

THE DANBURY REPORTER

Published Weekly at Danbury, N. C., by Pepper Bros.

Wednesday, March 22, 1933.

Pellagra On The Decline

The physicians declare that poor and insufficient food, and improperly balanced diet, bring on pellagra.

One would very naturally suppose, therefore, that in times of widespread depression and unemployment like these, when hundreds and thousands of people are undernourished and poorly fed, that the pellagra germ would alarmingly thrive, and that the death rate from this dreaded disease would increase.

But the facts and the record don't somehow bear out the theory.

In the last issue of that very interesting publication, the North Carolina Health Bulletin, a tabulated statement is published showing the pellagra situation in North Carolina by counties. Instead of an increase of the disease, the figures show a distinct fall off in deaths from pellagra for the last few years, especially 1932.

In 1929, there were 953 fatalities in the counties from pellagra; in 1930, 1051 deaths; in 1931, 696; in 1932, 465.

If the theory of our learned and esteemed friends, the doctors, is correct, we are unable to understand the palpable discrepancy, unless upon this hypothesis: That since the Red Cross and other charitable agencies, with their activities largely augmented by the federal assistance of the R. F. C., have been operating almost entirely among the class who are supposed to be predisposed to pellagra, a more sensible, scientific or better balanced ration has been found available, which is overcoming the disorder to a very appreciable degree.

Referring again to the Health Bulletin's table, we note that pellagra is faring but middling in Stokes, where only one death from the disease is recorded for 1932, one in 1931, five in 1930, 2 in 1929.

In Guilford for 1932 there were 20 deaths from pellagra; in Mecklenburg, 33; in Wake, 23; in Wayne, 59.

Missing The Banks.

The bank is to the business community what the heart is to the human system.

When you stop the north valves from functioning, you are mighty near ready to send for the undertaker. When the bank closes its doors, the life blood of business ceases to circulate, and trade takes on a pale and sickly look. Bargaining begins to limp, and traffic is so impeded that it can not get its breath.

The public for more than two weeks now, since the bank holiday was proclaimed, has experienced the tantalizing inconvenience of doing without banking facilities. You can't get change, and merchants carry in their pockets checks with frayed edges, while frequently there is a small loss because you had rather lose four cents than to miss making a dollar deal.

But most everybody is taking the inconvenience good naturedly, and with a feeling that out of the confusion and the uncertainty will emerge a better financial system and situation.

Nobody except the nervous fellows that work within the grilled cages know what the bankers have stood during the last few years, when the country has been slowly but progressively going to the devil, and they couldn't help it, and could not afford to talk about it. A bank's greatest asset is confidence, and the money-changers have had to sit mute and smiling, while they have watched with sinking hearts the undermining of faith.

Especially in the country, where the country banker's clientele consists almost wholly of farmers, and whose securities have been farm lands or farm properties, the banker has noted the steady decline in the price of commodities, the disintegration of agriculture, and the bankruptcy of homesteads where his values lay. He has seen his securities dwindle and yet he couldn't desert the ship, but fought on and with a smile and a hope for better days ahead.

Deposits Are Now Guaranteed.

Some people believe that gold is a superior kind of currency, and when they get hold of a piece of yellow metal, they stick it away in a tin can, a fruit jar or some other homely kind of receptacle, and it passes out of circulation.

Only the ignorant believe that gold is worth more than any other kind of money. It is not. A gold dollar will not buy any more merchandise or commodities than the paper dollar, and will not pay any more indebtedness than the federal reserve note or the silver certificate—except in foreign markets that are under the gold standard. But our people have no dealings with foreign markets. We trade only with ourselves, and one kind of U. S. currency, whether gold, silver or paper is good as another in the United States.

Since the bank holiday was instituted March 4, the government has been strictly after the hoarders, especially the hoarders of gold and gold certificates, and now it means \$10,000 fine or imprisonment, or both, to hoard. So if you have on hand any silver, gold or currency that you do not need, you had better put it in a bank.

Very naturally you ask, can I not do as I please with my own money, and what if the bank breaks, and I lose?

You could do as you pleased with your own money prior to March 4, but not so now. Why? Because, the law says you cannot, and tells you why you cannot. Congress has passed a law against hoarding, with teeth.

The theory of your government is that your money does not really belong to you at all. It is only loaned to you. It is a circulating medium vouchsafed to you, for the purpose of trading and business.

The public's interest, which is superior to the individual's interest, demands that the free circulation of currency shall not be impeded.

When the President of the United States issued the order to close every bank in the United States, thousands of people had become panic-stricken and were drawing their money out of the banks and thereby paralyzing industry and business. Already many states had ordered their banks closed to protect the country against further runs, and to protect those depositors who were standing by the banks.

We do not see why any person should now be afraid to deposit with a bank that has opened for unrestricted business. Before such institution could open its doors for deposits it was examined by the government, and the officers of the bank were furnished with the "Go-ahead" certificate signed by the Governor of the State and the Commissioner of Banks, both of whom are authorized to issue such certificate by the Secretary of the U. S. treasury.

This constitutes a GUARANTEE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA THAT YOUR MONEY WILL BE SAFE.

Acting upon this assurance the people everywhere are pouring their money into the banks—gold, silver and currency—at a rate not witnessed since the gold tide of 1918-1919.

If our people of Stokes county have money in hoarding, we would advise them that they are justified now in entrusting their savings to the bank, and in so doing they will be serving their country patriotically and well, helping to lift the depression and avoiding the dangerous risk that attends those who keep valuables in their homes.

Ave, Asphodel

Announced by peals of zig-zag lightning, and ushered in by a cold thunder shower. Monday night about half past nine, it is reported Spring duly arrived.

Although the fair visitor has not yet been seen, we are assured by the Almanac that she is in the vicinity.

Whereupon, everybody is happy with anticipations of sunshine and roses again, if we can't have anything else. All hands are certainly tired of things that are the opposite of the sweet freshness and welcome and innocence of spring.

Let the jay-bird fly high and sing his madrigal.

The element of surprise is essential to successful humor. Don't begin: "I was right well tickled the other day." Then your hearers expect something real funny. Unless you are able to pull off a sure enough good one it will fall flat.

Why The Treasury Is Calling In The Gold.

Under the United States currency laws, before new money can be issued, it must be backed up by gold or its equivalent. Otherwise, we would be debasing the currency, which would become cheap, like the paper money issued by Germany during and after the war.

For every dollar in gold in the treasury vaults, two and one-half dollars in paper money may be issued.

Since the bank holiday, more than 300 millions in gold that had been hoarded, has been returned to the banks. This huge fund may therefore form the basis for the issuance of 800 millions of new treasury notes.

This is why the government urges you to deposit your gold in your bank, which will turn it over to the Federal Reserve banks.

The United States has more than four billions of gold in its treasury. France, the second largest gold owner in the world, has more than three billions.

THE PRESIDENT'S RAPID-FIRE WORK

HOPES TO HAVE THE "NEW DEAL" FUNCTIONING IN HIGH GEAR BY THE SUMMER—THE REMARKABLE RECORD OF TWO WEEKS.

Washington, March 18—President Roosevelt tonight after two weeks of rapid-fire action and long hours of work, had high hopes of seeing the major features of his "new deal" in operation by early summer.

Cheered by the almost unanimous congressional approval of his program and the favorable nationwide reaction, Mr. Roosevelt went forward in the determination that there shall be no letup in activities until every proposal is an accomplished fact.

Already he has won from Congress wartime powers to help him carry his pledges looking to economic recovery. In addition, spurred by word from "back home" to support the President, Congress has passed or is in process of passing the following:

1. Emergency legislation to clarify banking situation.
2. Granting the President authority to reduce veterans' annuities and federal pay rolls, thereby effecting a saving of \$100,000,000.
3. Modification of National debt to permit sale of loan.

Mr. Roosevelt worked 16 to 18 hours daily in the legislative whirl, around his recommendations into law. He held conference after conference with cabinet members, leaders of both parties on Capitol Hill, and when he found it impossible to have them at his desk in the White House he used the telephone to explain his desires and to impress upon them the necessity of moving swiftly.

With his emergency three-point program almost out of the way the President swung immediately into the task of presenting to House and Senate a comprehensive five-point schedule, calling for the following:

1. Unemployment relief.
2. Railroad rehabilitation.
3. Further banking legislation.
4. Curbing of speculation.
5. General legislative matters probably including power.

As to agriculture, Mr. Roosevelt now is waiting for Congress to act on a bill providing for farm relief in time for the spring planting. That measure was evolved after conferences with agricultural leaders and represents what friends believe to be an achievement of first magnitude.

No mean job was represented, it was pointed out, in reconciling, in the midst of the bank crisis, the

opinions of these farm leaders to the terms of the bill.

From what congressional chiefs have told the President, he appeared confident that there would be no serious hitch to his general program. Sources close to the White House declared he was confident that May 1 the legislative state would be wiped clean of pending matters.

The President planned to catch up on sleep over the week-end and put the last touches to the unemployment program which he will submit either Monday or Tuesday in a message to Congress. Railroad rehabilitation would then follow.

During the day Mr. Roosevelt saw a delegation headed by Governor Ritchie of Maryland, on a "Purely local matter" that had to do, it was reported, with banking. Then he conferred with Senator Nye of North Dakota, and Senator Gore of Oklahoma.

Nye asked that consideration be given farm and small home refinancing. Gore requested that study be given his proposed constitutional amendment for a unified banking system.

In Memoriam

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MRS. B. E. MARTIN WHO PASSED AWAY OCTOBER 10, 1932.

"We miss you, dear mother, more than language can tell. But we know you are in Heaven evermore to dwell. All is dark in our home, lonely are our hearts today. For the one we loved so dearly has forever passed away."

We miss you sadly, now, dear mother, we miss you from your place. A shadow on our life is cast, we miss your smiling face.

Those dear hands that toiled for us are folded; your warm heart is still; A place is vacant in our home that can never be filled.

Good-bye, dear mother, from friends and loved ones you have gone, To gather with the angels around that happy throne.

Farewell to you dear, dear mother; that is awfully hard to say;

But we hope to meet you some day in that home far away.

You are gone but not forgotten nor will you ever be.

As long as life and memory last—we will always think of thee."

HER SON.

Rufus Throckmorton of Walnut Cove was in town Tuesday.