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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1939

The American Game

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the game of baseball, long considered the national pastime of the American people.

The game, one of the cleanest offered as a recreation program in the world, is distinctly American. The game was invented by an American and was so well laid out that there have been but few changes. The principal changes have come about through use of better equipment and highly trained players.

On this 100th anniversary of baseball it would be a good move if every community would strive to organize and maintain a team for its boys and young men this summer. A team properly conducted will mean an asset to the community from both physical and moral standpoints.

The success and popularity of baseball are due to those who kept the game out of the slums of crookedness and gambling and placed into the game a strong sense of duty to keep it free of suspicion.

Thus a spectator knows when he sees a game of big time baseball that he is looking upon a crew of men who are striving to win and who are not touched by the tainted tenacles of gambler's money.

Professional baseball is highly organized and rigidly governed to assure that the game will go straight and that the teams shall be equally favored by the rules of the game.

It is the one game in which individual initiative counts for all its worth. There is little or no chance to gain the top and the spotlight of favor by crookedness. The game as it has been conducted for decades has won the respect of the public and such respect has made it profitable to the game's promoters.

Unlike many sports, the game offers a chance for comeback to veterans who are sometimes for years handicapped for various reasons.

Years ago James Emery Fox, now slugging first baseman of the Boston Red Sox, was home run king and lacked only two of reaching Babe Ruth's record of sixty in one season. Then he hit a slump which was due in part to sinus infection. In other sports such a setback would have meant his exit from any place near the top. But he worked hard, he trained well, he concentrated on the game in an effort to remove his weaknesses. Last year, he led in hitting percentage, was second in home runs with 50, batted in the most runs and was voted the most valuable player in the league. Because he had the determination to come back, and the will to work, he succeeded.

Another example, somewhat pitiful in some respects, was also on the Boston team.

Eight years ago, Robert Moses (Lefty) Grove, was king of the league in pitching. He won 31 games and lost only four, proving to be almost invincible against any team and when he was defeated it was news to put in sports headlines. He had little control, but his blinding speed was so great that one or two runners on bases because of balls worried him little. It was highly probable that with two or three on he could whip that lanky arm in quick arcs and literally throw the ball past the batter.

Bad tonsils and other infections set up soreness in that once invincible arm and during one whole season he was a grouchy who had lost his power. But he was not through, and he set about developing control and curve to take the place of that once-so-great speed. He began to pitch his new brand of offerings with such success that he regained the top place in earned runs allowed, winning that honor for seven years, including 1938 when he was 38 years of age. As his control and curve improved, his speed came back and today he is down in Florida in spring training, throwing them over with all the

speed of his prime. He is 39 years old and still growing strong because he had what it takes to be a man.

Wesley Cheek Ferrell, Guilford county boy, went to the major league as a pitcher and for years won in the neighborhood of 20 games per season. He had the strength of youth. The grind of the game took the zip out of his pitches and he was afflicted with a sore arm. He did not quit. He did not give up. Like Grove, the old master, he concentrated on curve and control with good success. The barn on the Ferrell farm near Guilford College has been literally bombarded with baseballs where Wesley threw them for hours at a diagram the size of the place over the plate and between a batter's knees and his shoulders. Because he would not quit and because he worked hard he went back toward the top, and although he did not do so well in 1938, reports from spring training indicate that Wesley Ferrell will be plenty helpful to the champion Yankees this season.

The game is full of such examples of determined manhood. It deserves the respect which it has gained and is holding so well.

Men With Wings

Nobody knows how long ago men first tried to emulate the birds, but the dream of flying must have come to many in the earliest dawn of human consciousness.

Among the ancient legends that have come down from the earliest times are mythical stories of men who devised artificial wings and flew with them. The Biblical concept of angels as man-like beings with wings is almost as old as human thought. The angels of ancient Scripture are superior to earth-tied humans, for man, as we are told, was created "a little lower than the angels".

With the inauguration of the regular trans-Atlantic flying service the climax has been reached of man's age-old dream of flight.

In the words of the old hymn: "There, there, on eagle's wings we soar". Those of us, that is, who are fortunate enough to take the 18-hour passage from New York to England in the great new "Yankee Clipper", the largest and finest passenger aircraft ever built.

Carrying 74 passengers and a crew of ten, there is every reason to expect this great ship of the air to perform as its designers and engineers expect it to. Much longer flights, and many of them have been made across the Pacific and are being made almost with the regularity of railroad schedules.

But the Pacific, as its name implies, is a much milder stretch of water than the North Atlantic. Extraordinary precautions, we are told, have been taken to guard against the unstable air conditions over the sea which Englishmen still refer to as the "Western Ocean", though it is east of any point from which we in America view it.

Both American and British aviation companies are ready to launch more cross-Atlantic flying boats before the coming summer is over.

The new ships of the air are smaller than the Santa Maria, the flagship of the little fleet in which Columbus made the first trans-Atlantic crossing 436 years ago. But he took four months whereas the new "Yankee Clipper" will literally enable its passengers to eat breakfast in America and dine the same day in England. And that seems to us to be something wonderful.

Parkway Important

The economy bloc in the national congress, intent upon reducing government spending, seeks to wipe from the appropriations bill funds for continuing construction on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Reductions in government spending, it is agreed, are essential toward restoring confidence of business, but such reductions should mean economy instead of waste.

Failure to complete the Parkway, perhaps the major project in the south, would constitute an enormous waste instead of economy.

The government can do a great service by appropriating enough money to carry Parkway construction on at a rapid pace until it is finished. All worthwhile projects, including the Parkway at the top of the list, should be completed in view of the fact that great sums have already been spent.

The government can best curtail spending by not beginning other costly projects. To drop major projects which are well under way and half completed would be tragic waste.

CHATHAM WINSTON PLANT TO BE CONSOLIDATED WITH ELKIN

New \$500,000 Building Being Planned; Preliminary Work to Start in May

Elkin, March 26.—Following a conference here today of officials of the Chatham Manufacturing company and Elkin town officials, Thurmond Chatham, president of the company, announced that the firm's Winston-Salem plant would be consolidated with the Elkin plant. The action is subject to ratification by stockholders at a meeting to be held March 28, he said.

Plan New Building
A \$500,000 building to house the finishing plant, now at Winston-Salem, is to be constructed west of the present Elkin plant, it was stated. Preliminary work on the new structure is expected to start early in May.

The move, if ratified, will affect approximately 650 employees of the Winston-Salem plant. It is estimated that it will add around 2,000 persons to Elkin's population, and will boost the weekly payroll to \$35,000. Approximately 1,200 persons now are employed by the company in its Elkin unit.

The new building at the Elkin plant will be about twice the size of the present one at Winston-Salem, having a floor space of 145,000 square feet.

Enlarge Storage Space
Plans are also being made to construct a new warehouse, with a floor area of 50,000 square feet, at the Elkin plant.

A number of years ago the entire plant was situated at Elkin. Then the finishing and shipping departments were transferred to Winston-Salem.

The company's plant at Elkin is situated on an elevation in the eastern section of the town, overlooking Main Street.

In addition to suitings and blankets, the company has been making automobile upholstery materials in increasing quantity. Additions were made to the Elkin plant last year.

Lespedeza Growth Can Be Improved

Experiments in Rowan county have proven that lespedeza needs lime and superphosphate when it is grown on poor land, reports Enos C. Blair, agronomist of the State College Extension Service. "It is true that the lespedeza have a reputation for 'bringing back' land too poor to grow crops with profit, or land that has been abandoned because of low fertility, but a little fertilizer will increase greatly the value of the crop", Blair stated.

In Rowan county, Korean lespedeza was seeded on poor land without fertilizer treatment for two years. The plants reached a height of more than two inches only where row crops had been fertilized previously. This growth was limited to a narrow band right where the fertilizer was placed in the previous year. Most of the lespedeza died when about two inches high.

When the land was treated with lime and superphosphate, there was a marked increase in growth. On untreated plots Korean had reached a height of one to three inches; with lime alone, four to 13 inches; and nine to 17 inches where lime and superphosphate were both applied.

Kobe and common lespedeza grew four to six inches on untreated plots, six to eight inches with lime, nine to 11 inches with superphosphate, and eight to 16 inches with both lime and superphosphate. Sericea showed the same trend in growth with fertilization. It reached a height of 20 to 30 inches with lime, 25 inches with superphosphate, and 30 to 40 inches with both lime and superphosphate, compared with 16 inches on untreated plots.

The rate of application was from one to three tons of lime and 500 pounds of superphosphate per acre.

Benno A. Schoch has returned to San Francisco after traveling through 18 Latin American nations for a year in the interests of the California World's Fair.

Soybean Meal Is Cheap Nitrogen

Prof. C. B. Williams, head of the agronomy department of the State College, recommends soybean meal as a source of organic nitrogen in mixed fertilizers. He points out that it is cheaper than many other standard sources of this most necessary part of fertilizer formulas.

In answer to numerous questions about the value and comparative cost of soybean meal, Prof. Williams issued the following in a statement:

"During the past month a goodly number of inquiries have come to me with reference to the value of soybean meal as a source of organic nitrogen in mixed fertilizers. From the information which is available, this material is an excellent source, standing in excellence with such standard carriers as cottonseed meal, fish scrap and dried blood.

"From quotations which I secured, the nitrogen contained in soybean meal, retailing at \$27 a ton, cost 16 cents a pound while the nitrogen derived from cottonseed meal at \$29 a ton cost 21c a pound.

"A considerable tonnage of soybeans have been crushed by the cotton oil mills of the State this year, making available their fine source of organic nitrogen for use by North Carolina farmers. At present prices, so far as our information goes, soybean meal is the cheapest source of organic nitrogen and cottonseed meal is next. Dried blood and fish scrap are more expensive carriers of this essential plant food.

"Soybean meal has been tried out as a source of part of the nitrogen in the fertilizer mixture on

SALE OF VALUABLE REAL ESTATE

North Carolina, Wilkes County. In the Superior Court.

In the matter of W. D. Halfacre, Administrator of the estate of J. A. Johnston, with the will annexed.

By virtue of authority contained in a certain order of the Superior court of Wilkes county, signed on March 6, 1939, and under the will of the late J. A. Johnston, made and entered in the above-entitled matter, the undersigned will, on April 10, 1939, at 12 o'clock, Noon, at the courthouse door in Wilkesboro, North Carolina, offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described real estate:

Beginning at a white oak on a branch, S. P. Smithey's line, and runs up said branch south 11 1/2 degrees east 32 poles to a maple at the forks of said branch; then south 60 degrees east up the east prong of said branch 66 poles to a white oak on the south side of the public road; then south about 35 degrees southeast crossing Yeargin's creek at the mouth of a small branch, in all 100 poles to a bend in the road, leading to the Yeargin's church; then with the said road 74 poles to a pine on the west side of said road; then west 100 poles to a chestnut on the south side of Yeargin's creek; then north 58 degrees west 116 poles to a pine on the north side of the public road and near the road leading from the same to Sarah Gray's; then with the meanderings of said road; in all 136 poles to a stake on the east side of said road; then east 20 poles to the beginning, containing fifty-nine acres, more or less. It is estimated to be 75 acres or more in this tract.

This 7th day of March, 1939. W. D. HALFACRE, Administrator of the estate of J. A. Johnston, deceased. 4-3-4M

PEARSON BROS., as usual, is headquarters for all kinds of seeds. Farmers, friends, come in and see us. 2-13-4t

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DOAN'S PILLS

Church Visits Wade Blackburn In County Jail

West Jefferson.—Enoch Church, of Westwood, who was shot and seriously wounded by an unknown party or parties a short time ago, has recovered from his severe pistol shot wounds and is now living with Fred Greer, one of his neighbors. During the past week Sheriff Ed Miller took him to the county jail to see Wade Blackburn, who is being held for shooting the 59-year-old man.

Church recognized Blackburn as he had seen him a few days before the shooting occurred, at the home of Niley McNeill where Church went to get a haircut, Sheriff Miller said.

Sheriff quoted Church as having asked Blackburn why he shot him and said the escaped convict declared that he wasn't the man.

No new arrests have been made but Sheriff Miller says he can convict Blackburn with the evidence he now has. The case will probably be tried next month. Sheriff is of the opinion that robbery was the motive involved in the shooting.

BANKRUPTCIES

Bankruptcies among American farmers numbered 1,799 in the 1937-38 fiscal year, a decrease of 27 per cent under the same period a year previous.

many of the leading crops grown in the State, such as cotton, tobacco and small grains, and its use has given excellent results".

Flowers

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