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WEDNESDAY, MAR. 28, 1945

SPECIAL WEEK

Most good housewives do not have to have a special week for their spring cleaning. Some are already laying to with broom, brush, pail and soap and others have that glint in their eye which suggests activity ahead. For that reason we were thinking that the setting aside of "Clean your clothes closet week" was a trifle superfluous.

On the other hand, if by setting aside this special week the collection of clothing for relief in Europe can be helped along even by just a few garments, we would say the observance is well worth while. Mrs. R. H. Rogers, our local chairman of this campaign, has asked all householders to search their closets during the week beginning April 8 for serviceable used clothing and bedding and to carry such as they find to the nearest depot.

We are told that newborn babies in Europe are wrapped in newspapers because their mothers have already been obliged to turn worn sheets and towels into garments for their older children. Very little new clothing has been available at any price since the war began and in some instances the enemy has robbed helpless families of warm garments and took the very blankets from their beds.

Imagine how a used garment found in your closet would be welcomed by these helpless people. They wouldn't care whether you found that garment during a special week or just found it. All they need is the garment.

However, if it takes a special observance, a mayor's proclamation and such, to remind our folks of the treasure going to waste in their clothes closets, treasure which is the more dear because it will relieve human suffering, then by all means let us join in during the week and find what our neighbors need. Of course, if some of us wish to get a head start on the celebration it is not too early to begin looking.

FEEDING THE STARVING

Congress has appropriated a half million dollars or more to investigate the reported food shortage in this country. It looks to be a waste of money unless the investigation is directed toward the reported spoilage of perishable foods, such as eggs, butter and other hoarded food supplies.

The United States should feel thankful that we haven't suffered acutely as a result of the war. No person has gone hungry. The rationing of food has simply inconvenienced us a bit but shouldn't we be willing to sacrifice for the sake of our fighting boys, our allied countries and even the starving civilians in enemy countries?

Twenty millions of people in the once occupied countries are homeless. It will take years to get families back together. Children, innocent women and old people who had no part in the making of this war, are suffering because they don't have enough to eat to keep even half nourished.

If we could only see with our own eyes the hunger in European countries, compare what they have to subsist on with our tables laden with food, no true American would begrudge sharing food with others. America, the food basket of the world, has an obligation to help. America will help and in the helping we will tighten our belts a link and never drain our food supplies to the point of real hunger at home.

Food to the hungered of Europe is a mighty force in winning this war. Food to the civilian population of Germany keeps millions from joining the Nazi group in last ditch fighting of our boys.

A hungry person is a dangerous person if he has sufficient strength left. So ammunition for the armed enemy and food for the hungry civilians make a mighty combination to bring about an early peace.

IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

At last it appears as if the cause of the Southern States in fighting discriminatory freight rates is to get a hearing where a hearing will do some good. Reference is to the decision of the United States Supreme court by a vote of 5-4 to consider the complaint of Georgia that 20 railroads have conspired against the state.

Even with this progress, victory, if it comes for the South, will not be an early development. The court is expected to appoint a master to take testimony and receive evidence. He would make a report and recommendation to the court. Such a procedure would mean that findings will still be long delayed.

Those who have watched this fight for fair rates for the south over a long period of years have already concluded, we assume, that Rome is not to be taken in a day. Movement seems to be in the right direction.

Cross Of Holy Week Carries Hope Across Centuries Of War And Peace

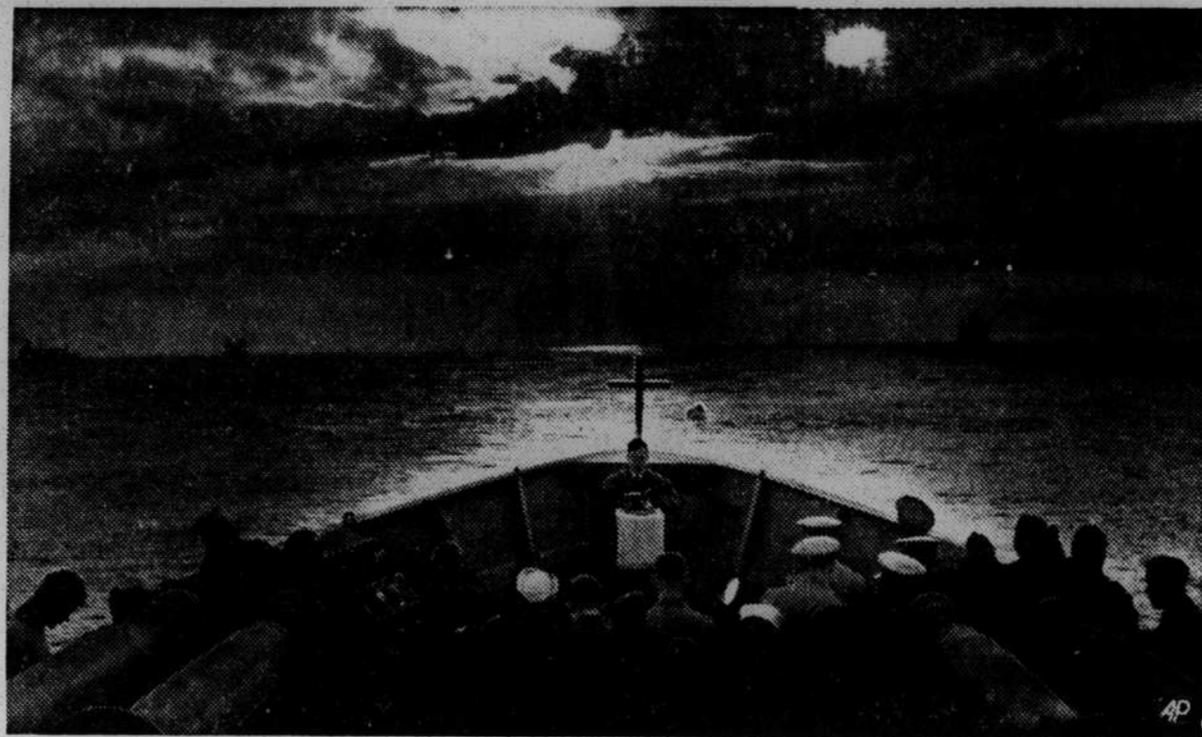
By ARLENE WOLF

AP Newsfeatures Writer

Easter for many centuries has been synonymous with the hope for spiritual rebirth and resurrection. Today, in World War II, the symbol of this hope—the Cross—is on every battlefield where men fight for the rebirth of freedom from tyranny.

On Easter, 1945, hundreds of chaplains, whose collars bear the emblem of the Cross, will set up crosses on makeshift frontline altars. But the Cross today is constantly with the men who fight for God and country, as it has been throughout history, under battle-grimed clothing; it is fingered on tiny prayer books our men carry with them, and on Easter cards sent by those back home. It is the symbol of the Free French, and the banner of DeGaulle. In flaming red, it is a sign the sick and wounded are being cared for. And wherever Englishmen in uniform go into battle, three versions of the Holy Cross form their banner, for the Union Jack bears the Crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick.

FROM EARLIEST DAYS
It has always been that way. From the earliest days of Christianity the sign of the Cross was used as a testament of good faith and a password. Those who made this sign were resisting oppression that might be compared with Nazi and Japanese tyranny today. Fighting men who set out to rescue their Holy Land in the Crusades carried the Cross as a standard. Pope Martin II, in 1095, asked "such as are going to fight for Christianity put the sign of the Cross upon his garments." The Cross of Lorraine was adopted by Godfrey of Lorraine, leader of one of the first Crusades. This Cross is still used today in a modern crusade for health on tuberculosis seals.



IN WORLD WAR II, wherever Allied fighting men go, the Cross goes with them. This religious service, under loaded guns, ready for battle, was caught by the camera as dawn broke upon the Cross in the bow of a Coast Guard combat cutter protecting a convoy.

When the first Crusade reached Jerusalem in 1099, the proceedings got out of hand, and there was a terrible massacre of the city's inhabitants. But the Cross stopped the bloody spectacle—when a procession of priests appeared with a piece of the True Cross raised on high.

The Cross also became a symbol of the spread of civilization. Pope Alexander II presented William the Conqueror with a Cross banner when he invaded England in 1066. The first flag set on American soil was the flag of Columbus, with a green Italian Cross that had been blessed at the waterside before the explorer set out. A Cross-bearer proceeded LaSalle up the Mississippi and made the symbol the first sign the Indians had of the white man. It was used in the wilderness by Joliet and Marquette, and raised above the tiled rooftops of California settlements by Spanish missionaries.

The Cross was used publicly as a symbol of Christianity under Constantine, whose conversion is attributed to his vision of the Cross in the sky with the words "in this conquer" on the eve of his victory in a battle in 312. By the 5th century, it was an almost universal sign of good. As Tertullian had explained some 300 years before: "At each journey and pro-

gress, at each coming in and going out, at the putting on of shoes, at the bath, at meals, at the kindling of lights, at bedtime, at sitting down, whatsoever occupation engages us, we mark the brow with the sign of the Cross."

During the Middle Ages, making the sign of the Cross identified the maker as a friend of those he approached. Early Christians used the sign of the Cross to exercise demons, and ward off evil spirits. Some branded their cattle with the sign of the Cross to ward off disease. Christians in early New England sometimes marked their houses with a Cross to keep out witches.

General MacArthur's reply was brief and to the point. It read: "No, repeat no."

Kirk then got in his plane, boiling mad, and came home.

Note—The War department for some time has been split into the pro-MacArthur and the anti-MacArthur schools. Many of the general's own contemporaries don't like him, feel that he has never given sufficient credit to men who bore the brunt of the Pacific fighting such as General Krueger, Eichelberger, Kenny, Arnold and others. They also resent the fact that the news dispatches from the Pacific must bear the headline "General MacArthur's Headquarters" and point out that in contrast Eisenhower requires no such date line and has given much credit to Generals Patton, Hodges, Simpson, Patch, and Devers, all of whom are well known to the public, whereas few know the names of the generals commanding MacArthur's armies.

The fact that General Kirk might have got in the headlines, some say, may have been the reason why MacArthur barred him from inspecting hospitals in Luzon.

Work is being pushed rapidly in the Philippines to ready those islands as our chief base for the big push on Japan and the Jap-held Chinese mainland. Enough Japs are left in the islands to be dangerous, but they are being eliminated with the toughest fighting on the southernmost island of Mindanao.

Manila harbor is now in full use, with dock installations at the city itself rapidly being put in shape. Shiploads of vital supplies are arriving at other island ports as well as at Manila.

LUDEMORF BRIDGE

Here is one story as to how American troops managed to capture the important Ludendorf bridge across the Rhine. A group of anti-Nazi students are reported to have been quietly organizing in the Rhine valley, and secretly joined Hitler's Elite Guard, the "Schutz Staffel" in 1942 where they have been boring from within ever since. It was this group that is reported to have tipped off the American command that the Remagen bridge would be intact.

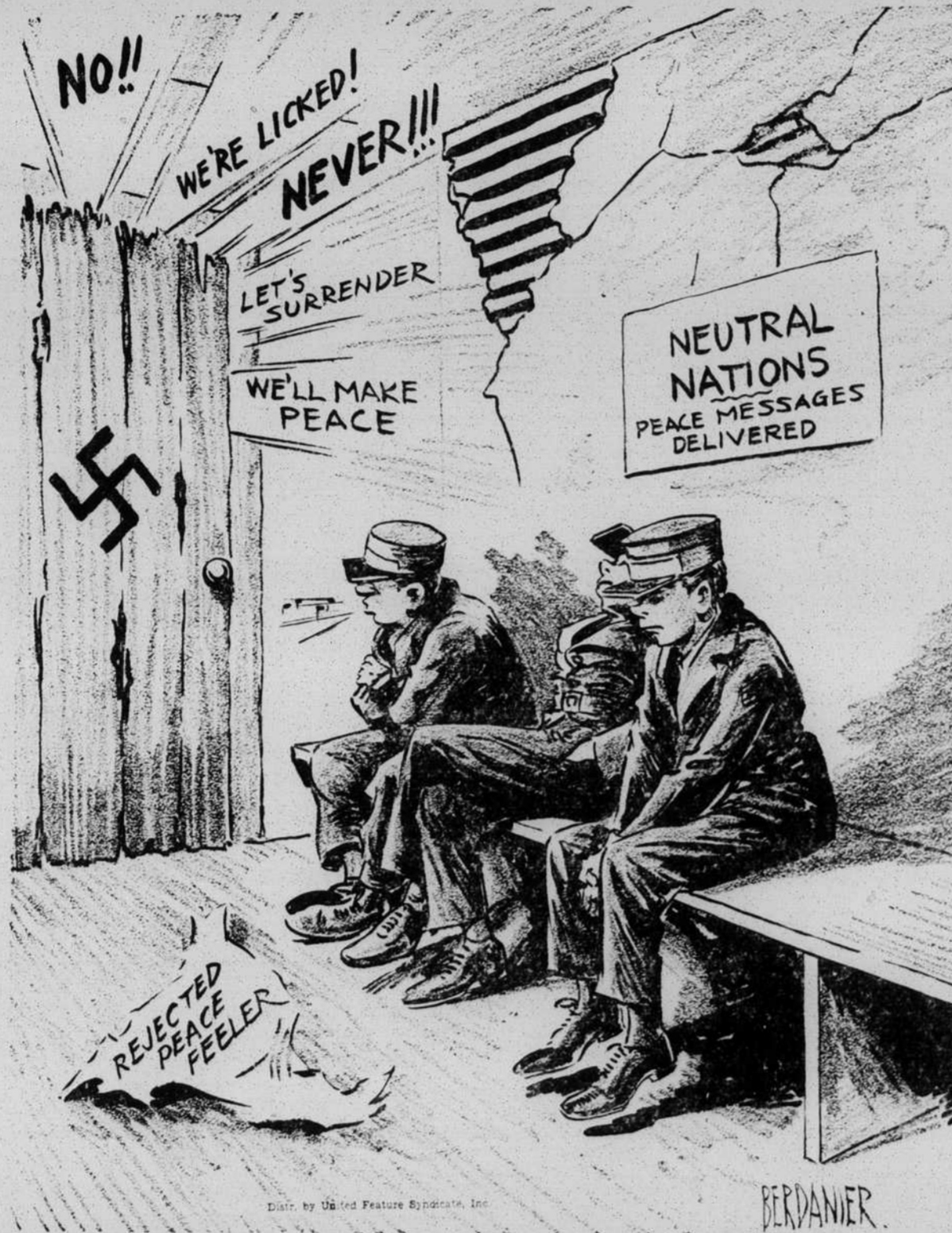
A Daily Prayer In War Time

FOR OUR ALLIES

Our prayers today, gracious Father, for all men, is for our dauntless Allies, who have long borne the grievous burden of war. Grant that their faith may fall not; and that they may have joy and hope in us. Hail the day of victory, that the bitter wrongs done them by the foe may be repaired, and that in the fellowship of peace we may together arrive at full felicity of life. Remember in Thy mercy the little nations which are suffering through such an ordeal of passing lengthen our arms in comradely helpfulness to them. Grant us the spirit of imagination and sympathy, that we may understand and share their sufferings. Bend our knees to constant, intercessory prayer. For our whole hope and help is in Thee, Loving Father of us all.—Amen.

Card games were introduced into Europe in the 14th century by fortune-telling Gypsies wandering from India.

THEY'LL GET NO TIPS



Merry-Go-Round

Marshall Won't Venture Guess As To V-E Day

By DREW PEARSON
(Lt. Col. Robert S. Allen now on Active Service with the Army)

WASHINGTON — In a highly secret session before the senate military affairs committee last Thursday, General George Marshall, army chief of staff, refused to guess when the end of the war with Germany will come. According to all logic, he said, the German resistance should be at an end now, but there is no sign that the army is collapsing. The Gestapo still retains its hold of terror on Germany.

Marshall pointed out that German gasoline stocks are practically dried up, and that the Nazis do not have enough fuel to move their supplies, let alone their armored vehicles and artillery. On the other hand, he said, their supply problem is far simpler than ours because they are fighting at home. Their repair and replacement job

for tanks and other vehicles is also comparatively simple. When Allied armor is knocked out, it means that it is lost if the damage is too much for the field repair bases, while a Nazi tank which has suffered far more serious damage can be taken right into a tank factory not so many miles from where it was hit. This is a tremendous advantage, he said.

The chief of staff also told the senators that it is a mistake to figure that the Japs will fold up quickly once Germany is out of the war. Although its losses have been heavy, Japan still has a formidable army and vast stores of supplies. He would not estimate the length of time needed to defeat the island empire. But insisting it would be extremely tough going.

Marshall said nothing during this session about his plan to take over as supreme commander in the Pacific once Germany falls, but members of the committee now take it for granted.

TWO BLUSHING WAVES

Washington scene: Two pretty waves loaded with bundles were dismayed to see a heavily bearded admiral approaching them as they hurried along Pennsylvania avenue in front of the treasury building. They saluted, while half a dozen bundles slipped down to

the sidewalk. Admiral William Leahy, the President's military and naval representative, smiled, picked up the packages, saluted and walked on.

EXPLANATION?
General MacArthur's army friends in Washington have a unique explanation for his refusal to let Maj. Gen. Norman Kirk, surgeon general of the army, visit Manila on his recent inspection tour. They say privately that no suitable housing was available for General Kirk. One MacArthur supporter, who is familiar with the Kirk incident, added, "when you are a five-star general you don't have to give an explanation for what you do."

Further details of General MacArthur's refusal to let General Kirk touch foot even on the island of Luzon in order to inspect army hospitals, there have now leaked out. Kirk, as head of the army medical corps, arrived in Leyte with a staff of medical experts ready to place them in strategic positions in Luzon fighting was heavy at that time.

As a courtesy to MacArthur, Kirk radioed him from Leyte island that he was coming. He received in reply a message saying that his presence was not needed. Scarcely believing his eyes, General Kirk gave MacArthur a chance to change his mind by



Behind The FRONT PAGE

By Holt McPherson
Managing Editor

WHEN KAY KYSER'S 84-YEAR-OLD MOTHER MET A PARTY of Shelbians in Charleston the other day she recalled to them that two of the happiest years of her life were spent in Shelby as a bride; when I heard it, I wrote the remarkable little woman who knocks all around the country with her famous son to ask her to set down some of those recollections because I knew they would be of tremendous interest to readers of this corner. Obliging, Mrs. Kyser drew upon a keenly retentive mind to give us this:

On one of my father's vacations, we went to the mountains. Mr. Webb (father of Judge James Webb) asked my father to spend the night with them in Shelby to break the trip which was a long one in those days, as we lived in Raleigh and were travelling in a vehicle then called a "Carryall".

I hardly know how to describe this vehicle. Not any special reason for describing it, but it was unique. It looked like a big carriage and was pulled by two big horses. It was late when we got there, and much later when we retired.

Mr. Webb said: "Brother Howell, we will now have family prayers." That would be funny now, wouldn't it? You know, sometimes now we might say: "How about a little drink?"

Well, we all got down on our knees and when my father was through with his prayer, they all got up, but I did not. I was fast asleep. My mother put her arms around me and said: "Poor little thing! She is worn out and I hope you will excuse her." I have never forgotten how embarrassed I was. I must have felt very bad for me to remember this, for that was many years ago. My little brother, who was with us, was Dr. Vernon Howell, Dean of Pharmacy, at Chapel Hill. I only mention this because it made a childhood impression which recalls my earliest remembrance of Shelby.

LATER I WENT TO SHELBY AS A BRIDE. I WAS MARRIED IN Selma North Carolina and one week later arrived in Shelby. Upon our arrival there we were told that the best place in which to live was a hotel owned and operated by Captain and Mrs. Clark who from the first time we met seemed to take quite an interest in us.

They seemed very sorry that they had no vacant room but they got in touch with another hotel that was then called the "Byburn House." We were very fortunate in getting there. I remember Mrs. Byburn's many kindnesses. It was in this hotel that my husband made the map of Shelby. Later we moved from there to the home of Captain Love. I had admired this home every time I passed it because I loved the flowers in boxes on the upper porch. I said: "I wish I could live there." Someone said: "Why Mrs. Kyser, that is the home of Captain Love who is one of the richest men here and he does not take boarders." I said "Well I am going over there and see if she (Mrs. Love) will not take us." "I will tell her my father is a Baptist preacher and she spends most of her spare time working for the Baptist church and she will take us. Then I thought, if this does not impress her I'd try another line of appeal. I'd tell her I was never married before and was never separated from my family and her home would afford me what I had been accustomed to; that my husband was going to map Cleveland county as soon as he finished with the town and, necessarily, he would have to be away a great deal of the time and I would be so lonely." So the Loves took us and we lived with them over a year.

WHEN WE ARRIVED IN SHELBY THERE WERE SEVEN OTHER brides and grooms there. One couple was Tom Dixon and his wife—the former Pinky Bussy, whose brother was pastor of the Baptist church and for whom was named Col. Bussy Lattimore, now commanding officer at Fort Sill, Okla. Tom Dixon afterwards became a famous playwright and author. One of the characters in his book, "The Leopard Spots" I think was his wife. She played the piano beautifully. She played for us most every night in the home of Mrs. Clark (where they lived) if she could persuade Tom not to go up to his room to drink buttermilk, which was one of his habits. Every Saturday night most of our crowd would go over to Cleveland Springs. At that time it was owned by a Mrs. Howell. I recall very distinctly one incident that happened there. When we arrived we gathered in a large assembly room. There was a man playing the piano and singing very dramatically (as if he were in the Metropolitan Opera House) "Aunt Jimma's Plaster, the more you pull it off, the more it sticks the faster."

I MUST MENTION MY VERY CLOSE FRIEND, MISS PATTIE Ramsey, who later married Mr. Burrell Blanton, who was president of the bank when we were there. Later, my son, Kay Kyser, who was graduated from the University of North Carolina, was a classmate and devoted friend of one of the Blanton boys. My son had the pleasure of visiting in his home in Shelby and knowing the old friends to whom I have referred. As I reminisce, I often remember the lovely taste of Miss Pattie. I distinctly recall a beautiful yellow bonnet which was most becoming to her style and charm. May I take your time to describe this bonnet? Its simplicity impressed me greatly. It was a yellow straw bonnet, with one yellow tiger lily and a yellow satin ribbon which tied under the chin.

HOWEVER, I WANT TO SAY THAT TWO OF THE HAPPIEST years of my life were spent in Shelby because there I found my kind of people—not only kind, but understanding. It was not my privilege while living there to know the Hoeyes and Gardners. However, I have closely followed the careers of both these distinguished statesmen, of whom North Carolina is justly proud. Kay knows ex-Governor Gardner very well and cherishes his friendship. I have had the pleasure of meeting ex-Governor and present Senator Clyde R. Hoey, who attended in Rocky Mount the premiere of my son, Kay Kyser's first picture, "That's Right You're Wrong." He extended the welcome and presented to Kay the keys to the city.

STATE COLLEGE OBJECTIVE TO RAISE LIVING STANDARDS—HARRELSON

RALEIGH, March 28.—(AP)—The principal objective of N. C. State College is "to raise the standard of living and the productive power of a great group of people," Col. J. W. Harrelson, chancellor of State college, said.

Col. Harrelson, speaking at the opening session of a school for farm and home agents of the College's Extension Service, said that North Carolina needs twice as many graduates of Technological colleges, like State college, than it has, and he listed as an "economic necessity" the doubling of the size of the physical plant at State college. That, he said, would enable the college to train larger numbers of young men and women in agriculture, engineering and textiles.

The per capita income in North Carolina is \$235 below the national average, Col. Harrelson said. Therefore, he added, the state in-

currs an annual loss of \$800,000,000 because it does not reach the national income average. The business of State college, he said, is to work for the economic development of the state, and ultimately North Carolina, through the services of State college in research and training, will attain the nation's income average, thus increasing the standard of living of the people and promoting the happiness of the population.

The practice of inhaling snuff became common in England during the 17th century.

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