

OPEN FORUM

WRITE THANKS
(The following letter to the Andrews B. W. C. is from a native of Clay County.)

Dear Members of B. W. C.— Each Thoughtful, Generous one of you:

What a surprise when that big package came - how good to see the "Whitaker Bros" tape on the outside, too. A package from America doesn't mean just the package and contents to me; a package from America means all the thoughtful planning; all the loving, generous thoughts; hours of meeting, collecting, sorting, packing, all the work of getting the box, the wrapping paper, the cord, together; of taking it to the post office (where Mr. Pulliam carefully weighed it; It means dollars which go into postage. No, the finished delivered parcel with the generous contents is just half of what is appreciated on this side.

I'm sure you know what the contents mean, meant or will mean, to so many people. The baby clothes are precious and have made some young mothers very happy, and will make more happy, as I save things until I find real need for them. The pretty blue blouse was immediately nabbed up by a woman who deserves so

much help. She was so happy with it - and the chick terra cotta cotton two-piece has gone to a little high school girl for the summer and she was so delighted with it. The linen knickers are fine for the summer - I've sent two pairs to the Chek students (who fled from Russian terror, and are being cared for here in Utrecht). I also sent some of your soap, thread and toilet articles to them.

Your colored threads were so thoughtful as were the candles. All in all a thoughtful, generous parcel, and I thank you from the bottom of our (collective) hearts.

Everytime I think of Andrews, I have such a warm feeling around my heart. You were all so hospitable, so generous and so welcoming when I was there—and then this parcel.

I wish you had sent your names. The list would bring each of you nearer, and bring memories of other days and years.

Since seeing you, conditions have become much better. There is now something in the stores. Ready made clothes, altho larger sizes are still scarce, yet there is something for everyone, if one isn't too choicy about color etc. - and can pay the prices.

Purchasing power is kept down by the very small number of coupons allotted per year. That hasn't changed much. Shoes are now "Free" for distribution; as is

soap, thread, and bread, milk, all cereal products, pudding powders, sugar, eggs. The only things rationed now are meat (3/5 pound per two weeks per person) butter (1 pound per two weeks) cheese (1/2 pound per two weeks); and cooking fat, which has to come out of the butter ration. Extra things such as rice (for the second time since 1940 - 1/2 pound per person) Oranges (this winter we've had oranges three times - one pound per person each time.) We've also had a few lemons per person; and one can now buy peanut butter (as long as it holds out!) It's so wonderful to be able to buy sweets, and plain cookies. For any cakes or cookies made with butter, we have to hand in our precious butter, yet.

But, you can see, things are much, much better than a year and a half ago. We are also able to buy underclothes if one has coupons enough - even pajamas one pair of pajamas takes 20 coupons; 25 coupons is for a half year ration - so, if one buys one pair of pajamas, he has five points over and can buy one pair of socks, and twelve cards of darning wool, then, he waits a half year for his other 25 coupons.

I had wanted to write you sooner, but so much has come between my good resolutions and the finished letter. Three of the four of us have had gripe, among other things. The gripe thru out Europe has been of a mild character, luckily, but practically each household has had some.

We've had a mild winter for which everyone is thankful (except the youth which hasn't been able to skate). Our bulbs are sticking their green sprouts above the ground. Inside the house, I've had crocus and narcissus blooming, and have two nice hyacinths coming out.

I can imagine spring there in the mountains, the views from Andrews, those beautiful ranges in the distance - are some of the loveliest in the whole world. Andrews is so beautifully situated—maybe that is what makes all of you such exceptionally active, thoughtful, generous people.

Actually what America has done for the rest of the world is unbelievable. You, with your higher taxes, your high cost of living - with all your problems; so willing to share with others. But that is what made America great, through the years - that feeling of helpfulness and sharing of helping one another.

Here in Europe, they can't understand the spirit. They always seek some motive behind any help—that is just their reaction. I keep dinnin' at them that America does it to help - not by which to gain some end. Of course we all know that the official help for Europe is to build a barricade against Bolshevism. We all know that, but I always say, "Yes, of course, but for the world, not only for America."

Europe, with her centuries of over-population, of distrust, of political conspiracy, can't understand a spirit of helpfulness without selfish aims behind it. I'm

Upper Wolf Creek

A party was held at the home of Mrs. W. L. Cook last Thursday, and several of the local women attended.

Mrs. Lucille Helton was called to Indiana recently due to the illness of her mother.

W. J. Helton and Winfred Cook went to Chattanooga last Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. John Cole and children of Murphy were visitors in this section last week.

Mrs. Ethel Abernethy of Blue Ridge, Ga., visited her children in this section Sunday.

Several people from this section attended the services at Simons Chapel Sunday.

Doing my best, whenever I can, but the spirit in Europe is too full of centuries of selfish distrust. Anyone who has been in America understands it, and understands the spirit with which things are sent. I won't say that they felt this way about the parcels from you, as individuals. They realize what it means to you, to send the things to them, as strangers. No, it's the general spirit, as to the general or government help etc. You may be sure, I give the contents of the parcels from the U. S. only to people who really appreciate it. Rest assured of that.

America has always meant home to me - now, it seems even more - it's just one big, generous heart. God bless each of you and bless your work which you are doing for others. Know that each person whom you have reached over here is very appreciative and grateful. Think what your gifts have meant to those Chek students who escaped (on Skis) with only the clothes on their backs. Holland is keeping and educating 50 of them. Between you and the Valleytown Demonstration club, you're partly outfitted them.

My thanks, my greetings, my love to each one of you.

As for us, we are all well. The boys are busy in their last year of their six year school.

As ever,
Willa Latham Geertsema
de Sitterstraat No. 30
Groningen Nederland.

AMERICA IS BEAUTIFUL

Sunset Over The Western Plains
Can you imagine yourself standing on a high projecting cliff, watching the sun set over the great plains and rolling sage hills of America.

When you near the top of the cliff, the sun is still shining very brightly. A warm breeze is blowing and birds are singing in the cottonwood trees near by. Large white clouds are floating about in the beautiful blue sky.

You watch the sun as it begins to slowly sink behind the purple horizon. In the far off distance you can see fields and fields of golden, yellow, grain; blowing about in the warm breeze. In other directions you can see white sand hills treeless savannas, rolling sage, and broad prairies. On one side, there are high mountain ranges with large, bare, wastelands at the foot. On these wastelands, cactus and other desert vegetation grow.

At last, you turn once again toward sun set. This time just to see the gold and purple clouds mass over the western range leaving the rolling grass plains an orange and purpling landscape.

Yet while you are still standing there, gazing into the far off spaces of life; You think to yourself, "How can anyone keep hatred and hold grudges against his fellowman? How can people have wars and battles? If only they could look on the good things of life or if they could just picture a story like this in their mind, life would be much happier to them."

—Dee Whitt Sharp
Andrews, N. C.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for the kind deeds, lovely flowers and words of sympathy expressed during the sickness and death of our beloved wife and aunt.

L. J. Cathey and Mr. and Mrs. Lee Bailey
Andrews, N. C. 35-1tc

How To Relieve Bronchitis

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION
for Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

630 Lose Driving Licenses For Drunken Driving

During January, 630 persons in North Carolina lost their driving licenses for drunken driving, the Motor Vehicle Department announced today.

This was a decrease of 304 over the 934 persons convicted of drunken driving during January of 1948.

A total of 1,093 drivers in North Carolina lost their driving privileges during January because of traffic law offenses and practices detrimental to Highway Safety. Revocations totaled 849 and suspensions 244.

These included 65 persons caught driving drunk out of state, 57 driving drunk and miscellaneous, 34 driving after license was revoked, 33 speeding over 75 miles per hour and miscellaneous, 22 for transporting liquor, and 10 for being habitual violators of the traffic laws.

Twenty-five drivers lost their licenses for two offenses of speeding over 35 miles per hour; 48 for failure to maintain proof of financial responsibility; 11 for two offenses of reckless driving; and 19 for reckless driving and miscellaneous.

Twenty-eight motorists lost their licenses for two offenses of driving drunk, which means that their licenses are automatically revoked for a three-year period; and two drivers lost their licenses for three offenses of drunken driving. For a third conviction, the motorist's license is revoked permanently unless at the end of five years he can prove that he has been of good behavior during that period and is entitled to consideration for a new license application.

During the month, 672 persons were convicted of reckless driving, more than twice the 334 persons convicted of reckless driving in January of last year. Reckless driving, however, requires no revocation or suspension on first offense.

In addition to the major violations which are cause for revocation or suspension, there were 7,619 other violators who were convicted but not deprived of their driving rights. Speeding took the greatest toll with 3,012 offenders.

Other offenses: falling to have driver's license, 1,261; driving with faulty equipment, 399; improper lights, 191; running through red light, 318; failing to dim lights, 63; passing on curve, 39; and passing school bus while loading or unloading, 51.

Deer made up the bulk of the big game killed on national forests last year, according to the U. S. Forest Service.

Maltby

A party was held at the home of Mrs. Robert Farmer on Friday, March 11.

Miss Faye Groves is visiting with her sister, Mrs. Fred Hallaway.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Effie Brendle, late of Cherokee County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at his home at Suit, North Carolina, on or before the 24th day of March, 1950, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment. This the 16th day of March, 1949.

JOHN BRENDLE

Administrator of the Estate of Effie Brendle, deceased. 35-8tp

Net income realized by farm operators in 1948 has been tentatively estimated at 17.4 billion dollars, a 2 per cent decline from 1947 and the first drop in 10 years.

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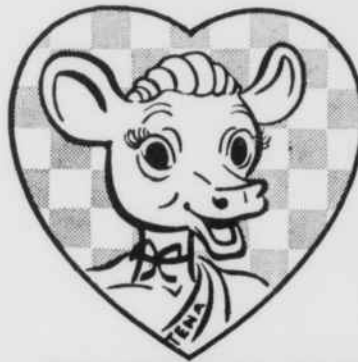
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