

MARION PROGRESS

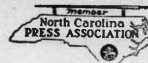
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MARION, N. C., MARCH 14, 1940

DESERVING OF SUPPORT

The successful accomplishment of acts of public service and the building of community spirit are the essential aims of any civic organization. Members of any club are bound together when they strive collectively to better a community and to make it a better place in which to live. For this reason, if for no other, the Marion Chamber of Commerce deserves the support of every member of this town in carrying its trade festival program through successfully.

We Americans idolize an individual or an organization that is trying to get in the "do something" class. Such an organization is the Marion Chamber of Commerce, an institution organized to serve this community, to make this a more desirable place in which to live, and to better relations between all people here and between residents of this town and visitors who are coming here in ever increasing numbers. The Chamber of Commerce, however, cannot accomplish these aims without public support.

The trade festival program is designed to arouse interest in the possibilities of Marion as a trading center and to emphasize the advantages of trading at home. It will offer local merchants an opportunity that they have never before enjoyed and every citizen of this community will derive some benefit from it; for the welfare of each of us depends upon the condition of people with whom we do business. Consequently, the festival program deserves not only the support of the merchants but of every resident of Marion. And the Chamber of Commerce, which is sponsoring this program as an act of public service depends for its success upon the people of Marion. Support it.

WHAT'S AT STAKE IN EUROPE?

The war in Europe, despite propaganda and debate, represents a struggle between two contending ideals of government, with Great Britain and France representing the idea of Democratic self-government and Germany representing autocratic dictatorship.

There is more to the fight than a battle for possessions, although the Allies have much to lose if they are conquered and Germany considerable booty to gain if triumphant.

The world today includes a group of nations, of which Germany is the leader, ready to use force to gain any desired end. Japan belongs to the group and is as dangerous in the Far East as Germany is in Europe. Russia shows the same fangs and nobody yet knows whether Mussolini has recanted his worship of military force and his contempt for democratic processes.

Nobody knows how or where the engagement may spread but there is the possibility that other nations will be involved before the firing ceases. It may please the United States as a nation to pretend that she is not concerned with the outcome of the battle but the facts are against the pretense.

NO USE TO ARGUE

The arguments that will result from the political campaigns this year will be as varied as the imaginations of men.

You can find a group in one place quite sure that something will happen and, after moving a little space, you will find another group just as certain that it won't.

There is no way to settle the issue by senseless reiteration of your opinion. When the voters go to the polls and the ballots are counted the result will be certain and beyond argument.

In the meantime it might be a good idea for the average American citizen to attend to his own business and make some progress in his own behalf.

SMILES

A smile costs nothing, but creates much; it happens in a flash, and the memory of it lasts forever. It cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, nor stolen; but it is something that is no earthly good to anyone until it is given away. So, if in your hurry and rush you meet someone who is too weary to give you a smile, leave one of yours. For no one needs a smile quite as much as the one who has none left to give. —Plant Life.

WEEKLY MEDITATION

By Rev. Paul A. Boriack, B. D., Pastor St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Marion, N. C.

During the next week all true Christians will in spirit go to Calvary to see Jesus die. "As always with a dying man, we carry His last words in remembering hearts. The cross has been raised into the air, the Son of God suspended from it. Suddenly, like lightning, His first word strikes directly into the heart of all the sin and sorrow of man. His face is lifted under the crown of thorns, and a dying world sees a dying man point to the reason for death: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." (The Shadow of the Cross, 1940). This was not the first mistake Roman justice had made. Other innocent men had been crucified and had protested their innocence through lips swollen with agony but here was something new on a Roman cross. No cry of protest or of pain. Only a prayer that those who were doing this thing to Him might be forgiven. When men crucify their God they can expect to hear something different.

Nor had a voice like this been heard at Athens or Rome or Delphi. Other men had reached up into the Unknown; now God Himself was reaching into the Known.

His first word is His last prayer. It sweeps up to heaven burdened as no other prayer in the history of men. Hardened with sin. All the loneliness and hate and terror of the centuries before and after. A man's sin is after all limited by the time and space allotted to him. He is completely sin, but he has only seventy years and a few square miles to work out his sinfulness. By the cross, however, all sin is swept up and placed on a hill beyond Jerusalem. Here totals meet. All sin, total sin; and all forgiveness, total forgiveness. The sum of man's years and man's shame and the greater sum of God's forgiveness and God's love.

In 1940 this is our faith. A religion without forgiveness is only the ghost of religion which haunts the grave of dead faith and lost hope. No wisdom, no culture, no philosophy can give answer to the first need of man, the need of a hand so strong that it can break down the wall of separation between the two worlds in which he must live and the need of a heart so great that it can take all his sins into itself and still have room for forgiveness. Surely one day this year—Good Friday—these two matters, sin and forgiveness—should be remembered. With the breathlessness of approaching death a voice too long unheard cries in the shadow of the crosses we have raised for ourselves and others: "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

APPRECIATES UNITED STATES

The other day a newspaper organization inquired of certain Americans regarding their attitude to proposed questions contained in the census schedule.

Some of the citizens quoted were very much against giving private information to the Government but Marlene Dietrich, film actress, seemed to have an idea when she declared, "I'm so proud of my new American citizenship that I am glad to comply with all the laws in this most reasonable of all nations."

Many Americans have forgotten this simple truth. The same idea was excellently illustrated in a recent cartoon by Herblock pictured some well fed and opulent gentlemen paying their income tax with one remarking, "Boy, compared to what they have in other countries, this is a pleasure." Another said "we get democracy for less than other people pay for dictatorship."

We have a habit of taking everything for granted in the United States and assuming the government is a great nation. If we would get the truth of the matter straight in our minds, we ought to visit some other lands where income taxes and other levies are man-sized and where government does much less for its people.

AN OLD FRIEND WAVING GOOD-BY

The little red schoolhouses of America, the one-room schools of any or no color, are going, but not yet gone.

In Pennsylvania, they vanish at the rate of 300 a year, eliminated through consolidation, legislation, and transportation — yet 5,000 remain. In New York, some of the contested figures in the budget now before the Legislature involve speeding up the school consolidation program. Other states, from coast to coast, are seeing changes for the better, slowly but surely, in their common school plant.

Few will regret the passing of the primitive "deestrick" schools built by the pioneers and generations of their successors. Better teaching staffs, better grading, and better equipment generally come with better buildings. Yet many a boy or girl of forty or fifty years ago recalls tenderly some teacher in a one-teacher school, and cherishes mellow memories of the old single-room schoolhouse itself, with its birch rod, box stove, water bucket and tin dipper, and the jack-knife carvings on the desks and hard benches. . . . On such foundations the American Way was built.—Christian Science Monitor.

THIRTY-SEVEN BICYCLE RIDERS KILLED LAST YEAR

Ronald Hocutt, Director of the North Carolina Highway Safety Division, reported recently that 37 bicyclists were killed and 215 were injured in this state last year.

"The bicyclists were at fault in a majority of these accidents," Hocutt said. "A person riding a bicycle is too often inclined to feel that he has the right-of-way over all other traffic and that drivers of motor vehicles are supposed to look out for him.

"This division urges upon bicyclists the importance of giving the proper hand signals, riding on the right side of the street, keeping near the curb or shoulder, and especially refraining from cutting across the street or highway unexpectedly. We, also, urge motorists to watch out for bicyclists and be prepared for any unexpected move that they may make."

The average old age assistance payment in North Carolina in January was \$10.04.

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Choose your Easter Suit today
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WILL TO RISE AGAIN LIVES IN POLISH HEARTS

Washington.—"Poland will live again!"

Inspired by that stirring phrase from their national anthem, Poles who escaped the German-Russian invasion of their homeland are planning the rebirth of the Polish Republic—after the war—from their exile capital, Angiers, France.

That same phrase, says Count Jerzy Potocki, the Polish ambassador here, is singing in the hearts of 35,000,000 Poles living under their conqueror's rule in their homeland. The Allies plan to reconstitute Poland as a nation if they win, but have made no announcement as to the geographical boundaries or composition of the country.

The Germans have annexed about one-fourth of Poland to the Reich, and indicate that, if they win, the Poland of the future will be a puppet state composed roughly of one-fourth of its former area and a population of 12,000,000. Russia has seized slightly more than one-half and is incorporating it into the Soviet Union.

The proposed "puppet state," now called the "General Government," is ruled by Dr. Hans Frank as Governor-General.

Establishment of public order in the German-occupied areas provided a bloody chapter in Poland's history. Polish sources claim that 18,000 Poles were executed.

The "Sicherheitspolizei," uniformed police drawn from the German secret police (Gestapo) who were assigned to "mop up" in the wake of the German army, admit executions, without specifying the number, on charges of Polish sniping and the murder of 5,000 German residents of the areas before the German army marched in.

Large scale transport of Poles and Jews from the areas annexed by Germany into the "General Government" area still is in progress.

German reports are that approximately 1,000,000 Poles and 500,000 Jews are to be transported to their "birthplaces" in areas outside the German Reich.

Polish sources contend that more than 4,000,000 are to be deported from their homes and huddled into the "Polish area."

Contrary to usual German practice the administration of the new area was hurried and not well organized and neutral reports assert there has been considerable friction between the army, police and civilian administrative units.

The territory of the "General Government" is treated as foreign territory as far as customs, communications, finance and currency questions are concerned.

CONSERVATION

One important conservation activity in the Great Plains area has been the Prairie States Forestry project, otherwise known as the Shelter Belt in which farmers in cooperation with the Forest Service have planted shelter strips of trees and shrubs. Since 1935, 125 million trees have been planted in strips 100 feet wide and totaling 11,000 miles in length. Some of the poplars are already 35 feet high.

Cash income from farm marketing and government payments in January totaled \$733,000,000, a rise of nearly \$100,000,000 over the income and payments of the same month a year earlier.

POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR REGISTER OF DEEDS
I hereby announce myself as a candidate for the office of Register of Deeds of McDowell County, subject to the Democratic Primary May 25th. Your support will be highly appreciated.
JOHN M. STEPP.

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These crystals get the moths and the moth worms.
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METAL BED LAMPS
Beautiful, useful bed lamps. Complete with 5 1/2-foot cord and plug.
SPECIAL 98c
WALNUT BRONZE IVORY
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- SPECIALS ON DENTAL NEEDS**
- 1 pint Mi-31 Antiseptic ----- **49c**
 - 1 pt. Klenzo Antiseptic, 75c size -- **49c**
 - 75c. size Listerine Antiseptic --- **59c**
 - 50c size Pepsodent Antiseptic, 2 for **51c**
 - 50c size Ipana Tooth Paste ---- **39c**
 - 50c size Briten Tooth Paste ---- **39c**
 - 50c size Klenzo Tooth Brushes -- **39c**
 - Tek Tooth Brushes, 2 for --- **43c**
 - Playing Cards ---- **29c to \$1**
 - Bisma-Rex 4 1/4 ounces ---- **50c**

WE MUST MAKE WAY FOR SUMMER

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If you have pains or aches in your feet or legs, ask us about . . .
JUNG'S Arch Braces
To relieve strain of standing or walking, Jung's Wonder style **98c**

REMEMBER THE REXALL DRUG STORE FOR BEST VALUES ALWAYS

NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Under and by virtue of provision of the law the Board of County Commissioners of McDowell County as a Board of Equalization and Review for said county, will meet in the Commissioners' Room in the Court-house in Marion, N. C., on Monday, March 18, 1940, at 9:30 o'clock A. M., for the purpose of reviewing, equalizing and adjusting tax values, as provided by law, for the tax year 1940, and will continue in session until such work shall be completed. Of this notice take due heed. This the 4th day of March, 1940. I. L. CAPLAN, Chairman Board of County Commissioners.

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Nerve-racking headaches usually yield promptly to the quick-acting ingredients in the "BC" formula. Try a "BC" the next time a headache is pounding away. Note how quickly you are relieved and begin to feel much better.

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"Why drive a gas eater when you can buy a wonderful, brand-new car for practically pocket money? What's more, this amazing new automobile is backed by the greatest guarantee ever offered by a motor car manufacturer. "I'm so sure the new 1940 Willys is the most dependable car you can buy that we are now giving a three full year or 100,000 mile guarantee on each and every car we make. This goes for our 1940 commercial cars, too. "Almost anyone can now afford a new Willys, because this fine car is \$100 to \$170 lower, in many states, than the same models of other popular cars and operates for as little as a cent a mile. See your dealer for the full facts—and a Willys demonstration. Your present car will probably cover the down payment. "In the Gilmore-Yosemite Economy Run, the 1940 Willys averaged 30.65 miles per gallon."