

The Chowan Herald

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THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1939

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR WEEK

GOD HOLDS RULERS ACCOUNTABLE: This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whosoever he will.—Dan. 4:17.

Mother's Day

It is very interesting to note in a story appearing in The Herald last week that in the brief period of only several months membership in the Edenton Parent-Teacher Association has grown from 37 members to 97 when the last meeting for the year was held. This splendid record, the interest prevailing and the sort of activities in which this group of ladies are interested invites comments here appropriate for Mothers' Day, which will be observed all over the land Sunday in honor of the one whose love always has been and always will be akin to the love of the Father of us all.

Mother's Day will be observed by millions of Americans and it is right that some special notice should be taken of the day set aside to honor the mothers of the nation.

It should be borne in mind, however, that the observance of a day, once a year, does not constitute the most appropriate or an exclusive method of honoring motherhood in general or mothers in particular.

There are men and women who naturally revere Motherhood—they do not need a special day. They are worried, for example, by the sad plight of unfortunate mothers who suffer unnecessarily in connection with the birth, care and rearing of their children.

Certainly, we recommend the observance of Mother's Day and, the writer will be wearing a white rose, signifying that the dearest and best friend he has ever had has long since passed into the Great Beyond, but we also advise that support be given to any agency set up to assist mothers throughout the nation. It is all right to praise motherhood, but the best way to show praise is to make it possible for all mothers to raise their children in a satisfactory manner.

It is partly for this last reason, we take it, that interest in the Parent-Teacher Association is so keen and this newspaper hopes that even greater numbers will be added to the roster in coming years to assist both parents and teachers in developing children who will be a pride, not only to parents and teachers, but to the town, state and nation as well.

Will War Come?

The probability of war in Europe continues to engage the attention of the American people as millions anxiously, hurriedly read the headlines daily to learn about developments during the previous few hours. Nearly everyone wants to know whether there will be a war and the answers are somewhat conflicting.

Those who look for war assume that Hitler is bent upon establishing a great German empire and that his expansion will inevitably meet with resistance, which will begin a great struggle. Some even believe that the beginning of war depends solely upon Hitler's conclusions as to Germany's chance to win.

Another argument frequently heard, is that the internal condition of Germany has reached such a point that the collapse is a question of time. This being so, the argument is that before permitting such a collapse the German leaders will risk a war.

On the side of those who maintain that no war is near, the argument is that if Hitler and Mussolini had intended to fight the democratic nations, they would have done so, the theory being that Great Britain and France, through vast re-armament programs, are catching up with the dictator states and that every week sees them gain in relative strength. Consequently, those who accept this reasoning say that if Hitler and Mussolini had intended a test of strength, they would have taken advantage of their superiority during the past six months.

Another line of thought, advanced by those who do not expect a war, is the thought that the economic condition of Germany is so bad that it would be hopeless for Hitler to attempt a war. Already, it is pointed out, there is a scarcity of food as well as of raw materials. Gold is virtually non-existent and the finances of the nation seem hopeless. The argument is that Germany today cannot withstand a naval blockade, that she cannot expect a short, quick and successful war and that therefore, knowing that defeat is certain in a long war, the German leaders will not start to fight.

So runs some of the arguments in the debate. Nobody knows what is going to take place in Europe. War or peace apparently depend upon what Hitler determines to do. Nobody knows what he has in his mind. Consequently, no one can tell whether there is going to be war or not.

The reader is perhaps entitled to the editor's opinion. In this case we frankly admit that the prospects for peace are improved over what they were when 1939 began. However, in view of all the conditions in Europe and especially the feverish race to re-arm, we incline, as much as we dread strife, to the belief that war is only a question of time.

Getting Some Straight

In view of quite a bit of comment regarding an editorial in The Herald last week, the editor deems it only fair to himself to reply to several criticisms regarding the subject of the article.

In the first place, it was supposed by the editor that he would be misunderstood as outright favoring a raise in the tax rate. This is not so, however, unless it is absolutely necessary. The writer favors as low a tax rate as is possible commensurate with the amount of expenditure necessary to properly administer the town's

HEARD AND SEEN

By "BUFF"

Thanks to Lucius Blanchard, editor of The Perquimans Weekly, which is property of The Herald, this writer was enabled to spend the first three days of this week in Greensboro attending the State Red Men's annual meeting, returning Wednesday night at just about the time all the work is done. Thanks also to Mrs. W. E. White, of Hertford, for pinch-hitting for Mr. Blanchard in Hertford, while the latter filled-my shoes chasing after news in Edenton. It's the first time I've been able to get away during the process of printing The Herald and I'm indebted to the two afore-mentioned persons for making it possible. I am scheduled to return in time to raise sand because this or that wasn't done right, but I've promised not to do it, and here's hoping this issue is better than had I been on the job. The leave required working late Saturday night and if this column contains a lot of white space near the bottom, readers will know that I didn't have time to finish, for Arthur Hollowell and Jim Daniels informed me before I started writing this column that they were all packed and ready to go.

Senator C. Wayland Spruill of Bertie County, was one of those to meet with the peanut folks last Thursday. He took an active part in the discussion and while speaking of using land plaster on peanuts, he said that use of it effects a large crop about 1 1/2 times in five years. "Well, why do you continue to use it?" one of the professors asked. "Well," retorted Mr. Spruill, "simply because I don't know which is the 1 1/2 years and I can't afford to miss it." It was a fine meeting, and even a newspaper man learned that there is more to growing peanuts than plowing the ground and planting the seed. The entire group thoroughly enjoyed a baked rock dinner at the hotel as guests of R. C. Holland, which included yours truly.

Seniors of Edenton High School are anxiously watching the clock rigged up in Campen's Jewelry Store window by Izzy Campen. Pictures of the class replace the numerals and when the clock runs down, the member of the class at which the hand stops will be given a beautiful Gruen watch free. Last week the same stunt was carried on for Chowan High School when the hand stopped at the picture of Leroy Harrell. This young man is now the proud possessor of a beautiful watch and doubtless every member of the Edenton class hopes the next stop will be at his or her picture.

When it comes to originality, Arthur Chappell has 'em all beat. Friend Chappell has several of these pin business. He is opposed to keeping the same rate or even lower it if it in any way interferes with progress of the town.

There are those who unhesitatingly say that there is quite a bit of extravagance in the town's affairs, which could be reduced without detriment to what is necessary to be done.

Well, let's just see where this extravagance is: There has been provided in the budget \$3,406.50 for administrative purposes, which includes the "enormous" amount of \$2.00 per month, for each councilman, \$100 per year as the mayor's salary, plus \$300 for stenographer's expenses and car expense. It includes the clerk's salary, stationery, office supplies, premium on bonds and a miscellaneous item of \$75. Where is there any chance to economize in this department, unless members of Town Council and the clerk offer their services gratis? Frankly, under the circumstances, it may be out of place to say so, but according to salaries of other boards, the councilmen are entitled to and should receive more than \$2.00 per month for the time sacrificed in discharging their duties and the generous amount of criticism often returned for their sacrifice.

In the police department \$5,445 is allowed, \$4,000 of which goes for salaries of three men. The remainder is set aside for uniforms, liability insurance and car maintenance. There is little opportunity here for less expenditure, unless salaries are reduced, in which case one will, generally speaking, get what he pays for.

For the fire department, \$5,826.25 has been allowed for salaries, fire truck payments and a small amount for current expenses. In this department expenses will be reduced due to the last payment being made on the large fire engine. Lack of this expense will go a long way to preventing a tax raise, if it is not to be raised.

In the health department \$550 is appropriated for this work. Who is there so short-sighted as to urge dropping of this expense?

The largest expense to the taxpayers is in the street department, where \$13,885 is appropriated. The writer is thoroughly familiar with every phase of this work and is certain this amount will have to be raised. The highest salary paid is \$25 per week to a man who is worth much more than that. Wages are as low as 17 1/2 cents per hour by which at least one colored man with a large family receives from \$9.00 to \$10.00 per week. The writer is too human to even suggest that any wages for members of the street department be reduced. Besides, streets and sidewalks are becoming older and of necessity require more attention and expenditure to maintain. Of course, some of the maintenance work, collection of garbage, street sweeping and the like could be curtailed, but who would be satisfied with such a backward step?

Under other expenses a number of items could be slashed, but the budget is always open for inspection before it is adopted and strange as it may seem, rarely does anyone avail himself of this opportunity to register their opposition so that it may be reconsidered. Under this item \$300 is appropriated for the library; \$200 for advertising which is now overspent by \$394.68 due to the Albemarle Bridge celebration; parks and playgrounds, \$200; charity, \$250; rent for hitching lot, \$50; contribution for athletics and band at high school, \$800; Boy Scouts, \$300. Some of these items could be eliminated, but each one is worthy of support.

Of course, some criticism is directed at the E. and W. Department, but while Town Council is the parent body, salaries and other expenditures are determined by the Board of Public Works.

So again The Herald repeats its desire for a \$1.00 tax rate, but if a reduction in electric and water rates results in a larger amount than can be offset by economy measures, then this newspaper, rather than sacrifice expenditures necessary to prevent going backward, favors a tax rate sufficiently large to raise the amount of money needed.

machines in his recreation parlor and immediately over them he has placed on a small shelf a little colored boy all diked out in a straw hat and pipe, holding a fishing line. The cork and hook hangs immediately over one of the machines, if you catch the drift of the stunt. The only trouble is that Chap ought to rig up the boy so that he yanks up on the line every time somebody plays the machine.

Thanks to Coleman Roberts, executive director of North Carolina's exhibit at the New York World's Fair, there came to my desk one of the souvenir coins which are distributed to visitors at the fair from the State's booth. One hundred thousand of these aluminum coins have been struck, upon which is pictured the first Wright airplane, mention of Roanoke Island and Virginia Dare, and on the other side the Great Smoky Mountain National Park. It's a nice pocket-piece and should net a great deal of publicity for the State. It looks like a silver dollar, which will keep me from thinking that I'm broke.

Sheriff and Mrs. J. A. Bunch worked over-time Saturday night, it being the final day to pay taxes to prevent names appearing in The Herald this week. The Sheriff was heavily loaded near midnight when he headed toward the bank, where arrangements had been made to put the money over the week-end. The Sheriff was taking no chances with the flimsy office. Which makes one wonder why we hear no more about a building in which all county and county-paid offices can be placed.

Came in the mail this week a facsimile of a copy of the Ulster County Gazette printed Saturday, January 4, 1800. It is a very interesting paper and can be seen by seeing yours truly. It contains a story regarding the entombing of George Washington as well as other interesting items. They must have had a hard time paying debts in those days, too, for a number of sales are advertised by the sheriff. Among the advertisements Mattys Van Steenberg gives notice forbidding all persons from harboring or keeping his wife and from trusting her on his account. Gosh, women must have been able to buy on credit then, too. Another advertisement offers for sale a saw mill and a Negro wench at his home at Rochester, N. Y., as well as other interesting items.

Well, the election last week must have been O. K. Town Council at a special meeting Friday night canvassed the vote and issued a "ticket" to a seat around the table to Mayor J. H. McMullan, Dr. L. P. Williams, Graham Byrum, Leroy Haskett, Walter Wilkins, Branning Perry, Henry Gardner and yours truly. The new board will be sworn into office at the June meeting. Fred Wood, West Byrum and Doc Griffin were also given "tickets" but they meet around the table at a different time.

Weekly newspaper folk will meet in Gatesville Saturday night for their monthly meeting. Of course John F. White and R. C. Holland are neither publishers nor editors, but they have been especially invited to meet with the pencil pushers. Advance reports are to the effect that fried chicken in Gates County style will be served. It will be my first experience, but if it beats a certain Hertford County fried chicken specialist, here's hoping I have two appetites.

I haven't heard whether the WPA band participated in the Gallopade at Rocky Mount last Thursday as scheduled or not. But following my comment last week, one fellow in town told me the members of the band would not ride in a truck, because an elevator was not provided to get 'em up in the bloom'n' thing. Well there is such a thing as working too hard, maybe.

Merry Hill Banquet Graced By May Queen

The Merry Hill Junior-Senior banquet was held Friday evening, April 28, at 8 o'clock in the home economics room at the school.

The occasion was graced by the May Queen, Linda White, and her attendants. Mildred Outlaw was toast-mistress. A toast to the Seniors was given by Pattie Sue Mitchell, and the response was made by Bettie Coward. Mrs. J. A. Williams and Ruth Evans entertained with vocal solos. The room was attractively decorated with flowers and balloons. Miniature May poles and dancers decorated the tables.

A delicious four course dinner was served by waitresses from the eighth and ninth grades, under the supervision of the home economics teacher, Miss Frances Maness.

Masons Confer Tonight In Colerain Degree

The regular meeting of Unanimity Lodge, No. 7, A. F. & A. M., has been called off tonight, and instead the degree team will confer the third degree upon a candidate for Colerain lodge in the latter's hall. All members of the degree team, as well as others, are urged to go to Colerain for the occasion.

Famed Floating Theatre Cast To Open Here Monday

Thayer Roberts And His Company To Present Series Of Shows

Famed in truth and fiction, the "Showboat" arrives in Edenton Saturday for a week's stay, opening Monday night at the city dock, foot of Broad Street, with the stage presentation, "Young Love."

Following the more serious stage attractions each night is a lighter and colorful musical comedy concert, featuring usually in the vaudeville numbers the company's brilliant comedian, "Kirk" Kirkman.

Appearing in the different presentations during the week with Thayer Roberts, versatile actor, and director of the troupe, will be Ellen Douglas, Opal Lyle, Helen Brown, Rachel Seymour, Jack Irvin, Darl Hultin and Leslie Lyle.

The floating theatre, or "Showboat" of which Edna Ferber wrote in her famous novel, is not an oddity to Edenton nor at any port on the Atlantic Seaboard. It is known up and down the coast for its unique and varied types of theatrical productions.

Recently repainted and decorated, with brilliant lighting setting it off to good advantage, the floating theatre will present its usual "epic and span" appearance.

There is a change of program each night with the presentation on Tuesday night, second day, being "Valley Center." The renowned "Ten Nights in a Barroom" is featured Wednesday night, while "The Lady from Shanghai" heads the bill on Thursday night. "So This Is Alaska" will be the Friday night offering, and the final performance, on Saturday night, is "Other People's Business."

Rotary Meeting Hour Changed To One P. M.

Announcement is made of the change in meeting hour of the Edenton Rotary Club. The club, according to C. E. Kramer, will meet at one o'clock, beginning with the meeting scheduled for Thursday of this week.

Methodist District Conference; Creswell

The second quarterly conference of the Elizabeth City District of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held at Creswell Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

The Rev. J. T. Stanford, pastor of the Roper charge, presided at the business session. Splendid reports on the quarter's work were given by leaders in various departments of work from each church.

The Woman's Missionary Society of Creswell Church was especially commended for the outstanding work it had accomplished. It was also announced that an Epworth League was to be organized in this church in the near future.

The third quarterly conference will be held at Mackeys.

Miss Mildred Munden Is Dropped From Roll

Her many friends learned with regret that in the shake-up of personnel in offices in the North Carolina Unemployment Compensation Commission, Miss Mildred Munden has been dropped from the roll. Miss Munden was originally scheduled to be transferred to Asheboro, but a subsequent order dismissed her in the economic program.

Several of Miss Munden's friends have communicated with Mrs. J. B. Spillman in an effort to have her placed back on the roll.

Experts On Peanuts Discuss Problems

(Continued From Page One)
necessity for this research work.

Some present expressed the opinion that more tests be made over a wider area, expressing the belief that due to soil conditions in various sections better results could be secured by this method than by centralizing these tests. This will no doubt be part of the program, as well as expanding present research activities, and in the meantime Mr. Schaub urged any who encounter any problems to advise him so that the trouble can be studied.

The meeting recessed at 10 o'clock to be guests of Mr. Holland at a baked rock dinner at Hotel Joseph Hewes, which met with the approval of every one present.

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Monday, May 15—Matinee 3 p. m. Tuesday, May 16—Matinee 3 p. m.

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ACT NEWS

COMEDY ACT

Wednesday Only, May 17—
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Thursday, May 18—Matinee 3 p. m.

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AMBUSH

ROBERT MONTGOMERY
ROSALIND RUSSELL
FAST AND LOOSE

COMEDY ACT

COMEDY NEWS