

The Alleghany News

AND STAR-TIMES

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The News is glad to publish letters, not too long, on matters of general interest. But such communications must be accompanied by the real name of the writer, even when they are to be published under a nom de plume.

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"If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."—Thomas Jefferson.

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Rufus A. Doughton

One of North Carolina's most distinguished leaders, Rufus A. Doughton, has passed away and with his going every citizen of this State should pause to pay tribute to the man who did so much for its progress and development during the past half of a century. His deeds are so far reaching that their influence will extend on and on as long as time shall reach.

It has well been said that every school and college in this state and every mile of our magnificent highway system stand as a monument to R. A. Doughton. Going to the State Legislature in 1887, he began

a long and active career in public life in North Carolina, which continued until 1935. During this span of nearly fifty years, there was perhaps no man in this state who wielded greater influence and none to whom it befell the lot to continue in public service for such a long period of time.

On that first trip to Raleigh, "Governor" Doughton, as he became known to thousands after he served as Lieutenant Governor, traveled a part of the way on horseback. Later, he was to play the leading part in the expansion and building of North Carolina's highways.

R. A. Doughton was a tall man in that he towered above many. He was a sturdy oak, whose influence spread throughout his life, a much longer one than that of most men. Early in his public career he became deeply interested in the education of the common man and labored with the late Charles Duncan McIver and other leaders in the development of the State's public school system. He was always a friend of all educational institutions and many of them owe much to him.

He was a man of many talents; for his accomplishments and influence were not confined to public life. He was successful as a lawyer, a banker, and a farmer. He was truly a great man and with all of his success he remained simple, modest and sincere. His friends were among all walks of life; for he was a man who could walk with kings and never lose the common touch.

He was a shining example of our democratic way of life; for from a modest beginning he climbed to a broad sphere of influence. He is a definite and important part of North Carolina history and in the years that are to come he will long be remembered, this Spartan of the mountains of Alleghany, who forever put service above self.



FOOD Anderson
There won't be any baby pigs killed off during the administration of Clinton Anderson, our nation's new secretary of agriculture.

In his first public appearance since joining the President's cabinet, Mr. Anderson gave a crystal clear picture of his general policies, what he intends to do about food problems and what is the basis of his philosophy on food distribution.

And from where I was sitting, it seemed to me that he has the answers to many of our most perplexing food problems. At least he inspires unlimited confidence. This tall, young, good looking, self-assured westerner, who is a rancher and a small business man on the side, struck me as just the kind of a man who might find a lasting solution to the increasing difficulties of pleasing farmers, food distributors and the consumers.

Mr. Anderson boasts of being an "apostle of abundance." His philosophy is founded on the simple belief that the American farmer should be encouraged to produce all of the food he possibly can—that no matter how much we produce there will always be plenty of mouths to consume it all. How much we should do toward feeding the hungry people of other nations is, to him, a secondary consideration. His No. 1 interest is to remove all curbs on food production and give the farmer all the help he needs to produce more food than he has ever produced before. How many foreign mouths we will feed can be determined when the food is actually produced.

SUBSIDIES profits
Although Mr. Anderson wants to help the farmer, he doesn't hold much faith in the subsidy plan. He would like to get rid of subsidies but, at the same time, give the farmer some sort of a guarantee that the food he produces will be sold at a fair profit.

One plan which Mr. Anderson already has suggested for this war period is that the government determine its military food needs for 1946 and give the farmers of the nation a definite contract to purchase the food. He points out that industry has such arrangements—that if the war suddenly ended and production of planes was called off, the manufacturers would not take a loss because they are protected under the Contract Settlement act.

It is more important, in Mr. Anderson's opinion, to give the farmer these assurances than it is to give them to industry. It is also necessary, he believes, to assure farmers that their prices will be protected after the war so they will have no qualms about producing in the face of possible surpluses.

"A surplus," said Mr. Anderson, "must not be used to break the economy of the American farmer. It can much better be employed in relieving distress around the world."

WAR starvation
Mr. Anderson has no illusions about our farmers being able to feed the world. He says that even if we starved ourselves, and shipped all the food we produce to foreign countries, it still would not be enough. But he thinks we must help all we can in the in-

GRANDSON OF MRS. RECTOR GETS A DFC

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mission with distinction . . .
The awards were made for the period of service, December 12, 1944 to March 20, 1945, and from December 12, 1944 to February 9, 1945.

which men are not willing to fight, but I would love to think of one where it isn't necessary to ask that sacrifice."

In both World Wars, America has freely lived up to one of her widely known mottoes, "First in peace, and first in war." In both cases she quickly converted the world's largest supply of natural resources, and industry from a great peace time economy, to the world's greatest war machine when war had become imminent, and has seen them through to a successful conclusion. Now, all mankind is waiting eagerly for America to strike the final blow at the power-happy Japan, and return to a peaceful status, to take up once again the leadership of the world."

Global Destruction on Two Fronts



terests of lasting peace. On this subject he said:

"The events of the past few years have made it clear to even the dullest mind that whatever happens in any part of the world, however seemingly distant, happens finally to us. Undertaken children grow up with distorted minds, and when children with distorted minds grow big enough to carry guns they become a menace to the peace of the world. We don't need to look for other reasons."

Mr. Anderson, in his first public statement, touched on many different subjects, but he made it clear that his work will be guided by four simple principles: (1) to produce all the food we

possibly can; (2) to assure the farmer a fair profit so that he will be rewarded for increased production; (3) to worry about surpluses after we get them; (4) to help all we can in keeping the people of foreign countries from going hungry

Those are Mr. Anderson's aims, which probably have the approval of most farmers and most consumers. But he admits that, while he hopes for greater food production than we have ever known, we are still faced with the danger of shortages. Mr. Anderson, I believe, will do all that is physically possible to keep us well-fed, but he still must have the help of Providence and the weather man.

AUG. 31 LAST DAY FOR DAIRY FEED PAYMENTS

August 31 is last day on which applications for dairy feed payments will be accepted at the AAA office on April, May and June sales of milk and butterfat, C. G. Collins, chairman of the Alleghany AAA, announced this week.

Concentrates for livestock feeding in the next year will total about 153 million tons as compared with 162 million in the 1944-45 year.

Seed alfalfa, permanent pastures, and temporary grazing crops on September 1. Early

R. A. DOUGHTON WAS BURIED ON SUNDAY

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ists and he was defeated. "Governor" Doughton's service as chairman of the Highway Commission ended in 1931 when, after Governor Gardner proposed a complete reorganization of the State's policy in handling roads, he joined other members of the commission in stepping aside for the appointment of a new commission. Some members bitterly opposed the reorganization good-roads movement which came to fruition under the governorship of Cameron Morrison when North Carolina set the pace for the South and most of the country by embarking upon a \$50,000,000 paved-highway program.

As a member of the Legislature, he had introduced the bill to create the system and led the successful fight for its adoption. As State commissioner of revenue from 1923, when he was appointed to the post by Governor Morrison, until 1929, when Governor O. Max Gardner named him chairman of the State Highway Commission, he supervised the collection of millions of dollars of revenue.

In the chairmanship of the Highway Commission he followed the late A. S. Hanes of Winston-Salem, who served as acting chairman after the resignation of Frank Page early in 1929.

At the time of his death, "Governor" Doughton was president of Northwestern Bank, a member of the State Board of Charities and Public Welfare, a trustee of the University of North Carolina, and until July had been a director of the North Carolina Railroad.

He was one of the largest landowners in Alleghany county and was interested in breeding fine cattle. He was also a leader of the Democratic party in Alleghany, and maintained a keen interest in political affairs until his death.

Recently the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons presented him an emblem for 50 years' service as a Master Mason.

September, 1938, the "R. A. Doughton Memorial Bridge," between the North Carolina and Virginia lines, was dedicated.

A Democrat of the old school, Mr. Doughton went to the lower House of the State Legislature in 1887. His total of 13 terms in that body stands among the most conspicuous records of public service in North Carolina. He served in 1887, 1889, 1891, 1903, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1915, 1917, 1919, 1921, and 1923. The lapse from 1903 to 1907 was covered by his service as lieutenant governor.

He was speaker of the House in 1891.

In 1897, he was nominated by the Democratic party for the U. S. Senate, but that was the year the Democrats lost to the Fusion

private citizen.

This distinguished North Carolina citizen won the "Governor Rufe" cognomen during his term as lieutenant governor under Governor Carr, from 1893 to 1897. He served 13 terms in the State Legislature and was successively State commissioner of revenue and chairman of the State Highway Commission.

He played a leading role in the scheme, but "Governor Rufe" never publicly expressed himself either for or against it.

Although he devoted more than two score years to office holding, Mr. Doughton was largely interested in farming and stock raising. He also held important business connections, was active and successful in practice of law, and was an outstanding civic leader in his home community. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

After the creation of the State Highway Commission and before his appointment as chairman, he represented the Seventh District and was instrumental in having good roads brought to this previously isolated region of the State, sometimes referred to as "the lost province."

Mr. Doughton was born in Ashe (now Alleghany) County, January 10, 1856, the son of J. Horton and Rebecca Jones Doughton. He was educated in the primary schools of his native county, the Independence, Va., high school, and the University of North Carolina. After receiving his degree in law, he returned to Sparta and began practice in the Fall of 1882.

He has maintained his law office there since that time. His office was on the courthouse lawn.

Mr. Doughton was married on January 3, 1883, to Sue B. Parks, who survives him with one son, J. Kemp Doughton, of Baltimore; one daughter, Mrs. S. J. Thomas, of Sparta; two brothers, Congressman Doughton, of Laurel Springs and Washington, D. C., and Frank Doughton, of Laurel Springs; and three sisters, Mrs. T. J. Carson, of Sparta, Mrs. F. Miller, of Laurel Springs, and Mrs. Arthur Fenner of Washington, D. C.

COUNTY SCHOOLS WILL OPEN NEXT WEEK

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the opening until further notice, she pointed out.

"We hope to have the lunchrooms in operation by September 3, however," Miss Fields said.

Rich Hill school plans to operate a lunchroom this year, it was also announced. A special committee of interested patrons from that community expect to have necessary work done to make possible the opening at an early date.

ALLEGHANY SOLDIER WINNER OF CONTEST

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green fields of Scotland, the nice clean dairy farms of Denmark, the fine art schools of Germany, the large rolling plains of Russia, and interesting stories about the Cliffs of Dover in England; and so on until each one was distinguished with some good characteristic.

I can see now that they were given to us largely to stimulate interest in the study, while almost the same qualities, given in more detail, were taught in the schools of each individual country by its teachers, to generate a spirit of national pride. This, of course, is necessary and fitting, to some extent. Too often their few good qualities are magnified so much that it is impossible for them to make a true comparison with other countries to find that, usually, they have lots in common, and are much alike, basically. Their differences, as a rule, are only in language, plus a few little insignificant customs and traditions. It is interesting to note that those things, however small, are a living part of each nationality, and if threatened by other nations, they will quickly go to war in defense of them.

I find it rather amusing, but interesting, that you can't talk to any of these people long until they will be pointing out little objects to you. Maybe it is nothing more than a wagon, or a new type car, or a bicycle, and they will ask, "Do you have these in America?" To keep them happy, you always say "yes", or something similar to it. Deep down, your heart beats fast with pride, because you have answered the question in your own mind more like this, yes, we have those things in America, and much more. Our forefathers copied some of the better things from you, and brought them there over a hundred years ago. Yes, America was settled and made the first great free nation by your bravest men, who had courage to embark on a great Crusade in a search for something better. They had dreamed and hoped and even prayed for a country where they could freely worship God, and live, and think without undue influence from a small selfish group of leaders or rulers, who inherit power from one generation, so often without merit of leading qualities. America was made to those prayers.

Yes, America is really different; it is made up of a combination of Europe's best qualities, and the sons of her bravest men, and unlike these countries, we are not allergic to change, when necessary. We are a melting pot where all nationalities are submerged into a strong, happy, united upstanding people, and the nearest example of what President Warren G. Harding wished for when he said, "I would not want to live in a nation for

We Join With Our Brave Fighting Men in Thanking

God for

Victory Over Japan

The news of our glorious Victory over Japan awakens in all our hearts gratitude and humble thanks to God that He has upheld the arms of our fighting men and those of our allies. And as we give thanks, it is with full faith that He will continue to guide us in future endeavors.

Edwards Furniture Co.

SPARTA, N. C.