

# For People Who Think **Everything** For People Who Think

BY AL FAIRBROTHER      SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 A YEAR, SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS      SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 1917.      ON SALE AT THE NEWS STANDS AND ON TRAINS      ESTABLISHED MAY, 1902.

## NO HARD TIMES ANTICIPATED

Mr. T. R. Brown, of the Brown-Belk Company of this city, sends us the following editorial from the New York American, which is just to the point. It presents the case as all should see it. It reads:

This country is not bankrupt and is not going to be bankrupt, but it can be seriously injured by officials and others who join in the chorus, "Save your pennies, don't spend a cent; hoard your money." Such advice could mean hard times and had times, depression, business stagnation, real national misfortune. The total income of the United States amounts to fifty thousand million dollars a year. The prosperity of the United States depends on keeping money in circulation and keeping business going. A nation with an income of fifty billions yearly cannot be bankrupt or seriously injured by spending seven billions. All that is needed is that money raised by public taxation should be raised justly and spent wisely. Let the business, the normal buying and selling of the country, go on, and there will be no real trouble, financial or otherwise, in the United States. Those that say "Save everything, don't buy, be frightened and stingy," are dangerous enemies of public welfare and prosperity. Hard times and panics are caused by a sudden violent cessation of buying.

If the citizen does not buy from the merchant, the merchant cannot buy from the manufacturer, the manufacturer must discharge his employees, and you will have the very hard times, depression, fear and stagnation that the country should most carefully avoid. To stop the circulation of money in the community, to discourage buying and selling, is like stopping the circulation of blood in the human body. The good citizen, while doing his duty and working faithfully, will continue his life as usual, buying, encouraging his fellow citizens in business, going to the shops, the theaters, giving to his family the things to which they are accustomed, helping to carry the country along in the normal, prosperous channel. The life of a nation is a running stream. It must not be stopped, frozen by fear or dammed up suddenly by those that preach false and harmful economy.

All of which is true. The talk about economy has been greatly misunderstood. Where we should and must economize is not in spending money for things actually needed and consumed, but in squandering raw material wantonly. For instance, every family, or most every family, destroys enough food to feed at least one person. Instead of taking so many spoonfuls or so many drops, as we would take medicine, we cook up a whole panful or a kettledish and put it on the table, and what is left is generally put in the swill pail to find its way to the hog pen or thrown into the garbage can to be taken to the incinerator. That is wanton and willful waste, it is destroying the food supply, diminishing our power. There is no economy in hiding your money in a trunk. What we want to do is to invest it, keep it moving, give it opportunity to do a chore here and a chore there; keep it ever busy. If a dollar lands with the Brown-Belk people today it will land somewhere else tomorrow. If it can move, a dollar will always do a full day's work. No matter what you do with it, just so you don't invest it in something that you are going to needlessly destroy. That is all there is of the problem, and the editorial sent us by Mr. Brown is well worth reading three or four times.

The underpass question will be discussed fully in a few days. The Industrial line has been surveyed and pretty soon we will know more about the depot proposition. The City Planner will get busy on this question and give us some valuable aid. The new depot is what is wanted, and wanted pretty soon.

**Guilford County All Right.**  
Guilford county registered about six thousand five hundred men on Tuesday. That showed up well. The town proper ran over two thousand, and the outlying districts made the actual city total large. Some of the North Carolina cities which have three times the area of Greensboro made better returns on paper, but the county averaged up with any county in the state. Mecklenburg went a little over seven thousand. This county in registering six thousand five hundred men gave the world to understand that there were few, if any, slackers. And what was best about it, there was no need of persuasion. Each man eligible was at the booths early and seventy and eighty men were in line waiting. Many busy men were found to wait hours, which showed that all were eager to do their duty and do it right now. Guilford county is all right.

July first the plans for the new court house will be ready, and then there will be a great many more men put to work.

## THE WOMAN IN AMERICA

The Wilmington Star, after taking a survey of the situation, concludes as follows:

This is the day of the American woman. Her national importance is recognized more keenly than ever and all over the country she is doing a marvelous part for the nation. Right here in Wilmington the women are doing nation work of vast importance. The government is giving woman her place as never before. Hardly a thing is done without woman's influence and ability are taken into consideration. The household is recognized by the government and many government bulletins are devoted exclusively to woman's part during this crisis. It would be of interest for all women to know fully just how the government is prepared to advise with them and to get their advice and assistance.

Aye it is true, true as Holy Writ. The women not only of America, but of the world, have proven themselves in the last three years most marvelous beings. They have taken the places of soldiers who went to the trenches; they have driven street cars; they have filled men's places in munition factories; they have cared for the dead and wounded; they have acted as nurses for the dying and been first to take away those who had fallen on the field of battle.

In America today the woman is in the front. Go to any city and you find that women have not waited, but they have perfected all sorts of organizations. They have been an inspiration in even getting men to plant more seed. They have organized different societies. They have given of their time and money, and, as Judge Boyd said yesterday in his address, the men would do well to imitate them. The government has called them and they responded without the threat of imprisonment being held over them. They know that they cannot bear arms and go to the trenches to fight, but they know that by organization they can be a mighty force to assist in the prosecution of the war, and without awaiting orders, but with an exhibition of sublime devotion to their country they organized on their own volition and have undertaken and are doing a woman's part.

In the old times it was said the slacker would hide behind his wife's petticoats. Were he to do that in these days he would perhaps have his block shot off. She is in the front. She is doing things, and to her we cannot give too much praise.

Now that registration is over, the June bride is being taken away. The married man will hardly be called on the first go round, so it is up to the girl to say yes p. d. q.

**Accepted.**  
And just now, except the individual who has heart failure when told that a small steak weighs out seventeen dollars and naturally exclaims in a loud tone of voice, "What's that?" we hear nothing about high prices.

The nation has accepted the outrageous prices as the inevitable, and not until the speculators run up the scale another hundred per cent. will the papers be full of the boycott talk.

It wasn't many fleeting weeks ago and women all over the country were holding meetings. They were talking about boycotting dealers. There were to be meatless days and eggless days, but, presto, and we hear no more about it.

True, the wheat speculators allowed flour to fall three or four dollars a barrel; the government has taken hold and says it doesn't propose to allow cold storage men to harbor the world's supply of eggs and edibles—and while prices are going no higher, they remain at about the same inexcusable figure. And we murmur not.

Our grocer informed us the other day that potatoes had gone up from nine cents to twelve and a half cents an ounce, or a pint or a quart—something, we forget which—and wanted to know why. We figured that as the supply came in we would get them cheaper, but it is the reverse. Even the old bunch of bananas which erstwhile came as ballast sells now at two-fifty as against one-fifty a bunch wholesale, and this, not because of any scarcity, but because a trust or combination controls the market.

Look where you will and the finger of combination is on the food products. Uncle Sam can, and speedily should, remedy this evil. If the market is free and is not controlled by speculators, foodstuffs would fall at least thirty-three and a third per cent. Let us hope that the lawmakers will give us relief.

The Liberty Bond campaign in Guilford county was a big success, and it isn't over yet. Guilford will go to a million dollars yet. The campaign does not close until June 15th. Buy a bond today if you haven't already done so, and buy another one if you have the price.

The Red Cross still wants new members. Do not think that because registration is over the war is ended. Join the Red Cross.

## RAISE SALARIES FOR TEACHERS

A serious condition confronts our city, and there seems to be no way to get things right. That our school teachers are not paid enough to live on has been proven and, while they are loyal and want to remain, it is understood that a majority of them will refuse to continue at present salaries.

And if those already here cannot live on what is offered, it goes without saying that it will be hard to find competent instructors to take the places of those who go. It looks like Greensboro should make a move and do something to increase its school fund. The law now takes all the fines which the city imposes on offenders and put them in the county fund. As an illustration, the other day a man gave a cash bond for his appearance in court. He was caught with several quarts of whiskey. Knowing the roads would be his post office address for six months, he didn't come to court, forfeited his hundred dollars in cash and left for parts unknown. That hundred dollars didn't go to the city school fund; it went to the county school fund. The city employed and paid for the officer who captured the prisoner; it paid for the court which would have convicted him; did all and was protecting itself, and the county, under the law, reaches in and takes the money. There have been thousands of dollars which the city should have had to pay its teachers gone to the county, and this law should be changed, but it is a part of the constitution, as we understand it, and as the lawyers and politicians have tried so many times to put things over by pretending to change the constitution, constitutional amendments are in bad favor.

But no matter about that point. What this city should do and do at once is to vote more taxes. A special school fund should be the cry. The teacher should be paid a living wage. It is not unreasonable to say that a living wage should be paid all people who work, and surely a school teacher cannot live on thirty-seven dollars a month. True, for the time actually given they get more than this, but to be a teacher means no side lines—it means the whole year. The three months' idleness is generally spent in preparation, and one must live just the same. It is an outrage that teachers are paid so little—their task is one of the utmost importance. Let our citizens see if something cannot be done. The City Commissioners have no authority to pay more than the revenues of the city justify, and already the school fund is low.

**Hammel.**  
The Advisory Board has not yet made any report to the City Commissioners, and will not, as we understand it, until the people have been heard. The Advisory Board wants to hear from the people concerning a superintendent of the public schools. The Record also wants to be heard, and it desires to say that it has found, from its investigation, that Professor W. C. Hammel, the present superintendent, is making good, has shown himself possessed of wonderful executive ability, and has proven by his works that he understands what he should do as superintendent, and has the ability and willingness to do it.

When Hammel was first chosen we doubted very much if he was the man for the place. We had known him as a busy man and a useful man in the community, a man who was always willing to do his bit when called upon, whether to aid the boys in making trinkets from wood or in running the lantern for the picture if a public entertainment was on. We wondered if a mistake had not been made, and when he was elected to succeed Dr. Mann we refrained from any comment that might imply the Commissioners had done a wise thing.

But it is as true today as it was of old, "By their works ye shall know them," and Hammel has unquestionably made good. He has shown by his recent exhibition of the school survey of this city, which he made in order to enlighten the Commissioners that he is on his job, that he thoroughly understands every detail of it, and, while it is none of our business, except as a taxpayer, we would be glad to see Hammel re-elected. The Advisory Board is to settle the matter, as we understand it, and inasmuch as it has agreed to let people be heard we thus make bold to say that if it recommends Hammel it cannot go wrong.

**A Worthy Cause.**  
The City Commissioners yesterday voted the District Nurse an additional \$25 a month to be used exclusively in tubercular work. The Committee waiting on the Commissioners showed why we needed money to help the unfortunate, and as much as the contemplated building of a county sanatorium has been postponed the Commissioners wisely concluded, until that building became possible, it was up to Greensboro to do its bit. While the sum appropriated is very small to fight such a formidable foe to society, it will materially help, and the regret is that it could not be made larger.

## SEC. BAKER AT CHAPEL HILL

Secretary of War Baker has been at Chapel Hill and Durham and made a talk to crowded houses. He told our people that the whole country was together; that there were no divisions, and he was glad to know that the ten million men responded so cheerfully. Judging by the reports of the crowds going to hear the Secretary of War it is apparent that North Carolina has at last got the thrill, and when she does her bit it will be as much as any other section.

It took a little time. As Judge Boyd remarked from the bench in talking to the grand jury, the seat of war is a great distance and it takes longer to get people interested, but they will be interested. He said when McKinley made his call for soldiers to go to Cuba the recruiting offices could not take care of the men. The reason was the enemy was right at hand—the slogan "Remember the Maine" filled every soul with a desire to punish those who had made war upon our flag. And so it is going to be in the present conflict. One of these days and the Germans will do something closer at home than they have so far done, and then the blood of the whole nation will leap high, and America will be hard to hold.

**Money Is Plentiful.**  
You can't understand why it is, but people are not worrying about money matters. More automobiles were sold last month than ever before in the same length of time, and the banking interests all report plenty of money. Merchants are not complaining and the farmer, who at first concluded he would hoard his savings, has concluded that when we get to spending the seven billion dollars maybe there will be enough to go around.

There is no doubt about good times. The war will make money more plentiful than we have seen it in a long time. When you go to circulate seven billion dollars, use it in war preparation, that money circulates freely and quickly, and when money circulates every man who performs any task gets his share. There is no reason to think that times will not be good for years to come. There may be a lean year when the readjustment comes, but that isn't coming for some time. The man who puts his money in the ground or in a trunk is simply foolish. He is a last year's bird nest with the bottom out.

**Now Let Us Get Busy.**  
The registration days are over, the month of June is rapidly going out and the glorious Fourth of July is about here. Guilford county should have a rousing big celebration on the Battle Ground. Mr. Paul Schenck advises us that there is still some red tape concerning the transfer, and perhaps it may be too late to celebrate the taking over of the grounds by the government. But be that as it may, this year of all years the Fourth of July should be observed in America. It is a patriotic day—the day we celebrate our Independence, and as we are now in another war for the same cause there should be a hundred million people take that day off to show the world that we are still here.

**Right Now.**  
Already the early cantaloupe is in the market. Pretty soon the home-grown one will be here. We spent all last summer and nine hundred dollars trying to find just one cantaloupe that tasted it, but we failed. We are going to try again this summer. We want to get hold of just one old-fashioned cantaloupe that tastes like cantaloupes tasted when we were a boy. Long time ago? Yes. But we remember. These new-fangled cantaloupes taste like they were made of cotton; in fact, they are tasteless, or were last season. Once in a while, though, there is one that makes you dream of angels, and as we are all gamblers that one is what we are going after.

**The Tornadoes.**  
Almost every day the middle west sends us the report of a death-dealing tornado. We have been peculiarly lucky in these pine woods so far. Just why there should be in one season so many wind storms in a certain section is hard to understand. And the Professor who looks at clouds and tells us all about the elements is himself up in the air. He has been guessing for thirty years, but his theories always fall. The middle West has always been the home of the cyclone. True, the South and other sections have been visited, but never with such serious and disastrous results as experienced in the West. The middle West is the home of the cyclone cellar. It is there that death is dealt and houses blown away. It would be interesting to know the cause of these ring-tailed twisters which appear without warning and deal destruction in their path.

Kaiser Bill should understand that this first ten million is only a drop in the bucket. We can get up another ten million and not exceed the speed limit in doing it.

## ALL REGISTERED NOT ELIGIBLE

It is estimated that at least fifty per cent. of those who registered will not be eligible for war service. This includes the thousands of men holding government positions, married men and cripples and those not physically able to pass examination. However, if we get down to brass tacks, if the war lasts three years, as is predicted, married men and men over thirty years of age will be pressed into the service. In fact, the age limit as passed first by the House, forty years, is about right, and there will be at least a couple of million eligible under that plan. The United States can furnish, it is estimated, if necessary at least twenty million men. In these days, when we talk of the big things in big figures, to speak of a million men doesn't sound very loud, but if one million Americans were drawn up in battle array it does seem that it would make a most formidable army. Five million men—why, bless you, it takes an army of five million a long time to pass in review, even four abreast. Think of the procession five million men would make. And yet we talk about five or ten million like our grandfathers used to talk about five or ten thousand.

**Not Satisfied.**  
The board of aldermen of Durham concluded to employ a city manager. The Herald sees no reason for this. It says to pay a man three hundred dollars a month with authority only to boss the streets is bad business. It seems that under the Durham way of doing business the Manager has no absolute authority. He must simply do what a full board of aldermen instruct, and those opposed to this last addition insist that a hundred dollar man would fill the position fully as well.

The City Manager idea is to take the initiative in all things—to be the manager. In a Virginia town last week a city manager discharged the chief of the fire department. He simply shot him down the chute without consulting any of his aldermen. The chief called for reasons for his dismissal, whereupon the City Manager explained in detail why he had fired him; showed that he hadn't examined the fire plugs for a year; that he played cards in the fire room when he had other things to do; that he was incompetent, and a whole lot of other things.

The aldermen, who are supposed to have nothing to do with the Manager except to see that he makes good, didn't know what to do. To attempt to reinstate the chief meant going over the head of the manager, and the manager explained that if he was going to manage he would manage; if not, his place was vacant. Then the aldermen concluded that that was the way of it, and the deposed chief is out of a job. And that is a City Manager in letter and in spirit.

If the Durham way obtains there really is no city manager. Just a clerk or a hired man, to carry out the expressed orders of the aldermen. And for such a position it doesn't require a high-priced expert. However, Durham has always been mixed on its city's affairs, and perhaps always will be.

A third of June has gone, but the June brides haven't averaged up in numbers. There was a time when June brides were as plentiful as June bugs, but that was "before the war."

**Good Enough.**  
The revenue lawmakers remember that it is well to temper the wind to the shorn lamb, and have accordingly put a two-cent stamp tax on all checks over five dollars. That is what we wanted to see. There are some men who can write checks for more than five dollars, but they are not publishers of newspapers. This exception was made purposely to take care of the newspaper man who will be called upon to pay a tax for his existence, but he can write his check up to four ninety-nine and the revenue will never hit him. In the Hanko-Spanko war all checks carried the two-cent stamp, but to make an exception and let a man in free under five dollars was wisdom. It will give no one a chance to refuse to pay his subscription by saying he hasn't a stamp for his check.

**Hard Luck.**  
Just about the time we got ready to submit the Gaston street hitching lot to the City Planner he was called to New York and will be absent a week or ten days. But eventually that hitching lot must stand fire. It must be fully exhibited and in some way rushed out of the city's confines. In other words, it will be shown that it is a nuisance.

In these war times the campaign against the great white plague, foolishly called, is not as fierce as it once was. But the great white plague isn't stopping.

If the bone-dry law goes into effect the first of July, the blind tiger man should stop business and come in and register.

And chewing gum is to escape the revenue tax. Wonderful!