

Harnett County News

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THURSDAY, MAY 14, 1925

MAKING GOOD CITIZENS

In a bulletin recently issued by the Bureau of Education of the Interior Department we read: 'The United States is prosperous...'

These are some of the problems confronting the state. It needs to help more of its people to become good citizens.

What are some of the school tasks confronting 730,000 teachers? The school should give every child an equal opportunity to develop fully his initiative and ability.

BELIEVES IN ADVERTISING

Advertising has become a leading factor in decreasing the cost of public utility service to the consumer, and has shortened by half the time that would have been required without it to reach the present state of public utility development.

No advertising of necessities is defensible that does not produce a public benefit, he says. 'Public utility advertising has played a leading role in public utility development. It has brought the advantages of these services to millions.'

There is no more possibility of making a success out of the utility business in this age minus advertising than there is in trying to get along without good engineers, capable accountants and auditors, salesmen, and trained workers.

LAW NOT A SUBSTITUTE FOR COMMON SENSE

If a man insists on paying \$500 for a ninth-hand, ten-year-old automobile worth about \$25, no law can keep him from it. It's the same in buying investments. If a man insists on throwing his money away, dealing with big-talk strangers and trying to get something for nothing, no law can protect him from his folly.

When the year of 1925 closes it will have seen forty-five legislatures in session in the states and territories, and the national government of this Union. They will enact thousands of new laws and tinker up thousands of old laws. It's a process that goes on continually at a cost of millions of dollars annually.

Blue-Sky Law can or does guarantee any security or any investment, although, strange to say, many people actually believe that that is the purpose of such laws.

Do you know a physician, dentist or lawyer whom you feel might not always tell the truth? Possibly you do. Do you know a physician, dentist or lawyer whom you feel you can depend on for the truth so far as he can ascertain it? Certainly you do.

ROADS FOR THE MASES

An engineer from the Bureau of Public Roads who recently studied road conditions in England, finds asphaltic types of pavement used extensively in that country. One road job of this type, 165 miles long in the Greater London section, will cost \$363,636 a mile, the cost to include widening right of way up to 100 or even 120 feet.

To pave this vast area it cannot spend \$360,000 a mile on a road. Instead it covers from 16 to 20 inches of worn out gravel and macadam roads 3 to 5 inches of asphalt concrete, 18 feet wide, for price England spends on one mile of road.

When the United States is as thickly populated as England, these highways will form the base for heavier pavement. In the meantime, millions of people are enjoying the service of good roads, not only in the cities but all over the nation.

FOREST FIRE PREVENTION

American Forest week should annually become one of the most important events in each of our states. This nation's future depends upon an everlasting supply of timber.

For four years the United States Forest Service has directed observance of Forest Protection Week. This year it felt that the best interests of forestry would be served by transferring observance of the week to non-governmental agencies.

The American public is one of the greatest offenders in forest destruction because of its carelessness with fire. If it can be awakened to its responsibility as the best guardian of its own forest resources, the first big step will have been taken in reforestation, as the young trees will have a chance to grow without being blighted by thousands of forest fires which this nation now has annually.

LIVING MEMORIALS

Each recurring memorial day, to commemorate the fortitude, and heroism of the men and women who made history to the South and for the entire civilized world, should be an object lesson to the younger generation. It should be a stimulant for life as well as a memory of death.

Truly, the dead cannot hear our eulogies. It is to the living that we must address our appeal. The memory of the soldiers who fell in battle and of the mothers who fell in sorrow and wait, now finds its finest expression in the youth of our land, in the South's great and growing institutions, her schools, and universities, her great highways and arteries of travel, her splendid citizenship, her commerce and general economic advancement.

In a spirit of reverence these institutions and the people who have made them possible now srew the flowers upon the tombs of the departed whom we now honor, and from whose sacrifices the inspiration for noble achievements has arisen.

A statesman is a politician who has been dead for some years.

Read this again to get it. He whose laugh lasts laughs best.

A safety razor is an instrument to make us appreciate lying in a barber's chair.

The pen is mightier than the sword, but the typewriter is mighty faster than the pen.

Tom Tarheel says the life of an expert must be a hard one because he is always expected to make some big change.

These many a good sport who never got to wear sport clothes.

Not long now till the drowning season. Automobile wrecks have had it all their way since last summer.

There are a few people who have not been heard to cry out against high taxes. But there are some who don't pay 'em.

Last Sunday was Mothers' Day, Memorial Day and Commencement Day—all three of which brought many a thrill.

May 1, the month when all property takes a sudden slump, it is a lasting time, and much of the valuable are listing to the south.

Own-Your-Own-Home Week was a happy thought. That's about as long as we installment payers can hold on to one.

They call the women the "weaker" sex, but did you ever hear of a barber talking one into a shampoo when she came in to get only a hair cut?

Senator Couzens' committee has revealed 33 cases during the past year in which federal prohibition officers have been arrested on charges ranging from drunkenness to first degree murder. Isn't it about time to have a department of justice to look after the prohibition agents?

Senator Baggett's plan to have the fraternal organizations take care of patients in Caswell Training School would be alright if it would work. But we hardly think the fraternities will feel inclined to take it on. They have burdens of their own already.

When the State of North Carolina are too poor to take care of the indigent, why is it that we see a continual addition to the fleet of high-powered automobiles, luxurious traveling palaces that cost away up into the thousands? Can these fine vehicles not be taxed an extra dollar or two and allow the needy feeble-minded children room and board at the school? Then there are many other things—too numerous to mention—that might come in for a little extra tax for the relief of the State's poor. Better not put the proposition to the fraternities, Senator—you'll lose. There may be a Dutchman's chance that you could hoodwink the KuKlux into the scheme.

The Swearing Habit

By THOMAS ARKLE CLARK, Dean of Men, University of Illinois.

I KNEW a woman once who in explanation of her loud and blatant profanity gave as a reason for her blasphemy that she wanted to let God know that she wasn't afraid to speak her mind. The explanation was defective if it was not one that appealed to one's sense of fitness.

Everyone who swears has some reason, conscious or subconscious, and some of these reasons are not difficult to understand. In many cases the individual takes refuge in oaths because of illiteracy, because of lack of vocabulary. The very meagerness of his words drives him to the conclusion that he will gain force or variety by cursing. He "has a feeling" that he is driving a point home when he swears.

The bully or the coward swears to give the impression of force or to testify his courage. It is a sort of camouflage which deceives only the inexperienced. It is pretty safe to slap a man in the face if he swears at you and to expect an apology. Swearing shows a self-consciousness, a lack of self-reliance, a lack of knowledge; it is like the boy in the woods whistling to keep his courage up. The boss who swears at the men he directs or instructs is covering up by doing so as a means of concealing his own lack of knowledge or ignorance in directing people. The profane man is usually the excited or terrified or ignorant one. The man who swears seldom if ever inspires either respect or fear or confidence in those who are the recipients of his bullying. They have the viewpoint of the irreverent young son, who, listening to an outbreak of profane advice from his father, said, "Oh, pa's blowing off again."

The young fellow just out of high school, just freed from the restraint of home, often feels that he shows himself a man to the extent that he is able to rip out a good oath. Swearing in his mind demonstrates the fact that he has seen the world, that he is no longer a social greenhorn, that he is entitled to respect.

It is admitted that profanity is a common habit among men, but it is coming to be less in vogue than it was. It is a low, vulgar habit best suited to the ignorant, the ill-trained, and the unclean. It will go out of fashion, I feel sure, not so much because it is wrong as because it is weak. The man who swears has for some time being dropped his guard, has shown a lack of strength, a failure to control himself and the situation before him. He is under such circumstances more easily defeated, he has prejudiced his cause, he is weak and not infrequently pitiable. He is not at his best.

When a man begins to swear at you, you can be assured that you are stronger than he is.

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This is the merry month of Maybe.

CHRYSTED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL

Sunday School Lesson

Lesson for May 17

SAUL BECOMES A CHRISTIAN

LESSON—TEXT—Acts 9:1-18. GOLDEN TEXT—"If any man be in Christ Jesus, he is a new creature." II Cor. 5:17.

PRIMARY TOPIC—A Man Who Became Another. JUNIOR TOPIC—How Saul Became a Christian. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How Saul Was Converted. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—A Study of Conversion.

I, Saul's Violent Hatred of the Lord's Disciples (vv. 1-2). Saul knew full well that unless the movement set on foot by Jesus was stopped, it would supersede Judaism. He was ignorant of the genius of Christianity. He did not know that the "blood of martyrs is the seed of the church." The noble display of faith by Stephen in sealing his testimony with his blood did not soften Saul's spirit but rather intensified his hatred for Jesus and His disciples.

Saul's violent hatred of the Lord's disciples was not a blind prejudice, but a determined effort to stamp out the Nazarene heresy. The intensity of his manias, and the extent of his operations are best set forth in his own words, "And I persecuted this way unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women" (Acts 22:4). "I both shut up many of the saints in prisons having received authority from the chief priests, and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them, and punishing them off in all synagogues I strove to make them blaspheme, and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto foreign cities" (Acts 26:10-12 R. V.).

Saul Kicking Against the Pricks (vv. 3-9). The figure here is that of the Eastern ox driver following the ox with a sharp iron fixed to the end of a pole. The animal is prodded on with this instrument and if it is refractory it kicks against the sharp iron and injures itself. Saul is a picture of Saul as he was madly fighting against Jesus.

A Light From Heaven (vv. 9-14). The time had come for the Lord to interfere. Saul was stricken with blindness and fell to the earth. This physical demonstration accentuated the workings of his conscience which doubtless were going on quickened by the Holy Spirit as He used Stephen's testimony.

A Voice From Heaven (vv. 14-15). This was the Lord's voice calling Saul by name and asking, "Why persecutest thou Me?" This moved Saul to inquire, "Who art thou, Lord?" The answer came, "I am Jesus, whom thou persecutest." He is so closely identified with believers that He feels their sufferings and regards treatment of them as treatment of Himself.

Saul's Inquiry (v. 16). "What wilt Thou have Me to do?" The Lord told him to go into the city where information would be given him as to what he must do.

Saul Entering Damascus (vv. 15-16). The haughty persecutor went quite humbly into Damascus, led by his attendants. For the space of three days he remained blind and fasted. What went on in his soul in those days no mortal can know, but we may be assured that he, like the Lord in the wilderness, was too deep in meditation and prayer to desire food.

Ananias' Vision (vv. 10-12). In this vision the Lord appeared and instructed him to go to Saul. He gave him the name of the street and Saul's host, and informed him that Saul was now a praying man, and that He had prepared Saul by a vision for the coming of Ananias.

Ananias' Fear and Hesitancy (vv. 13-16). He knew of Saul's industry and the authority by which he came. The Lord encouraged him to go, assuring him that Saul is no longer an enemy but a chosen vessel to bear His name before the Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.

Ananias' Obedience (v. 17). His fears being removed, Ananias went to the house where Saul was staying, put his hand on him and affectionately addressed him as "brother." Ananias told Saul that the Lord had sent him with a two-fold mission: (1) "That thou mightest receive thy sight" (2) "Be filled with the Holy Spirit"

Saul Baptized (vv. 18-19). After Saul received his sight Ananias baptized him. The Lord bestows the gift of the Spirit upon whomsoever He will, and may designate anyone whether occupying an official position or not, to lay hands upon individuals.

Prayer

Prayer is the peace of our spirit. The stillness of our thoughts; the rest of our cares; the calm of our tempest.

The Angels

Angels served God and ministered to men when they proclaimed Christ's birth.—Presbyterian of the South.

Strength

Strength is born in the deep silence of long-suffering hearts, not amidst joy.—New Human

The State College Summer School begins on June 15 and closes July 24. The announcement of courses has been published and may be secured by those wishing to attend.

If they call a fellow from Poland, why don't they call a fellow from Holland a Hole?

FOR SALE—Hound Puppies: Three Months Old. Harvey Thomas, Broadway, N. C., R. 2. 14-1p

EQUALIZING FUNDS

A Brief History of State Aid to Counties in Financing Schools

State aid to counties in financing schools was begun in 1839 when the legislature ordered the first payment to counties from the Literary Fund. Since that time, except for the period just subsequent to the War Between the States when the school system collapsed, the State has helped the counties finance the State's school system. For sixty years, or until 1899, the Literary Fund was the source of all State aid.

The Legislature of 1899 appropriated \$100,000 to be distributed on a per capita basis in accordance with the school population of the counties. From 1899 until 1908 there was an annual appropriation of \$100,000 to be distributed to the counties on a per capita basis. The annual per capita appropriation was increased to \$125,000 in 1909, and remained at this figure until 1913. In 1913 the per capita appropriation was increased to \$250,000 and was continued annually at this figure through the scholastic year 1918-19. Neither the appropriation of funds from State sources nor the former aid from the Literary Fund was an equalizing fund. The equalizing idea was not conceived until 1901.

First Equalizing Fund

In 1901 the Legislature first took cognizance of the varying abilities of the counties to support the public schools for the term required by the Constitution. The first per capita appropriation of funds from the State Treasury was made by the Legislature of 1899. Two years later the Legislature of 1901 continued the \$100,000 per capita appropriation, but appropriated an additional \$100,000 to aid those districts in which it was not possible to maintain the four-month term with available county funds. This was the first Equalizing Fund, and the first start of this fund was made in 1902 to needy districts in seventy-five counties.

The State Public School Fund

In order to provide for the six months term in 1920 a 32-cent State property tax was levied and the proceeds used to pay salaries for three months. The counties were required to levy a maximum tax of 35 cents before they could draw from the equalizing fund. Salaries allowed teachers were increased, but were more clearly set forth and delimited than ever before, and stricter limitations upon the number of pupils per teacher were required.

In the special legislative session of 1920 the State property tax rate for

the State Public School Fund was fixed at 13 cents per hundred dollars, and the required county rate at 15 cents. These reductions were necessary, because of the large increase in assessed valuations under the 1919-20 revaluation act. The State Board of Education certified to each county the amount of the equalizing fund to which it was entitled. In arriving at the amount that each county would receive the State Superintendent was required to determine the cost of instruction in each county for the school years 1921-22 and 1922-23 and the average cost for these two years. When this average cost had been ascertained, the equalizing fund was apportioned so as to provide for each participating county an amount equal to the difference between this average cost for the two preceding years and the revenue to be derived from the legal tax rate. The legal tax rate had been fixed by the Extra Session of 1921, at a rate equal to thirty cents on the 1920 valuation in all equalizing counties, except in four counties where maximum rate of 39 cents was authorized. The fund for the scholastic year 1923-24 was distributed after the fashion described.—State School Facts.

About 148 commodities may be made from corn including such items as axle grease and face powder, shoe heels and chair cushions, cigarette holders and gun powder, shaving soap, varnish and other things. The value of the corn crop is greater than the value of any other crop grown in this country.

Children's Week

Tuesday, May 19th, to Saturday 23rd.

Special Display of Children's and Infants' Wear. Everything for the Kiddies. Let Them Come With You. They Will Enjoy Seeing the Doll Dance. Few Souvenirs Given to the Children.

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SLEEPING ON A FEATHER

You have laughed at the story of the half-wit who heard that feathers were a very comfortable to sleep upon, and promptly found a feather and put it in his bed.

But that poor fellow was no more foolish than the individual who constantly hears and sees what a savings account will do for him, and then proceeds to make one or two deposits and counts himself a saver.

Our savings department is at your service, offering four per cent interest, compounded each three months. It has been proven to you over and over, what a tremendous power you, personally, can make a systematic savings.

The question is: Are you a SYSTEMATIC saver?

Are you sleeping on a feather?

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