

THE FRANKLIN TIMES

Issued Every Friday

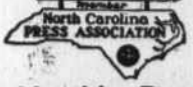
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URNS ANOTHER CORNER

The FRANKLIN TIMES is very grateful to Providence and the citizens of Louisburg and Franklin County to have had the privilege and honor of serving them for the past seventy years, which was completed on Friday of last week. In all of our opportunities we have tried to save no effort to bring to this section and its people every advantage possible and when we look backward and see the many things we have advocated standing as realities, even though the angle of self praise is evident, we are delighted in the results we have attained and overwhelmed at the pleasures we have received in helping to bring these about.

Of course in our activity to bring these better things and conditions to our towns and County there has developed among a few a spirit of antagonism towards our efforts, but such is the price of progress and we are thankful that this is very negligible, the large majority of our people have shown their appreciations by a generous patronage in all branches of our enterprise which is more than greatly appreciated and serves as an incentive to greater effort in the future which, we hope and expect to continue.

With the hope of a more universal and closer cooperation on the part of our people and organizations we hope to be of greater service in the seventy-first year of our existence.

NATIONALISM HIT BY STATE BANKERS

Calling on members of the New York State Bankers Association to preserve the independent chartered banking system against encroachment of governmental agencies, in order that the spirit of localism, as opposed to nationalism, will not be forfeited, Joseph E. Hughes, president of the association, told its recent midwinter conference that the time has come for more aggressive action.

"Until recently, the dominant emphasis in domestic affairs has been the philosophy of localism," said Mr. Hughes. During the last few years we have gone far in the other direction. We have seen government assume rather complete control over money and bank credit, in an effort to hasten and assist national economic objectives.

"There has been a trend away from the fundamental principles of localism toward nationalism; a transfer of local rights and initiative to central control in Washington. Now the time has unquestionably come to emphasize the importance of localism over nationalism. This country is too big and too diversified to be run successfully either by government of business from Washington or from New York. America was not founded for dictatorship, nor for absolute nationalism."

WHEN THE FIRE ENGINES GO BY

Few of us ever get over that juvenile urge to follow the fire engines. It's a thrill to hear the sirens, and see the great red wagons clang by.

But that thrill wouldn't last long if the fire engines led you to your house, and you found it in flames. And the surge of excitement would die an early death if the fire razed the factory or the store in which you worked.

Every fire, great or small, brings trouble to some one. And a high percentage of fires leave stark tragedy in their wake—loss of life, loss of employment, loss of possessions which never can be replaced. There are no mitigating qualities in fire. It is the great destroyer.

More than that, the effects of fire are exceedingly widespread. A fire of which you never heard may deprive you of an opportunity for doing business. It may raise your taxes and your insurance rate. It may adversely affect your future life and income.

Here in America fire destroys some \$300,000,000 worth of property directly each year. The indirect loss is estimated at close to \$2,000,000,000. There can be no excuse for that waste, no alibis. Nine fires out of ten are the result of human ignorance, human carelessness, human thoughtlessness. Nine fires out of ten could have been prevented—had someone not failed to take the simple precautions that will checkmate most fires.

Think of this next time you see fire engines go by or smoke and flames rising from a home or a building. Then ask yourself if fire prevention is worth while.

FACTS DISPROVE MONOPOLY

The more extreme critics of the American distribution system seem to have a faculty for thoroughly blasting their own arguments about as soon as they make them.

Recently a magazine which belongs to the farthest left wing of political and economic thought, ran an article in which retail distribution as it exists in the U. S. was severely castigated. It argued that big companies were gradually attaining a monopoly of business and that "the small merchant is doomed to lingering death by starvation." Then, five paragraphs later, it criticized our distribution for wastefulness on the grounds that, "on a single block in one city seventeen milk companies

were making deliveries. There are as many as 10,000 brands of wheat flour and 4,500 brands of canned corn."

Just how it can make its charge of monopoly jibe with its later statement is a job for an Einstein. The fact that seventeen milkmen can operate in one section of a single city and that 10,000 manufacturers can produce and sell flour, disproves its charges of monopoly. In this country any man can go into any business he wants—and he can progress and prosper if he can provide the service the people want. That is what a system of free competition, based on a philosophy of free enterprise, means.

The truth is that the radicals want the kind of "efficiency" we see in Russia—100 per cent government ownership of the instruments of production and distribution. And that's just what the American people don't want—they want service and low costs resulting from free play of initiative and fair competition.

SEEDS ARE SPROUTING HERE

Governor Charles A. Sprague of Oregon, recently wrote letters to the state's Congressional delegation, in which he expressed his disturbance at the mounting encroachment of Federal agencies in local administration.

He paid particular attention to the administration of the social security act which, he said, "is a very grave threat to the efficiency and economy of operations within this state." He concluded: "I am further concerned because of the threat to extend this Federal authority over other departments of state government to which the Federal government makes any contribution. This would include roads and highways, county agricultural agents, vocational education, public health, reclamation and other departments."

The whole trend of legislation in recent years has been toward the bureaucratic centralization of Federal authority, at the expense of states' rights and local governments. Blanket rules laid down in Washington are automatically applied to the entire country, ignoring local needs, wishes and problems. Expanding Federal government has become a definite threat to the financial well-being of the states.

The great Federal electric projects, for example, tax built, tax subsidized, and tax free, have seized business which was once done by highly taxed private properties. They have taken millions of dollars worth of property of various kinds, ranging from real estate to automobiles, off the tax rolls. By their very existence these government pets have prevented private enterprise from expanding and creating new taxable property. So serious has this become that in the TVA area state officials have asked Congress to make up the heavy tax losses that have followed socialization of the private power business in that area. These pleas seem futile, government does not tax itself.

The menace of bureaucracy is faced by the people of this country. It is the forerunner of state socialism. In Oregon, the state's leading municipal electric system refused to take Bonneville power because it would not have its local power rates dictated by Federal authorities as well as because it could generate power cheaper than Bonneville could furnish it. It has since developed that Bonneville receded from its demand to dictate rates, but its power was still rejected. Over the nation there is growing uneasiness at the rapid extension of Federal domination of local rights and property.

One of the most important issues the country faces is Statism, Socialism, Communism, government ownership, or whatever you wish to call it. Any of them means the vesture of all power in a centralized government. This has always been a destroyer of liberty and democracy. We see it today in Europe's cruel dictatorships. Those who wish to look can see the seeds of it sprouting here.

CONDITIONS NOT LIKE 1914-18

When the first World War broke out, a speculator's holiday followed in this country. By the end of 1914, the allied governments were seeking war materials from American factories on a vast scale, and the sky was the limit so far as price was concerned. The allies even bid against each other, thus sending prices zooming. A long time passed before buying became even comparatively orderly and efficient.

If anyone thought that mad scramble was due to be repeated when the current war came into being, they were just about 100 per cent wrong. Before the war was actually declared both France and Britain had purchasing commissions in this country. These commissions worked cooperatively, not at cross purposes. Purchases were made by direct contact with manufacturers, thus eliminating the need for brokers. And when, late in January, the two commissions were merged under the name of the Anglo-French Purchasing Board, it became evident that the allies were out to get the most for their money, and are working as closely together in business matters as they are in military affairs.

One purpose of the new Board is to eliminate price-boosting competition and overlapping of functions. Another very important purpose is to keep in friendly contact with the U. S. government and to eliminate possible friction that might occur if Allied purchases seemed to hamper our own preparedness program. The heads of the Board are well known business men long experienced with American finance and industrial methods.

Biggest Allied demand is still for airplanes—so far Britain alone has placed orders for some \$90,000,000 worth. According to a Wall Street Journal article, Allied total aircraft output last year was only \$225,000,000, this, if it materializes, will call for tremendous expansion of our aircraft industry. It is believed that the Allied purchasing agents will attempt to get part of the work done by subcontractors—such as automobile concerns—in order to speed matters up.

This government is obviously concerned lest Allied war buying reach the point where there would be an inadequate supply of war materials left for us. To prevent this, the President has appointed a committee, headed by Secretary Morgenthau, representing the Treasury, War and Navy Departments, whose duty is

to coordinate foreign war buying with our own defense program. Mr. Morgenthau has said that our own needs must be filled first—has expressed the opinion that our capacity for producing airplane engines for fighters, is insufficient to meet the demand. The Allies may thus be forced to pare their exceedingly ambitious present program.

Even as the makers of war materials have benefited from the war, the producers of other commodities have suffered. British demand for tobacco, for instance, has practically disappeared—Europe has no gold to spend for luxuries. Severe restrictions have likewise been placed on fruit purchasing, at the expense of American agriculture. Despite this, however, and despite the almost complete loss of German and Polish trade, our exports have been remarkably high. The European neutrals, no less than the belligerents, have significantly upped their purchases from us.

Summing up, it looks as if the war will not dislocate our economy at this time, or materially affect prices. But when war ends, it doesn't seem possible that we can avoid a slump—many a great factory geared to war production will find that its reason for existence has vanished overnight. War booms make post-war depressions.

An optimistic writer declares that "the world has an opening for every man." That's probably why so many of us are in a hole.

The "misery" serials heard over the radio are said to be designed for women listeners. Which is hardly complimentary to the intelligence of the ladies.

When told that Mrs. Roosevelt would lecture on "My Day in the White House," a wag asked "When was that?"

Times Advertising Pays

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Timely Farm Questions

Answered at State College

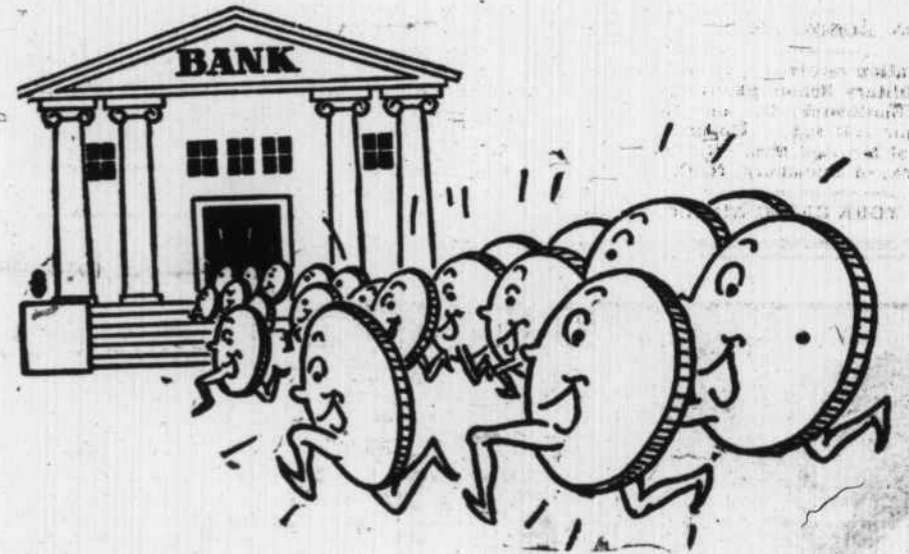
QUESTION: When should treatment be started in the tobacco plant bed to control blue mold?

ANSWER: If the disease is in the vicinity it is best to start treatment immediately. However, if careful daily inspections are made to insure finding the first sign of the disease, treatment may be delayed until the disease is actually present. Care should be exercised to avoid even one night's delay after the disease is present as plants cannot be revived by treatment. Extension Circular No. 229 gives full details as to time and kind of treatment and copies may be had free upon application to the Agricultural Editor at State College.

QUESTION: How much less pecan seed does it take to seed an acre?

ANSWER: When broadcast, at least one bushel or 25 pounds of seed should be sown to the acre. The seed should be covered lightly as with a weeder. If the seeds are drilled in, less seed are required. All old seed should be tested for germination before sowing to insure a good stand. The crop is sown on small grain in February or March. All varieties with the exception of the Korean germinate in from four to five weeks and this should be considered when seeding. The Korean germinates in about two weeks.

Approximately 225 girls and 200 boys are enrolled in the eleven 4-H Clubs in Cleveland County and are now making plans for the project work they will conduct this year.



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