Thursday, February 24, 1949

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Cocker- nuts on one acre, has been de-

Herbert Raye Lane of Ryland

who grew 2,699 pounds of pea-

were the guests of Mr. and Mrs.

Dolla Thompson last week.



the ultimate in communism. "Let not him who is houseless pull down the house of another, but let him work diligently and build one for himself, thus by example assuming that his own shall be safe from violence when built." This is a quotation from Abraham Lincoln, and used by Col. Johnston in his address here.

The American way that has placed this country so far ahead of the rest of the world that there is no comparison has albeen a system whereby every person had an opportunity to build something for himself and having constitutional guarantee that his property would be safe. America did not forge into the lead in the world by tearing down, or taking from those who have and giving to them who have not. America was built the Christian way, with a maximum of human rights to every individual, rich or poor. Now we are drifting toward Russia's way of doing things. It is easy to get votes, often a majority, by clamoring for taxing the rich and distributing the taxes to the poor. Already that point has been reached where taxation is having diminishing returns. The same voters who are swayed by promise of utopia refuse to understand that such a trend will take from them their opportunities to better their position in life to raise their standards of living. Instead of tearing down the huse of the rich man to make all equal, give the poor man opportunity to work diligently and build one for himself. Now this nation is seriously considering giving the government responsibility of paying our doctor and hospital bills. Naturally, with government waste and red tape we would pay twice as much in taxes as we get in paid doctor bills. No people ever grew great or strong by evading their own responsibilities. It would take a great payroll tax to run the government bureaus for socialized medicine. Papers during the week carried stories about expanded social security, which will carry additional payroll taxes. Income taxes withheld are taking a big slice of wages. Add them all up, along with other proposed taxes, and we find that we are gradually but surely surrendering our pay checks to government, which would ultimately end in nationalization, socialism, communism or what have you? And just as surely as we surrender our pay checks we surrender our individual liberty. When you lose the right to spend the money you earn you are going a long way toward having your individual life controlled by government, which is what Russia wants because then we would be in Russia's class without having been conquered by arms.

to 1931 in the midst of the depression. The bottom had fallen out of things for him in every way. His business had collapsed, and he had a critically ill child. One night he was called to a sales dinner in a small hotel. He was surprised to see in the dining room a motto hung on the wall. "Prayer Changes Things." The motto gripped him. Returning to his home town 25 miles away he thought about that motto and prayed like he had never prayed before. He gave his life and his business ways been a way of opportunity. It has | fully to his Lord. When he returned home he continued to pray. Thigs commenced to change. His child was restored to health. He staged a remarkable business "come-back." And now for his present letter: "Perhaps you remember my story concerning the little three word sign I saw in a hotel back in 1931. I made up my mind that if I ever had a desirable place to put up such a sign I would. Now, believe it or not, I have just finished a building of my own and it is paid for. In my office which faces the street, where every customer can see as he enters the door is in large red letters, 'Prayer Changes Things.' It has caused much comment. "I have a letter from a young man, a father, who had to take his boy to John Hopkins Hospital for a very serious lung operation. Some time before he had been in my office, saw the sign. Then he went to the hospital with his son. He wrote me that the sign on the office wall had helped him through those difficult days, that the boy survived the operation, and was making a good recovery. "If you had the time to read it, and I had the time to write it, I could write all day. Every eighth day of January I write a letter to myself in which I list my assets and liabilities. Your letter to me (I wrote him) came on January 8th, and I stapled it to the letter I had just written to, myself. "Last year when I had to clean house with my business, and fire my old plant manager, I thought I couldn't get along without him. Whiskey caused him to lose a job that paid him over \$5,000 a year. What would you say about a man who had a good job which jumped him from \$1,500 a year to over \$5,000 letting whiskey get him? Well, I thought I couldn't run my business without him, but the Lord sent me another good man, honest, and sober. Last year I had the smoothest operation I have ever had in my life." Then follows his financial statement, which is a good one. "Yes, 'Prayer Changes Things.' There is nothing like having God as my Senior Partner." He concludes with a paragraph telling about a new parsonage which has just been built for his church to which he made substantial contributions. Here is one man who firmly believes I that "Prayer Changes Things."



week for Newport News, Va.

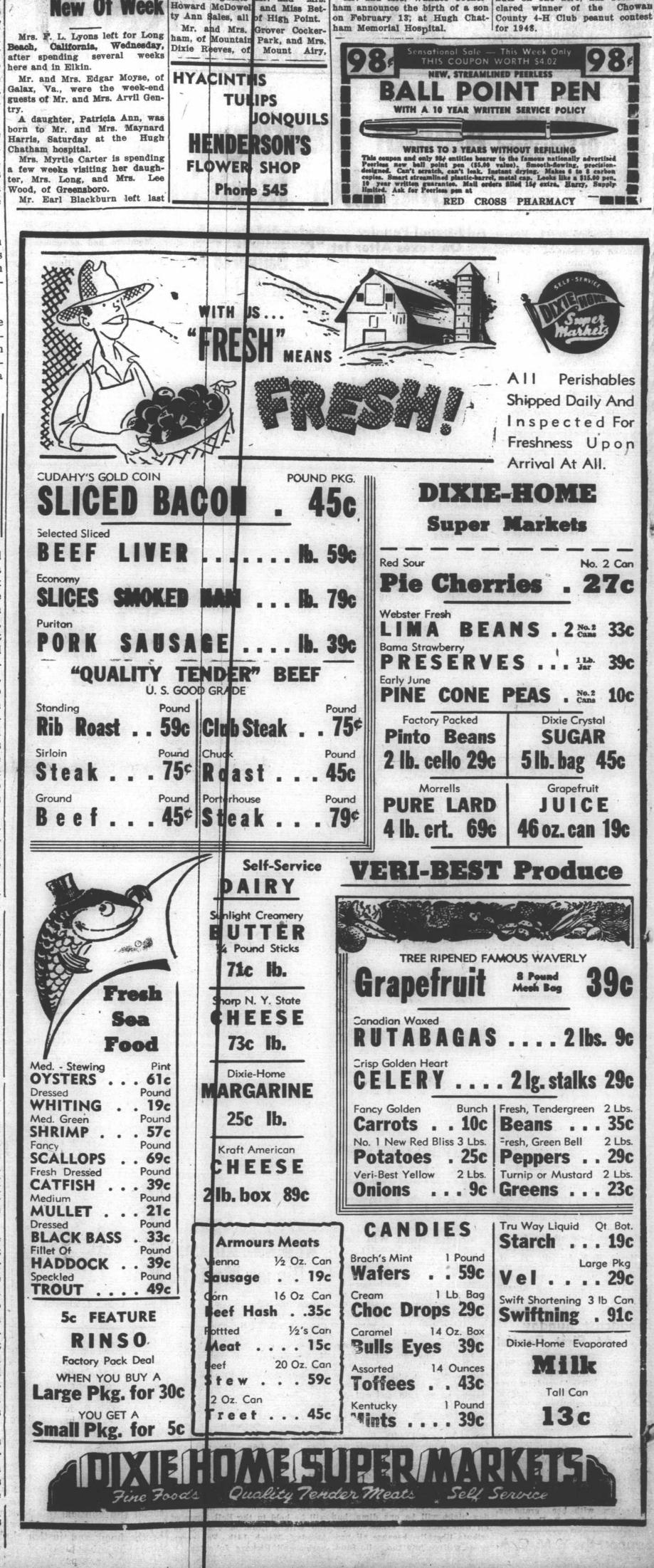
Mrs. L. B. Murray had

week-end guests Mr. and Mrs.

for

Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Moyse, of Galax, Va., were the week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Gen-

born to Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Harris, Saturday at the Hugh



As Col. Johnston said, those who say we can pursue a middle course have not learned the facts of life. We go one way or the other, and fast.