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THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1946

PATIENCE IS A NICE THING TO HOLD

It is easy to understand why the rural dwellers are anxious that their roads be put into passable condition. For practically the entire winter the folks who live "out in the sticks" as the saying goes have been bound to puddle along as best they could over rutty, muddy roads, and sometimes, in some cases, oftentimes, the ruts and the mud have been so completely forbidding that there has been very little chance of "making it" when anyone tried to make even a short trip.

Plainly, it has been a case where in there has been much grumbling. The blame had to be placed somewhere, and where else but the State Highway Commission? Maintenance of the roads is entirely in the hands of that organization, and it was quite natural that all blasts of criticism were hurled at it. The public, you understand, is slow to accept excuses.

It has not been so easy for the public to understand that even the heretofore efficient Highway Commission cannot perform miracles, or in other words, do something without something to do it with.

For one thing, the shortage of materials and equipment has affected the Highway Commission's operations as it has affected practically everything else. Then, too, the Highway Commission has had its share of the worry over the lack of help. A few weeks ago the Commission was advertising for workmen.

The News feels sure that the Commission is proceeding with the maintenance of roads as well as possible under the circumstances. We would suggest, as we have before, that the private contractors be allowed to assist in the big job of putting the roads in good shape, and we understand that this is to be done on a rather large scale. But even the contractors have their problems, just as the Commission does, and as all others have.

And so, The News feels that it is not out of order at this time to suggest that the public exercise just a wee bit more patience.

It is hardly to be doubted that the Highway Commission will get around to the job of repaving our roads just as soon as it is possible to secure the means with which to do so. We believe the Governor meant what he said when he declared he means to see to it that the rural roads are put in good shape as early as possible, and we believe the Highway Commission is just anxious as the Governor to see that it is done.

UNDERSTANDING IN WAR, WHY NOT IN PEACE?

On both international and domestic affairs our nation seems to be a bit "up in the air." Thorns in the ribs of the Administration are of foreign and home growth. Nothing seems to bring about an understanding between either groups or nations. "Fog" seems to be the best description of what hangs over the heads and even in the minds of rulers both at home and abroad.

And this causes the common citizen to wonder why it is that during the war it was so easy to come to a complete understanding—in fact so complete that the war came to an end much sooner than most people anticipated—in fact, simply "busted" right in everybody's face—but now there is difficulty in arriving at peace terms.

The News does not believe Russia is as "hard to get along with" as some sources would lead us to think. We believe, surely, that Russia is actively engaged right now in the business of looking out for number one. And why not? Hasn't she been forced to do that very thing all through the years?

We think our people are too much perturbed over "what Russia is trying to do."

We also think they are worrying too much about what other nations might do.

What should concern our people most right now is: What are we doing to get our own house in order? There is plenty to be done along this line.

It would seem, by all the stand-

ards, that we could, if we only would, arrive at as clear understanding with our Allies now in peacetime as we did while the war was in progress. There seems to be too much loose play, both as regards our domestic situation as well as our relations with other nations.

BROAD VIEW NEEDED ON SCHOOL BOND ISSUE

Following the mass meeting last Wednesday afternoon, at which the County Commissioners and Education Board heard mostly from proponents who the county should issue \$750,000 in bonds to make additions to the schoolhouses, the Commissioners decided to call an election and allow the voters to settle the question.

At the outset, it should be said that the mass meeting was not as well attended as it should have been. Those who conduct the schools, the governing officials and the instructors, were well represented, but outside of this group there were few persons sufficiently interested to go and hear the arguments.

The meeting did not furnish the Commissioners the information they wanted. They knew, to begin with, that the group known as the "school folks" were in favor of the bond issue. What they sought was the idea of those—the twelve thousand other voters and taxpayers. The reason the Commissioners sought to "get a line" on what the people thought about it was that they wanted to save the county the cost of the election if it so happened that a majority of the people were against it.

But now that the Commissioners have decided to put the matter to the voters for a decision, it is necessary that each voter take a broad view of the matter before casting a ballot one way or the other. We say one way or the other, because we feel sure there will be some votes cast against the proposition—probably a good many votes.

In the first place, it must be admitted that the schools are in great need of the improvements the Board of Education is calling for. Every fair-minded person will of course admit that. The entire matter should, we think, rest upon that fact.

The simple fact that the need is plain and urgent should cause every voter to take a serious view of the bond issue, and decide upon sound and practical basis whether our schools must continue to be hampered by lack of proper facilities, or whether they shall have the funds with which to go forward and function as efficiently as all of us want them to.

In times past, the Harnett school system could boast that it was one of the finest, most complete and most efficient in the State. That was saying a big mouthful, but it was true.

It is not true now. The school population has increased, but the facilities have not kept pace. The system's equipment, excellent and well calculated to suffice for the time when it was inaugurated, is not adequate now. The reason is obvious. Any plant or equipment taxed to its utmost capacity will give way at the seams sooner or later. There are now many serious failures, no fault of the system, but simply because it was designed to accommodate a situation that has changed, very materially, since the time the "consolidation" of schools was inaugurated.

There is this to consider when thinking of and providing for the schools: They constitute the agency, the sole agency, by which the children are to be furnished a foundation for their future intellectual welfare. Education means a good deal more than some people seem to be willing to concede. Proper and adequate training is something that no person can conveniently toss aside in this modern, striding world!

To be sure, the schools can get along "as best they can" with what they have. But what clear-thinking people desire is that the schools get along as best they can with BETTER THAN THEY HAVE!

It is in the hope that all of the voters will carefully and thoughtfully consider both the importance of the adequacy of the equipment and the tremendous necessity that the children be afforded the very highest and most advantageous opportunity in their educational training—it is in this hope that The News herewith directs attention to the bond issue election to be held sometime in the near future.

OBSERVATIONS

BY A COUNTRY SCRIBE

MEN MIGHT READ 'EM.—Quite certain it is that few men ever read the wedding write-ups in the papers. Oh, maybe once in a while a sissy fellow might take a glance at 'em, but you can bet your bottom dollar he's doing it just to see which one of his gal friends is getting off. Anyhow, you can't blame the men for not putting much eye-strain to these write-ups, and you know why? Well, it's simply because nothing is ever said about how fancy the groom was attended. Lots and lots of stuff is given to show how much the bride was doted up and in what, but nary a word about the groom's get-up, and

no doubt he went to a lot of pains-taking to fix up. At least he ought to come in for honorable mention for his efforts. And, by golly, he isn't even called the best man, some other fellow books onto that. Can you blame the men for not reading the wedding write-ups? Again, possibly if the groom's wearables were mentioned it might furnish a hint to other prospectives as a sort of guide, you know.

Oh well, before dismissing the subject, the Column will relate: Once at a swank wedding when all the menfolks were shined up and dressed up as uncomfortable as any group of men could be, a lady sidled up to this scribe and whispered: "I've never seen such a nice, clean-looking bunch of men in my life."

"WHY DON'T YOU?"—Down at the courthouse last Wednesday when the mass-meeting was going on, about the bond issue for schools, Mr. David Henry Senter, warhorse of Chalybeate, was just about to wind up his argument "agin" it, when he happened to think about his good friend, Mr. Joel G. Layton, Sr. To be sure, Mr. Layton ought to say something about the issue, thought Mr. David Henry. So, turning to Mr. Layton, he said, "Mr. Layton, don't you want to say something?" "No," said Mr. Layton. "Why not?" yelled Mr. David Henry. That brought the biggest laugh of the whole meeting.

A BSENT.—Noticeably absent from the mass meeting were the politicians. Folks seeking office are wary of such things. There's a lot of unpopularity in them that meetings! And that's one thing your politician wants as little as possible of—unpopularity. They'd rather give you their stand on the law of supply and demand, the regulation of the weather, or anything except a bond issue.

That's "pizen" to politicians. And when you come right down to brass tacks, you can't much blame them. For, just so sure as they let it be known they had taken sides, one way or the other, the side that sided on the opposite side would be mighty quick in letting him know they would leave the little blocked space opposite 'is name on "the ballot" very, very blank when voting time comes. Some mighty good candidates have been defeated because they were too frank.

But, you can bet a stack of buckwheat cakes the candidates in the May 25th primary will be polled off and severely on this very thing of a bond issue.

A HAIL STORM?—Thinking about that hailstorm last week—and if you had stood and looked at it as I did you'd still be thinking about it—it was a sockdolager—brings a notion. There's been the business of wondering why so few candidates have come out. Well, it can't say it can be—that most of 'em have just been crow-hopping around, waiting till the time gets a little ripper. Will they come in a torrent like that hail? Oh goodness! Not that many, to be sure. A wise fellow across the river (tells The News that "there's a crop, just wait and see.") Maybe, he knows. If he does, there's going to be good reason for calling this good county "Old Harnett" as we've heard at different times, even from citizens of long standing and in good standing.

"TWO-YEAR LOCUSTS"—I don't know whether I've ever repeated this to a soul. But I just happen to recall it now. Some years ago a fellow out in the country, a good fellow too, and I won't call his name—he said, in remarking upon candidates for office: "They're like two-year locusts, they never visit us except when they are running for office." That's passed on to office-seekers for what they may make of it.

But a mighty good plan for anyone to adopt if ever entertaining the notion of running for office, is to get acquainted with the folks some time when it's not "running" time.

ANCIENT REASON.—A friend told us recently why he never made a race for public office. He didn't want to get into politics, he said, because he felt quite sure that "just as soon as he did, someone would tell everything he knew on him." And I don't want everyone to go around talking about those watermelons a bunch of us boys stole way back yonder when I was a kid.

HEADS OF SCOUTS IN PLAN MEETING

To Hold Camporee April 26-27 on S. C. Howell's Place on Little River

On Tuesday evening, March 13th the members of the Harnett County District Committee, Boy Scouts of America, held their regular monthly meeting at the Community House in Erwin. The members of this committee are J. C. Graham, chairman, Erwin; H. L. Longnecker, Lillington, vice-chairman; Earl Mahone, Dunn; W. H. Laughinghouse, Dunn; A. R. Burkot, Campbell College; Sidney Howell, Lillington; Elmer E. Rothe, Dunn; and Dr. J. E. G. McLaugh, Dunn.

This committee meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month to discuss all phases of Scouting in Harnett County. At the present time there are Scout Troops in Dunn, Erwin, Coats, Angler, Blue's Creek and

Letters To The Editor

SOME PERTINENT OBSERVATIONS

Stopping in Fuquay Springs for a few minutes not many days ago, the acute shortage of many articles was impressed very forcibly upon me. By an old colored man coming down the street, this old darky called to me, "Mister, can you please let me have the time of day? I have walked and looked, but I cannot find anyone here who can let me have the time of day." I explained to the old colored man that I was not a resident of that town, therefore I could relieve his anxiety. Fuquay residents and merchants are to be commended for their generosity in sharing with those who have not, but it is getting pretty bad when a colored gentleman can't find the time of day anywhere. I trust Dr. Cozart, Messrs. Prince and Spence will try and do something about it.

I see in the papers that Mr. Churchill has made his departure from America. He's a great man, and he made a fine job running the war, but he has finished the job which he was so eminently qualified to do. I am glad he has returned to England and I believe his coming to America at this time has endangered the peace of the world. His inapt fire and brimstone speech at Fulton, Mo., was ill-advised. His own people have repudiated him, and the American people will repudiate our own militarists who want to extend the drafting of 18-year-olds and adopt a policy of universal military training. Our people want peace, and they are not going to embark on a policy of imperialism to save the British empire from disintegration.

Speaking of the extension of the draft, I heard a prominent local Democrat declare that he would not vote for any man for any office who favored either one of these measures. So, Messrs. Tart and Salmon, take notice, and let the people know how you stand on current issues.

Besides the atom bomb and atomic energy, I am often asked to explain things that are beyond my comprehension. The latest is as follows: Mr. B. G. Ramebaut, a resident of this community, quoted Mr. Hamilton as saying in his address advocating the bond issue for schools that the \$500,000 bonded debt would not increase taxes. He asked me to explain. I said to Mr. Ramebaut that my knowledge of economics may be somewhat obsolete, but the only way for one to increase a debt and not pay more is not to pay. That is the way it works with me. People who owe me more and do not pay me more just don't pay. I trust Mr. Hamilton may elucidate further so that our people may understand his argument better.

W. M. Pearson, Chalybeate Springs.

Lillington, Lillington also has a Cub Pack, and another such Pack is being organized in Dunn. The reports given by the members of the committee during the meeting in Erwin indicate that considerable progress is being made by the various units in the county.

One of the matters discussed at the meeting was the holding of a Sprink Camporee. It was decided to hold the Camporee at the Lower Little River site owned by Mr. Howell and associates. This site is an ideal camping ground, and is amply supplied with water by an excellent spring. The dates set for the Camporee are April 26, 27 and 28.

Roy M. Liles, scout executive for the Occaneechee Council, was present at the meeting, and participated in the discussions.

AC WINS BASEBALL OPENER

Anderson Creek high school's baseball team opened their season Thursday afternoon on the home diamond by defeating LaFayette 4-2. S. Goins of AC pitched the whole route and allowed 9 hits as his teammates collected 10 hits off McKensie and Baker of LaFayette. McDonald, captain of the AC team, led his team at bat, getting 3 hits in 4 times at bat. Halgress and Ashburn of AC got 2 hits each. Smith led the LaFayette team, collecting 2 doubles and a single in 4 trips to the plate.

LAFAYETTE	AB	R	H	E
A. Knight 1f	4	1	1	3
Johnson, 2b	4	0	2	1
Tudor, 1b	4	0	0	0
Smith, cf	4	0	3	0
Snipes, 3b	3	0	0	0
McKensie, p	2	0	1	3
Baker, p	2	0	0	0
McLean, c	3	0	0	3
P. Knight, rf	3	0	1	0
Grayson	2	0	0	1
Abernathy ss	1	1	1	0
	32	2	9	5

ANDERSON CREEK	AB	R	H	E
Taylor 3b	3	1	1	1
Darden 2b	3	1	0	1
McDonald 1b	4	0	3	0
S. Goins p	4	0	0	2
Halgress c	4	0	2	0
A. Goins ss	2	1	1	0
Hamilton if	4	0	0	0
Ashburn cf	3	0	2	0
Elmore rf	4	1	1	0
	31	4	10	2

Benzene hexachloride, which effectively combats the boll weevil, cotton aphid and other insects at the same time, is not yet available in sufficient quantity for agricultural use.

HOME BREW

BY MRS. LOU

Well, we been havin' some missionaries to speak in our church an' I've sho been intrested; las' week er missionary that has been in China er long time, tole erbout the sufferin' there, an' give out sheets of printed facts erbout all the famlie stricken countries.

20,000,000 people faces starvation in Europe. 20,000,000 of starvin' men, wimmin, an' children is wanderin' back an' forth erover Europe seekin' fer food an' shelter.

Four Mths of the children of Greece has got the TBs. In normal times in China, half of the folks lives below the hunger line. How must hit be after twelve long years of war, with floods, famine, an' pestilence?

The increase in tuberculosis there is estimated at 700 per cent. India, the land of countless famines, is now sufferin' the worst one in all hits history.

What must God think when He looks at the scarred, battered ruins of a world that He made so beautiful an' prolific?

Of the countless millions that He made in His own image, sufferin' because of "man's inhumanity to man"?

Uncle Jason come erlong yestiddy to borry er settin' hen, an' all er mine was settin', but I tole him I would lend him my rooster, named Substitute, fer he was better 'n any er hen I had er kyerin' eggs; whenever I had er hen to wax er want an' leave her nest, I alius fetched in ole Substitute an' he finished the job, then often I had er hen with er good disposal an' my own biddies, I'd put the chicks Substitute hatched out with her, an' often there was no hen with biddies to take 'em, I'd ole Substitute raise 'em.

An' was he one proud-mummy? Yo' ought to hear him try to cluck, he comes as near hit as er bull frog does to singin' soprano, but he's got the maternal instinct of er incubator; his funny, he alius practices birth control when he's got to raise the biddies, an' I had to get another rooster to put with my flock.

Uncle Jason ole laughed at that. "I don't blame ole Substitute, Lou, often I had er had to raise my an' Judie's younguns—the first would er been the last."

"I've done tole yo' as nigh as I could, all erbout ole Substitute, so I'll throw out some corn sn' ketch him fer yo' often yo' wants me to."

"I'll be most erbleeged, Lou, fer I got er nice settin' er eggs, an' don't want 'em to spile."

I throwed out the corn an' soon had ole Substitute.

Whilist I was ercuttin' er strip to tie his legs together, so he wouldn't git away from Uncle Jason often he stumped his toe an' let go his hold, I put the rooster on the back porch table where I had er basket er eggs.

I heard Uncle Jason er laughin' so that I knowed somethin' had happened, an' I ole beholds, there sot the ole rooster in the basket, er movin' an' er turnin' er them eggs, an' er rattlin' his croupy cluck over 'em—so satisfied, with confidence that his eyes was shut.

"Lou, I'll give yo' five dollars fer the ole hen chasser, he's—I dunno whether to say he, she, or it, I reckon 'T would be correct to erply to both er male an' er female; no, I reckon THEY would be right."

"Enyway, I'd love to own the ole rascal, he—they would come in mighty handy erroun' my farm."

"Can't part with nobthin' that valuable, Uncle Jason, but I loans him to yo' choerful without no intrest to hatch out yo' eggs."

"Thankee, Lou, I don't ginerly take no stock in feminine mens, but I've took er mine to this ole rooster."

"He's erjustable, gentle, an' alius willin'; I wishes mo' me's was like him," sez I.

THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR

The things I should be thankful for, oh God,
Are many more than I can count,
Just life in general, and that it holds
To me is a great amount.
I am thankful to be living,
To see, to talk, work and play,
To my heart joy brings.
To love my father and mother alive,
My children so healthy and strong,
To have my husband at home with us,
To never feel blue or alone.
To know there's no bombs to fall,
To have a clear sky above,
To have free speech, and go as we may,
To worship the God we love.
What kind of man is it that says
"He's nothin' to be thankful for,
He should be glad to be alive,
Though he be unucky and poor."
Oh Lord, I am thankful every day
For the things you so gladly are giving.
I have a share and I'll not complain,
I'm so thankful, oh God, to be living.
Mrs. Leonard Allred,
Lillington.
Watch the label on your paper.
Don't let your subscription expire.

A Father's Letter To His Sons

Dear Sons:
Your home town got the worst of a hard-hitting hailstorm last week, as you will have noticed in your last issue of The News. It was really the most severe downpour of hail I have ever seen. It was a sight to behold, one of those rare sights, you might say, but not one in which you could get any thrill because it was so destructive that if it had covered a wide area it would have caused lots of damage.

It began about 7 o'clock in the evening and continued for only a few minutes. A few more minutes of it would have put all growing things on the "blink." As it was, it knocked out all chances of some plants and shrubs doing anything more this season (than merely putting out more leaves. All the pretty blossoms were knocked off. A flowering crab in the yard had put out its white-pink-lavender combination to one of the most beautiful decorations we've ever seen. The hail stripped it, a green Gage plum was snowed white with its blossoms, it took a drubbing for almost its entire "plumage." The same thing happened to practically everything else, except the peaches.

The reason, I suppose, the peach trees didn't lose all of their blossoms was because they had so many it was too big a job for the hail to destroy all of them in such a short time. As it was, over half of the blooms were knocked off. This was not so bad because we would have had to pick off some of the peaches anyway. The trees were so full they never would have matured so many peaches. But one feature of it was amusing as well as a little pathetic. Some of the tiny peaches had formed and the hail stripped them of their blossom-coat and left them shining out in the weather, naked. They will be a fair target for just any wee little frost that may strike them. But they do look "cute" hanging on to the twigs for dear life.

The poor little strawberries, which had begun to blossom out, were so badly abused that I'm afraid we will not have many berries.

The bridal wreath bushes were in all their glory. They were stripped. By the way, wild onions on our lawn were pounded into the ground, and of course of that we were glad. Since that storm, I've been puzzled

why all farmers do not take out hail insurance. We've been talking about taking some for the yard!
I suppose practically every town in these United States is experiencing reconversion pains the same as we are here. I never would have thought it would be so hard to get back "into gear." It seems that nothing will get clicking again. Only this morning we had a letter from the Mergenthaler Linotype Company in Brooklyn, N. Y., informing us that their entire plant is strike-bound and that they are unable to fill any orders. We had ordered some very necessary parts for our machine, and we are needing them, very badly, but goodness knows when we'll get them now.
The paper shortage seems to be easing up a bit, and that's a great consolation.
I've never seen the like of prospective building. It looks as if, were there no handicaps, this little old town would, soon, become a metropolis, what with all the people who want to build houses, both for dwellings and business. But the trouble is, they can't get neither the workmen nor the materials. Contractors simply won't undertake more than they already have on hand. And it seems such a slow process for them to keep going on what they have under construction.
I hope the situation will soon improve because that sound of the saw and brigade is sweet music for a town that needs to grow.
As for food and other necessities, there seems to be some improvement since rationing was stopped. We still have rationing of sugar, though, and we are wondering if there will be enough for the coming season.
More and more of the boys are coming home, and it is good to see them again. But the draft continues and they tell us that during April it will be stepped up considerably because new men are need for replacements.
We are still wondering when the war will really be over!
I am closing for this time, but before I remind you that we haven't had a letter from you in ever so long, and we're still looking for those new photos you promised us.
Love to you and your buddies.
As ever,
DAD.

EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY FOR NEXT SUNDAY

THREE OF HARNETT COUNTY'S OUTSTANDING SCOUTS WILL RECEIVE AWARDS AT ERWIN SERVICE

An event of unusual interest will takeplace at the Presbyterian Church in Erwin on Sunday night, March 31st, at 7:30. A county-wide Court of Honor will convene to present the Eagle Scout award to three of Harnett county's outstanding Scouts. The boys to be honored are, Ralph Shaw of Troop 61, Lillington; Phillip Raiford of Troop 18, Erwin; and James Lee, Troop 66, Dunn. The presentation of the Eagle award is a rare occasion at any time, and an occasion where three of these awards are to be made at one time is indeed rare. It speaks very highly for the type of young manhood being developed in Harnett county.

The Eagle award in Scouting is not just an ordinary award. In order to win this award a Scout must be

outstanding in every way. He must be proficient in all his Scouting skills, and must have exemplified the living of the Scout oath and Scout Law in his community.

In addition to the above mentioned awards, the Court of Honor will also make a number of lesser awards to Scouts from the various troops throughout Harnett county. The Court of Honor will be presided over by Elmer Roth, Advancement Chairman, of Dunn. Roy M. Liles, Scout Executive, and Bruce M. Boyers, Field Executive, will also be present to assist with the Court. The Ministerial Association of Erwin will present a religious service as a part of the Court of Honor ceremonies. The public is earnestly invited to attend this service.

Music is the harmony of being; but the music of soul affords only strains that thrill the chords of feeling and awaken the heart's harp-strings.—Mark Twain Eddy.

The language of tones belongs equally to all mankind, and melody is the absolute language in which the musician speaks to every heart.—Richard Wagner.

Happiness consists in the attainment of our desires, and in having only right desires.—Augustine.

Crossties Wanted
We want to buy 200 white oak or hickory crossties, 5x7x10
See
J. A. SENTER
Or
H. L. LONGNECKER
LILLINGTON

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Self-Regulation is not confined to the cities and towns of North Carolina. It reaches into the highways and byways, demanding strict conformity with law and decency wherever beer is sold. Suggestions for above-board selling practices are usually followed to the letter where they are not steps are taken to effect full compliance.
You help us when you withhold patronage from the few dealers who do not adhere to the high standards of the legalized brewing industry.

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