

# THE INDEPENDENT

W. O. SAUNDERS, Editor

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## Worth Giving a Trial

**A**N EFFORT is being made to establish Community Service in Elizabeth City. The presence of Frank R. McNinch, district representative of Community Service, in Elizabeth City this week meant that Community Service had not been sold in Elizabeth City. The town hasn't seriously taken to it. Mr. McNinch is plainly disturbed. His heart and soul are in Community Service. He has seen the wonders it has worked in impossible places. But Frank McNinch is opposed to thrusting anything on a people who are not ready and eager for it. If Elizabeth City doesn't want Community Service, he would not have Community Service thrust upon Elizabeth City whether or no.

Does Elizabeth City need Community Service? This newspaper says it needs something and Community Service may be just the thing. The ministers of this town have charged for months that the social life of the young people of the town is rotten with sexual filth and viciousness. For months the ministers have grappled with the problem as they see it. Seven churches raise their spires to heaven in the white residential sections of this town and under the shadows of seven churches the town has gone to hell, if we are to believe all reports. Has it ever occurred to any one that there is something wrong with the churches? What do the churches know about the problems of the young life of the town? If the young are bad, if the young are given to evil pastimes and to evil associates, what do the churches offer the young? The answer is, "a straight and narrow path," which is most forbidding in an age which spends billions for macadam roads and great white-ways.

The churches have failed utterly in dealing with our social problems and will score greater failures if they continue to pursue their policy of repression and suppression. The wise, red-blooded, fearless, indomitable youth of the twentieth century are not going to be suppressed. They will be led but they can not be driven. The churches have not reached them.

Community Service, with no creed, no ritual and no prayer book does reach both the young and the old and fill their leisure hours with clean, healthful, helpful things to do. You can talk all you like about the need of people working more and of children being driven to work, work, work. But there is an inherent demand for relaxation, recreation and play that has come down to the children and their parents from the very childhood of the race when all life was a contest of bone and muscle and work had not been organized. Any society that fails to provide an outlet for human expression of the play instinct develops a society of men, women and children filled with unrest, diseased imaginations and dangerous emotions. We have developed such a society here, tho I would swear that Elizabeth City is not morally worse than any other average American town.

Elsewhere in this newspaper to-day I am telling something of what went on in a meeting in Elizabeth City this week. One who listened in on that meeting would be led to believe that Elizabeth City is doomed to hell and that the devil has his hooks on the very flower of our boyhood and girlhood. Is it true? Even if it is not true, if so many people believe such things what should the people not be willing to spend in any endeavor to help the youth of this town find their place?

That's the question. If you are one of those who believe that things are as bad as they have been painted, what is a paltry four or five thousand dollars a year to provide play leaders, song leaders and recreation centers for the people of this town, to organize the leisure time of all the people of the town and direct the people in the way of community fellowship and community service?

Let's have Community Service. If we can spend a hundred thousand a year on creeds that have failed to save, we can afford to chuck another five thousand into another experiment. We are recreant in our duty to our God and to ourselves if we hesitate on account of the cost.

We have here a Y. M. C. A. building which has ceased to be a Y. M. C. A. or anything very efficient. We long ago recognized the need of such a community center and determined to carry this shell of an institution along until we could make better use of it. Is not here the opportunity we have sought? Why not pay a little more into this Y. M. C. A. hobby of ours, take down the name with which it is labeled and turn it over to Community Service. There is no copyright on this suggestion; pass it on and talk about it wherever you go.

## Federal Farm Loans

**E**VERYTHING is going down except the rate of interest. Some commodities, notably cotton have shown a depreciation of 200 per cent or more. But interest rates have advanced 25 per cent. And now comes the Virginia-Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank with an announcement that it can not function because of low rates of interest.

The joint stock land banks and the Federal land banks were brought into being by the Federal farm loan act when the necessity of granting long-time loans to the farmers of the country became acute. The joint stock land banks loan on the amortization plan, all loans being for a period of twenty years, at an interest rate in this State of 6 per cent, with the principal reduced each year.

Loans may be made for the following purposes: To aid in the purchase of land for agricultural purposes; to provide for the purchase of equipment, fertilizer, live stock and other equipment; to enable land owners to invest in buildings, drainage, and for other improvement of farm lands; to liquidate and consolidate the indebtedness of farm owners and tenants into long term loans. Loans are granted on approved security up to 50 per cent of the value of the land plus 20 per cent upon the insurable value of permanent buildings. No loan of more than \$50,000 is permitted.

The joint stock land banks are authorized to lend money at not less than six per cent. But to get the money to lend at this rate, the land banks must sell five per cent bonds. No one wants five per cent bonds, when tax free government bonds yielding 5 3/4 per cent interest are a drug on the market and New York bankers can't drag as much money out of the country banks as they can lend at 8 per cent.

The joint stock land banks, designed to help the farmers, are

## Gets His on a Silver Platter



COL. ISAAC M. MEEKINS.

ELIZABETH CITY has been expecting recognition of this distinguished citizen by the Harding administration and it has come. Col. Meekins has been tendered the office of General Counsel to the Alien Property Custodian division of the Department of Justice. The office carries with it a salary of \$7,500 a year and perquisites. Col. Meekins is in Washington this week trying to decide whether to accept. If the work is of such an exacting nature as to require him to make his residence in Washington he is not sure he wants it. If it can be arranged for him to serve the office five days a week and make the week-end in Elizabeth City, he is inclined to accept. The office is one of great trust and responsibility and puts this Elizabeth City man on the ground floor of the administration. The tender of the office is particularly gratifying to Col. Meekins and his friends because it came as a grateful expression of appreciation from national party leaders for the loyalty, ability and unselfishness with which he has served the national organization for many years. The first news of the appointment exploded like a bomb among certain patronage seekers in the state who were assured that Col. Meekins wasn't seeking anything and who were nearly certain that juicy plums were reserved only for those who would pull the wires and grab for them.

at the present time in the position of the proletariat who thought that if he had an egg he would have ham and egg for breakfast, if he could get the ham. The joint stock land banks can't get money to lend the farmer at six per cent, so long as the joint stock land banks can't sell their bonds at 5 per cent.

Mr. F. W. McKinney, secretary of the Virginia-Carolina Joint Stock Land Bank makes a statement this week in which he expresses the conviction that relief for the farmers in the way of long-time Federal loans will come only thru the ability of the banks to charge a higher rate of interest. But that is a banker's viewpoint.

Do we want a higher rate of interest? What's the matter with our great Federal Reserve system that it can not or will not lower present excessive rates of interest? It seems to some of us that if this Federal Reserve System is all it has been cracked up to be it should be able to control the interest rate and keep it at a point where the holders of U. S. Liberty Bonds and other government paper would be protected. Why have Federal land banks been compelled to do business on a fair rate of interest while private controllers of the country's coin are permitted to do pretty much as they please? Of course a banker can explain this to his own satisfaction, but such explanations as have been advanced don't satisfy the man in the street or the man in the furrow.

## A Good Record

**N**O ONE will hardly accuse this newspaper of holding a brief for a chain gang, but let this be said in behalf of J. E. Provo, superintendent of the Pasquotank chain gang. Mr. Provo has been in charge of that gang now about five years. During that time he has not had a case of pneumonia, typhoid or flu. During the epidemic of influenza two years ago there were 20 to 25 convicts in the Pasquotank county camp. Not one of these convicts contracted the epidemic disease. Not one of the guards was affected in that time. J. E. Provo has been superintending convict camps thirteen years all told. This newspaper is reliably informed that there has never been a case of typhoid, pneumonia, influenza or smallpox in one of his camps. This surely speaks well for the sanitary conditions of the convict camp and the care and feeding of the inmates under this man.

## GOOD ROADS, AND DRAINAGE

Everybody in Eastern Carolina ought to be interested in good Roads, and Drainage. The recent General Assembly authorized the immediate building of Fifty Million Dollars' worth of year-around dependable roads. And there will be a Drainage Convention, presumably, to discuss ways and means for draining Eastern Carolina, held here in Elizabeth City next week.

Surely the World do, move, whether the Sun do, as John Jasper preached, or not. And Men, Young Men, and Boys, if you want to get into the procession,

you have got to wear good Clothes!

There is no question about our having what you want, and that at the right price. So come early, and get your choice while the selections are greatest, and the season in which they are intended to be worn, is longest.

You cannot, with justice to yourself, afford to buy your Suit, Furnishings, Hats, Caps, Underwear nor Shoes, until you have seen our Styles and Prices.

We have a Big line to select from, and would be delighted to show you, regardless of whether you buy of us or not. Come to see us!

**C. A. COOKE,**  
Elizabeth City, N. C.

**JOHN H. BEALE.**

John H. Beale, age 73, died at the Pasquotank County Home Tuesday night. He had been an inmate of the County Home about two years, having gone there after an attack of paralysis. He was an Odd Fellow and the Odd Fellows gave him burial Wednesday afternoon.

## Your Druggist is More Than a Merchant

**T**O THE Pharmacist, as well as others, in these days of re-adjustment, there is a strong temptation to forget the past, to disregard the future and to heed only the present with its clamor for lower prices.

There is the temptation to buy stale stocks at little prices to make a price-cutting splurge.

There is the temptation to buy inferior goods and sell them to a trade accustomed to quality products.

But the wise buyer knows that real economy lies in buying articles of merit,—and this is where your druggist comes in.

Scientifically, as well as practically, trained in the selection of his stock in trade, a druggist with professional pride would not sell you an unworthy article.

Most people have confidence in their druggist.

We intend to hold fast to that confidence, which we have been patiently building all these years.

Be assured that what you buy of us will be right in price, but right in QUALITY first.

## The City Drug Store

H. S. & V. K. OVERMAN, Registered Pharmacists.  
Cor. Water and Matthews Sts.

## NORFOLK MARKETS

Phone Norfolk 23691  
Norfolk, Va., April 7, 1921.

Reported especially for THE INDEPENDENT by Jarvis & Pentress. The following prices represent actual sales made to-day.

Items not quoted were not sold to-day and the Food Administration prohibits quotations other than actual sales.

Eggs	24c
Hens	30c
Chickens:	
1 1/2 to 1 3/4 lbs.	70c
2 lbs and over	45c to 55c
Rooster	18c
Dressed Hogs (medium)	10c to 14c
New Sweet Potatoes:	
Nancy Halls	\$3.50 to \$4.50
Haymans	\$3.00 to \$3.50
Yellow Barks	\$3.00 to \$3.25

## NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION

Pursuant to an Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina, Session 1915, Chapter 241, and amendments thereto, the Board of Aldermen of the City of Elizabeth City, did, at their last regular meeting, held Monday, April 4th, 1921, order an election to be held on Tuesday, May 10th, 1921, for the purpose of electing eight aldermen, two of same to be elected in each of the four wards of the city by qualified voters residing in said wards; and for the purpose of electing a mayor at large, also for the purpose of voting on an increased salary for the City Manager dating from February 10th, 1920, until his present term expires.

It was further ordered that the following be designated as polling places:

First Ward: Godfrey's Store.  
Second Ward: Store back of Williams' Store on Barney Street.  
Third Ward: Whitehurst Store.  
Fourth Ward: City Market.

That the following electors were appointed to act as Registrars and Poll Holders:

Registrars:  
First Ward: Mr. H. G. Godfrey.  
Second Ward: Mr. Charlie Williams.  
Third Ward: Mr. W. M. Hinton.  
Fourth Ward: Mr. Newton A. Jones.

Poll Holders:  
First Ward: Mrs. A. B. Houts and Mr. L. R. Foreman.  
Second Ward: Mrs. Mary Trueblood and Mr. E. M. Stevens.  
Third Ward: Miss Marcie Albertson and Mr. John L. Wells.  
Fourth Ward: Mrs. Bessie Stewart and Mr. G. A. Tisdley.

in their respective wards.

That the period of registration for all who have not registered and for any who have removed their residences shall be from April 23rd, 1921, to April 30th, 1921, both inclusive from 9 O'clock A. M. until 5 O'clock P. M. each day respectively, except Saturdays, at which time the books shall be kept open until 8 O'clock P. M.

That ballots shall be made of white paper size 1-1/2 by 3 with names of candidates written or printed thereon.

It was further ordered that on election day the polls shall be open from 9:30 O'clock A. M. until 6:30 O'clock P. M.

The candidates shall furnish their own ballots.

W. G. GAITHER, Mayor.

MILLS E. BELL, Auditor.

## CARON-VOLKMAN.

Nathan H. Caron of this county and Mrs. Matilda Volkman, widow of the late J. T. Volkman, of Powell's Point, Currituck county, were married here Tuesday morning.

## ANXIOUS TO MARRY.

Tony Amarina and Miss Curtis Bell Dove of Norfolk, who were married in this city Wednesday, made the trip to Elizabeth City on a motorcycle.

## MCCLEES-CARTWRIGHT.

Miss Lena Cartwright of Elizabeth City was married to Carl McClees of Norfolk in the latter city Sunday. They will make their home in Norfolk after a southern wedding trip.

## They're Here For You

An unusually attractive line of Priestley Zefirrettes are now on display at our store.

Light in weight, attractive in appearance, yet possessing the wearing qualities of an all wool suit.

Reasonably priced for CASH.

## D. Walter Harris

THE CITY TAILOR

Hinton Bldg.

Main Street.

## A Thrill of New Life

Men! We want to show you how this large Bible Class is sending a thrill of new life through men in this city. We want to show you the acid test of the strength of this great class of men.

- 1st. This class leads men to God.
- 2nd. It sets her members to doing good in the world.
- 3rd. It pays strict attention to its sick members.
- 4th. It's making your home safe.
- 5th. It teaches men what to do to be saved.
- 6th. It teaches men how to handle the truth.
- 7th. It maintains an employment committee.
- 8th. It maintains a sick committee.
- 9th. It helps men when they fall through.
- 10th. It helps men when they are down and out.

Men! What are you doing for the Sunday School? Are you just keeping it in sight as the sea gulls keep a ship in sight, waiting for a bait to be thrown to you? This Bible Class now throws ten baits to you. Are you just going to nibble, or will you decide to take the cork under, and be pulled in? Now, it's up to you. Don't give some old leaky excuse. Come and join us next Sunday.

For the past two Sundays we have had eleven new members, and next Sunday we expect a blizzard of new members. The man who won't join this Bible Class cannot say in the judgment, nor on the way to the judgment, "No man cared for my soul."

Men, come and let us help you. You need us and we need you. A glad welcome awaits you at the largest Men's Bible Class in the city, at

**CITY ROAD M. E. CHURCH, SOUTH,**  
Corner Road and Burgess Sts.

At 9:30 A. M., Sharp.

E. L. ROGERS, President.  
P. H. WILLIAMS, Teacher.