the State is offering too many advantages to its boys and girls; that a sixth-grade education is sufficient for the masses; that education should be stripped of its "frills," and that the number of students entering high school should be limited, as is the case today in several foreign countries. The speaker answered these charges separately, analyzing the situation with directness.

"North Carolina is now spending \$30,000,000 annually for the education of her youth, or 30 times the amount used in 1900. The average expenditure for education in the United States is \$18 per capita. North Carolina spends \$9. North Carolina has a greater percentage of children of school age than any other State, due to her high birth rate and low mortality. Taxpayers are spending 2 1-2 per cent. of their gross earnings on education. Reduce the rate 1-2 per cent. and you add the negligible sum of 51-100 per cent. to the remaining 97 1-2 per cent. of the income. Yet, in so doing, you reduce the efficiency of the educational system 20 per cent."

In closing, the speaker said: "In the light of such crises as North Carolina has faced in the past, what will we do now? I do not know, no man knows, but my faith in the Old North State leads me to believe that its citizens will remain in the future as in the past, to follow the banner that streams in the light for the enlargement of liberty and the enlightenment of the mind."

Governor W. C. Newland, a member of the board of trustees of the Appalachian State Teachers College for many years, conferred the degrees, felicitating each member of the class for his or her great attainments. Dr. Allen presented diplomas and certificates to 81 two-year students. The exercises closed with the singing of Appalachia's song, "The North Carolina Hills."

Those receiving degrees were: Mrs. Fannie Bannerman, Miss Mildred McDade, Miss Irene McDade, Miss Sadie Williams, Paul Bingham, Bryan Love, Tom Haxos, Alce Mull, Beverly Heavner, John T. Howell, T. E. Davis, Arthur Ruppe, Clay Harman.

Watauga County took the lead not only in her 110 students enrolled, but also in the number of graduates. Misses Myrtle Harmon, Frances Farthing, Mary Welborn, and Mr. Ernie Triplett graduated from the two-year normal course, and six of those to receive degrees were Wataugans.

TO OPEN BUSINESS SCHOOL

Mr. G. E. Mock, local registrar for the Twentieth System Business College, Winston-Salem, informs The Democrat that he is progressing nicely in the formation of a commercial class in Boone. Several applications have already been signed, and an announcement of the opening will appear in the paper next week. Mr. Mock states that those who expect to enter the class should do so at once as no applications will be considered following the opening of the school.