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"LOOK FORWARD AND NOT BACK"

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Mr. T. P. Byrum Writes About Trip to Panama Exposition.

Dear Friends:

This is addressed to you who are contemplating a trip across the continent, and a visit to the Panama-Pacific Exposition this year. For twelve months I have been pleasurably writing articles which have appeared in the Observer from month to month, giving a few impressions in my own way—impressions crudely handled and poorly pictured because of a deficient vocabulary—of some of the sections of western America which it has been my good fortune to traverse. One strong purpose moved me in the beginning to jot down these impressions and place them before you through the medium of your county newspaper, and that purpose was not mainly, although incidentally, to boost the attendance at the Exposition. I have done this because I wanted to add a few words of persuasion to those you have received through various sources from time to time, in the hope of inducing some among you to see and know your country. You have noticed that I have devoted neither time nor space to a description of either of the two expositions California holds this year, nor do I intend doing so in my few remaining articles; for anything I could say along this line would simply be borrowed language from the tons of free literature already written and scattered abroad. Briefly, our Fair may not be so dazzling as was the Great White City at Chicago, nor so large as the one at Saint Louis, but it will be different, and in view of the economic development which the forward strides of science and invention have ushered in within the last few decades it will undoubtedly be the most entertaining and instructive fair the world has seen. But I do not look on the great fair as an end in itself, but simply a means—an excuse, if you please, for bringing people this way and sending them back with a better knowledge of this great country of ours. You all know what the Exposition commemorates, and also the general purpose of all such celebrations; but underlying these primary reasons are strong secondary purposes which every section that has acted as host has had in mind. California wanted the fair because she wanted to introduce you to the scenic features, economic development, and future possibilities of this western half of our continent, and of course, naturally she expects the lion's share of the benefits accruing from such an introduction. Californians all pride themselves on their hospitality, and we are all going to try to entertain you in a way you will not forget. There will be no big graft on any hand, for the railroads have put on the cheapest rates ever known and the hotels of San Francisco have formed an association which guarantees uniform rates during the whole season. There will be scores of side trips in every direction at reduced prices; and it is the purpose of the people of the whole state to make you feel that you are among friends and not among western bandits. There are a number of routes, all of scenic interest to choose from,

and although all of you will plan your own way of coming, I think a few suggestions might be helpful. To start with, do not limit yourself too closely as to time and money invested, for just in proportion to the investment will your returns be. If it is your first trip this way and you feel that you will never come again there are certain scenic sections which you should not miss, for instance, the Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone Park (I do not mention Yosemite, for it is only a short side trip from San Francisco, and I know you will all take it in). One can go and return by different routes without extra expense, provided neither route is via the Portland gateway, which gateway includes the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Canadian Pacific Railroads. There is the Southern Pacific route via New Orleans, El Paso, and southern New Mexico and Arizona into Southern California, but aside from an agricultural standpoint this has no scenic interest, and is a very warm route in summer. Next is the Santa Fe, crossing southern Colorado into northern New Mexico and Arizona; this is a more scenic route than the one above mentioned and is the only gateway to the Grand Canyon. Next come the two central routes, the first of which is, without doubt, the finest in the United States. This line, starting from Denver, runs through the Royal Gorge and central Colorado into northern Utah to Salt Lake, thence across the lake and the wonderful salt beds of that region across the great deserts and basins of Nevada into the charming mountain region of northern California. The line of the Union Pacific paralleling this route a little farther north runs through southern Wyoming into Salt Lake and thence same route. The two remaining main lines within the United States, the Northern Pacific and Great Northern, run through the great prairies of Dakota into and through Montana and northern Idaho, through the beautiful forest clad and snow-capped heights of the Cascade mountains of Washington and Oregon. It is not necessary for me to say anything about the remaining line of the Canadian Pacific, for I have done that in a preceding article. The Canadian Pacific probably has the poorest service of any transcontinental line, but one can afford to sacrifice a little in comfort and service in order to enjoy the scenic grandeur of this region, which far surpasses anything seen on any of the routes within our own country. If I was asked to map out a route for the average individual on his first trip out I would do so as follows: From Chicago via the Burlington Route or The Rock Island Lines to Denver, then the D & R. G. to Salt Lake, thence Western Pacific to San Francisco. Return via the Coast Line of the Southern Pacific through Los Angeles and San Diego thence Santa Fe via (with a stopover) the Grand Canyon. This route would not include the Yellowstone Park nor the Canadian Rockies, but unless you had unlimited time and money you could not see everything in one trip, and to be honest with you, we don't want you to see every-

thing in one trip, for we want you all to come back again. Just a few more words. Don't forget that San Diego is also holding a celebration this year—an exposition entirely different from anything ever held before, and one of great beauty, although on a small scale. It is inconceivable that you should plan your trip without including San Diego and Southern California, for to really know California you must see and know Southern California. Stopovers will be allowed at any point, and of course you will stop over at Los Angeles, the metropolis of the southwest and the country's fastest growing city. If there is any assistance I can render any of you who contemplate coming do not hesitate to call on me. You should plan early and secure Pullman and hotel accommodations at least thirty days ahead. If you desire general or specific information of any kind I refer you to Sunset Magazine, Bureau of Information, San Francisco, or to any of the Passenger Departments of the Transcontinental lines I have mentioned. Now I am not in the employ of any bureau or company out here, and will have nothing whatever coming to me, aside from the genuine pleasure of meeting old friends and acquaintances, and of adding my infinitesimal portion to the sum total of welcome and entertainment which the people of this commonwealth are planning to give you. We are not going to ask you to stay; we will hardly have room for all who come. We know hundreds will stay; we know thousands will come again; but the great majority, including all of you to whom this is addressed, will go back with the thought in mind that the old home is, after all, the garden spot of the world—and that is as it should be. You will go back to the old scenes and old associations but you will not forget. You will have been stimulated physically and mentally, buoyant with a just pride in your common American heritage, and quickened by a deeper and more sympathetic understanding of your American brother, who is in another environment, laboring, just as you are, to produce from the resources of nature sustenance for himself and greater prosperity for those who follow him. Such a knowledge and intimacy as you will acquire are among the first requisites of good citizenship; essential to an intelligent exercise of your suffrage and influence in shaping future legislation along those broad, patriotic and far-seeing lines which will guarantee a fuller, richer life to the individual, and the building up of greater national unity and solidarity.

Cordially yours,
T. P. BYRUM.

Los Angeles, Calif.,
Feb. 23, 1915.

What Was It Then?

"I don't see why you call your place a bungalow," said Smith to his neighbor.
"Well, if it isn't a bungalow, what is it?" said the neighbor.
"The job was a bungle and I still owe for it."—The Ladies' Home Journal.

IMPORTANT!

I would suggest that you hand a copy of the enclosed circular, and also a copy of the letter, to every banker, supply merchant, newspaper, and any other interest in your town that can have any influence in preventing a large planting of tobacco this year.

T. M. CARRINGTON,

President,
Richmond, Va.,
Feb. 22, 1915.

Dear Sir:

Herewith please find enclosed a circular, which explains itself. This is put out after careful consideration, and I believe thoroughly shows that the farmer's interest is more involved than anyone else's.

The community in which tobacco is produced is involved, and this is sent out with the urgent request that it will be read by those who can reach the farmer and amplify upon what is tried to be shown, which is, in brief:

FIRST: That almost any land in our section can produce bright tobacco, and has done so to an extent of over-production.

SECOND: That the increase, to an amount beyond consumption, has come about in the cotton-raising section.

THIRD: That, on account of two large crops, the surplus now on hand is all that can be cared for, and any further over-production will bring about serious consequences, especially to the farmers.

FOURTH: That as the Old Belt can only raise tobacco, and as the cotton section is where the production has so largely increased, this section should, for its interest, curtail planting, as compared with the last two years, to a very considerable degree.

FIFTH: That the over-production this year decreased the value of the crop about one-third.

SIXTH: That a moderate crop, which can be properly cared for, for 1915, will bring much more money than a large crop which will mean over-production of an article of which there is now all of the surplus that can be properly cared for.

SEVENTH: That the high price of all foodstuffs, which is likely to continue for some time, should give farmers every incentive to make home supplies first, rather than spending all their energies and taking long chances in the over-production of tobacco.

Hoping that you will appreciate the objects in view, and will use your best efforts in furthering the purposes of this communication, we are,

Very truly yours,
T. M. CARRINGTON,
President and Chm. of Com.
R. P. WATSON, of Wilson, N.C.
A. B. CARRINGTON, of Danville, Va.
JNO. L. WINGO, of Richmond, Va.

Committee.

After careful consideration by the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of THE TOBACCO ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES, it was determined to issue the following statement regarding the situation of bright tobacco, with respect to the planting for 1915:

Land suitable for the produc-

tion of bright tobacco in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina is sufficient; it used, to make enough tobacco in one year for the demands for ten years.

Twenty five years ago the tobacco produced in Eastern North Carolina and South Carolina was a very small amount indeed. In 1914 these two sections produced over 150,000,000 pounds, against about 140,000,000 produced in the Old Belt section of Virginia and North Carolina, showing most distinctly how this new territory has increased.

Tobacco and cotton are the money crops of this part of the country. The Old Belt section is not adapted to cotton—and, therefore, it appears that the cotton section has made the increase in the production of bright tobacco that must produce serious consequences if continued.

Eastern North and South Carolina produced in:

1910—	75,000,000 pounds
1911—	49,000,000 "
1912—	92,000,000 "
1913—	118,000,000 "
1914—	150,000,000 "

Old Belt Virginia and North Carolina produced in:

1910—	100,000,000 pounds
1911—	148,000,000 "
1912—	148,000,000 "
1913—	200,000,000 "
1914—	156,000,000 "

It is thought that less than 250,000,000 pounds is annually used, and for the two years over 300,000,000 pounds have been produced, about 100,000,000 pounds more than is used.

The following will show how this over-production has reduced prices:

South Carolina in	
1913 averaged	\$13.77
1914	" 9.68
Eastern North Carolina in	
1913 averaged	\$18.56
1914	" 12.39
Old Belt North Carolina in	
1913 averaged	\$17.72
1914	" 11.49
Old Belt Virginia in	
1913 averaged	\$16.26
1914	" 9.83

While about the same quantity of tobacco was made both years, the 1914 crop only brought two-thirds as much as the 1913 crop, showing conclusively what over-production will bring about.

With many demands cut off by the European war, and with a surplus of over 50,000,000 pounds added from the 1914 crop, the situation absolutely demands that a decided decrease in the planting for 1915 shall take place.

The Old Belt cannot raise any money crop but tobacco; and therefore the crop should be curtailed in the cotton sections, where the increase has been so pronounced. A conservative planting in the Eastern North Carolina and South Carolina section will give the farmer an opportunity and an interest to raise full crops for home sustenance, and as the high price of every article of food is likely to continue, it does seem reasonable that every effort on the part of the farmer should be made to raise food crops. By so doing and making a decided cut in the acreage of tobacco, the prices of tobacco will be remunerative and will bring about a general condition of prosperity in the communities on which depends the success of the farmers for their welfare.

Finally, it is the firm opinion of those who have given the matter thought, that another large crop of tobacco (and a large crop can only be raised in Eastern North Carolina and South Carolina) will be a calamity upon every one connected with the trade, and especially upon the farmer who produces it, and the remedy lies only in a very considerable degree decreasing the planting this year.

HARNETT PRAISES JUDGE W. M. BOND.

(News & Observer.)

Littlington, N. C., Feb. 19.—After a heavy two-week term Harnett county superior court adjourned this morning having been presided over by Judge W. M. Bond, of Edenton.

This was Judge Bond's first term here, and the verdict is that he showed great ability in handling the cases which came before him, besides delighting all having business before him by the ease and dignity with which he dispatched matters and his uniform courtesy, kindness and impartiality to all.

At the close of the term of court this morning the bar met, the meeting was attended also by court officers, and visiting lawyers, and with a rising vote of thanks passed resolutions of high appreciation of Judge Bond's admirable services, commending him to the State as one of the best and most excellent judges on the bench, just and upright, with few equals and no superiors. There were a number of talks made by members of the bar, commending him in words of appreciation to the people, a number of citizens and officers of the court, expressing their appreciation of his services to the county at this term of court.

In speaking of him the Harnett Reporter says:

"THE BEST EVER."

You will have to give it to Judge W. M. Bond. He is one of the best ever. He caught the popular fancy in these parts as none other who has sat since the olden days, and this is true of layman, lawyers and the whole shooting match. Wherever he was, there was an admiring crowd foregathered which was hugely entertained. He brought in some bran new veins and billows of fun that will be told to the children and the children's children. Many a laugh will resound and many a company will be enlivened by some that he told. He left a permanent flavor, and if it could be submitted to the people to transfer the Judge from the First District to the Fourth for keeps, it would carry unanimously.

But more than a fun producer and laughter provoking artist, he is a jurist the peer of any that has sat on the bench in these parts poised, fair, learned in the law, and firm as a rock for his convictions, respectful to all without being over-indulgent, he fills the bill. From whatever angle viewed, there are no crimps in him that need removing. The whole lot hereabouts have put their O. K. on him. He is an embellish-

(Continued on last page.)