

**THE FRANKLIN TIMES**  
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 A. F. JOHNSON, Editor and Manager

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**T**HE future happiness and prosperity of most of us depend largely upon how we employ our spare time.

**SOME** used to say a constitutional amendment could never be repealed. Now we have nearly repealed the whole constitution.

**END THIS ECONOMIC WAR**

**WE** are glad to hear reports that the various nations of the world are getting tired of economic warfare with each other, and that some of them are prepared to declare a truce and enter into a peace parley. We are glad of it, because we believe the only permanent recovery must come about through the recovery of international trade, which is affecting the rest of the world even more than it affects us.

Just to illustrate, we find that England has put her quota restrictions on imports of American bacon and lard, Argentine beef and Danish and Dutch pork, and has shut out most American wheat by agreement with the British Dominions. Germany has put a ban on imports of American cotton, a high tariff on American lard and quota restrictions on other American farm products. France limits imports of American fruit and American machinery. Japan has decided to encourage the importation of cotton from India, discourage it from the United States. Brazil has burned 27 million bags of coffee to make this country, its chief consumer, pay a higher price for what is left. All the rubber-producing areas of the world have lately got together to try to work out a price agreement that will make automobile tires cost more.

In the name of nationalism we find Holland controlling hog production, Argentine compensating wheat growers with bonuses, tea-producing countries limiting the harvest of that product, Great Britain threatening Japan with exclusion of all Japanese goods, and so on through a long list.

The United States can do a great deal to break down this nationalistic spirit in international trade. With the powers now in the President's hands to control the international value of the dollar, and the further power which he has asked for to negotiate tariff reductions, we can say to these other nations that if they want to sell us their goods they must let down the bars against ours.

If they persist in building walls around themselves, then we shall have to proceed with the policy of nationalism of which the AAA is the principal exponent. But nothing more surely leads to the sort of friction that leads to war than just the sort of economic warfare that has been going on for several years; and so we are glad, as we have said, that there are some signs that some of the nations concerned are getting tired of it.

**SHOULD ENCOURAGE BUILDING**

**I**T seems to be generally understood that the greatest measure of unemployment is in what are known as the "building trades." Building, except on public projects, is almost at a standstill. In the big cities there was an orgy of overbuilding up to 1930, but in the nation as a whole we are told by competent authorities there is still a great deal of building and repair work to be done.

In normal times the United States used to spend about four thousand million dollars a year on building, constructing every year enough building to house a population as large as the city of Los Angeles, with dwellings, public buildings, stores, factories, hospitals, schools, libraries and the rest to meet the needs of a million population.

With the cessation of that annual building program, carpenters, masons, plasterers, painters, electricians, plumbers, paper-hangers and all of the trades which collaborate to construct a new building began to feel the pinch of unemployment. The furniture and furnishing industries felt it next, and so on down the line. And the sources from which money ordinarily comes for building purposes found themselves with "frozen" loans and no money to lend even to those who wanted to build or repair.

We think there are probably enough office buildings, stores and semipublic buildings of that sort; probably enough factories, also. But all of those need modernizing and repairing, and while there are dwellings enough, of a sort, to house everybody in America, many of them ought to be abandoned and replaced with new ones, and practically all of them

ought to be repaired, many to the point of virtual reconstruction.

For those reasons we await with a good deal of interest further details of the Government's plan to encourage long-term instalment loans for repairing and modernizing dwellings. We understand this does not contemplate direct loans from public funds, but rather some sort of a guarantee to lenders against loss when all the conditions of the loan meet the approval of Government experts. We do not know how far it is proposed to go to extend the same security and encouragement to lend for new dwelling construction, but the Government would do well to try to simplify the present system of building loans and cut down the cost to the home-builder of the money he has to borrow for that purpose. One of the great reasons why building has slowed up is that mortgage loans under the present system are hard to collect, and therefore the borrower is required to pay altogether too high a profit to somebody when he tries to finance a home.

**PLANS AND HUMAN NATURE**

**F**ROM as far back as there are any records, philosophers and reformers have been trying to plan the "Perfect State." We have looked into some of those plans. The oldest of which we have a record seems about the best. That is the "Republic" of the Greek philosopher Plato, who flourished about 300 B.C., or more than 2,200 years ago. The main difficulty with putting his plan into operation was that it took fifty years to train the men who were to constitute the governing class.

Sir Thomas Moore published a book in the year 1520, describing an imaginary nation which he called "Utopia," and the name has been used ever since to designate an ideal of society. Fifty or sixty years later Sir Francis Bacon tried to improve on Utopia with an account of the "New Atlantis," another Perfect State. Various other philosophic speculators have tried their hands at the same game, the most noteworthy being Edward Bellamy, whose "Looking Backward," published in 1888, sold more than a million copies and was translated into twenty languages.

All of these plans for regenerating society and making everybody happy have the same fatal weakness. That is that their authors assume that human nature changes or can be changed. None of them would work—unless every other inhabitant were a policeman—so long as human nature remains essentially selfish and self-centered. And we have seen no evidence that there has been any great change in that respect since the days when the Bible was written. To the argument that if everybody had plenty nobody would steal or cheat, the answer, as we see it, is that we have heard of very rich men who were not always honest.

It is one thing to make a logical plan, and quite a different thing to get people to abide by it. If everybody were honest and unselfish and so filled with the spirit of justice as never to do an injustice to anyone else, the Utopian plans might work. But if everybody were like that there would be no need of any government at all!

**THE BOOK**  
 the first line of which reads, "The Holy Bible,"  
 and which contains Four Great Treasures  
 by **BRUCE BARTON**  
 PROVERBS, POEMS AND PROPHETS

**T**EN fairly representative people were asked, "What do you know about Solomon?" Four of the ten answered, "Nothing." Other answers were: He had two thousand wives; he was the husband of the Queen of Sheba; he built Solomon's Temple; he was the wisest man that ever lived.

The statistics regarding Solomon's marriages as given in the Book of Kings are "seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines." The Queen of Sheba was not officially among this distinguished company. A monarch in her own right, she was so impressed by the stories of Solomon's splendor and wisdom that she made a long journey to visit him and after a series of receptions and banquets returned to her home.

The present kings of Abyssinia claim their descent from Solomon and this queen. If they are justified in their proud boast her visit was not wholly Platonic. It may have been true of her, as she said of Solomon that "the half has not been told." All that we know certainly is that she never appears in the Bible again. Solomon did build the temple and it remained the pride and glory of Jerusalem until the destruction of the city by the Babylonians in 586 B.C. But the most inspiring monuments left by this great ruler were not in stone or bronze, but in words—The Proverbs, a rich mine of wisdom wherein every nugget is solid gold. One can only marvel after reading them how a man so wise in other ways could have been so unwise about women.

He made a fine start as king. The Lord appeared one night in a dream, asking him to name his heart's desire, and Solomon answered:

Thus hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in.  
 Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great a people?  
 To which the Lord replied:  
 Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life: but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:  
 Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee: and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall any after thee have the like.  
 Without this wise choice on the part of Solomon we probably never should have had the Proverbs; but something more than inspired knowledge went into them. They bear evidence of comprehensive experience with every phase of human nature and conduct. Some of them, as might be imagined from Solomon's own record, contain warnings against the unrighteous woman.



**The Last Ole Sticks are the Hardest** — By Albert T. Reid



**Beware for Whom You Vote in The Coming Primary**

The Sales Tax is the big problem now. Every farmer should think of the way his land tax has been reduced by the sales tax. If we had not had the sales tax, how long a school term would we have had this present term? Do not vote for anyone who opposes the sales tax, for most of those who are against this tax are those who have shunned the paying of the taxes, those who have gotten big wages, owned no land and spent all his salary. Now they are paying taxes. Let's everyone pay his taxes, then we will have eight months school term and the land that is not sold for taxes, let it be reduced or stand as it is.  
 Pay your pennies in your purchases. Hold your home. Let everybody help educate his child. Don't shift the burden on the poor landlord. I know of a great number of healthy, strong young

men who never paid a penny tax until he paid sale taxes. Those fellows who are kicking about the sales taxes are the ones who support the pool tables, beer stands and all other places of amusement.  
 Who paid the World War Debt? Everybody with pennies. If you live in town, who pays for the upkeep and improvement. You are taxed to pay it. Uncle Sam is paying our taxes now and saving our farmers.  
 Every law-maker or candidate who asks for your support is he willing to make a law for every person to pay taxes to educate his child, keep up the County and State and not to shift it on the poor landlord who has just a remnant of land left?  
 G. H. PERGERSON,  
 Franklinton, N. C.

**THANKS**  
 The Franklin County Memorial Association wish to thank Mr. D. H. Holliday and his Boy Scouts for their help in selling the F. C. M. A. Buttons.  
 MRS. H. C. TAYLOR,  
 Chairman Finance Comm.

**BOOKS CLOSE MAY 19th**

The Registration Books close Saturday. If you want to vote in the primary and are not already registered you had better register before Saturday night.

**Court Of Honor**

Troop 30 of the Louisburg Boy Scouts will hold a Court of Honor in the Mills School auditorium Friday night, May 18th, at eight o'clock. Mr. Claud Humphreys, Scout Executive of the Occaneechee Council, will be present. The public is cordially invited to attend this program.

Madison County Farmers', Incorporated, will help farmers pool their wool for sale through the United Wool Growers Association.

Some people are so inhospitable that they won't even entertain ideas of their own.

**DOWN come FOOD PRICES**

|  |                    |                                   |     |                                       |     |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|
| "ARGO" CORN STARCH<br>Pound Pkg. ...       | 8c                 | PURE APPLE JELLY<br>2 Lb. Jar ... | 25c | AMERICAN SARDINES<br>3 Cans ...       | 10c |
| <b>APPLE CIDER VINEGAR, Gallon ... 28c</b> |                    |                                   |     |                                       |     |
| "QUAKER" OAT MEAL, Lge. Pkg. ...           | 18c                | 2 Pkg. SUPER SUDS ...             | 15c | Any Flavor JELLO, Pkg. ...            | 6c  |
|  |                    | OCTAGON TOILET SOAP, Ck. ...      | 5c  | Tom Thumb PEAS, No. 2 Can ...         | 20c |
|  |                    | PUFFED WHEAT, Pkg. ...            | 10c | "Sunbeam" Y. C. PEACHES, Lge. Can ... | 20c |
|  |                    |                                   |     | "Temple Garden" T E A, 1-4 lb. ...    | 10c |
| <b>-- FIELD SEED --</b>                    |                    |                                   |     |                                       |     |
| SEED CORN, SOY BEANS, MILLET,              | PEAS, CANE, SUDAN, |                                   |     |                                       |     |
| See Us Before You Buy                      |                    |                                   |     |                                       |     |
| <b>IN OUR MARKET</b>                       |                    |                                   |     |                                       |     |
| Western Veal Steak, lb. ....               | 25c                | Ham Salad, lb. ....               | 45c |                                       |     |
| Western Calf Liver, lb. ....               | 40c                | Small Franks, lb. ....            | 17c |                                       |     |
| Fresh Lean Pork Chops, lb. ...             | 30c                | <b>NATIVE SPRING LAMB</b>         |     |                                       |     |

**G. W. MURPHY & SON, LOUISBURG, N. C.**  
 "WHERE A DOLLAR DOES IT'S DUTY"