

**MARION PROGRESS**

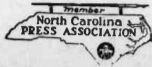
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MARION, N. C., OCT. 24, 1940

**NO SPIRITUAL BANKRUPTCY**

Every once in a while some divine, of some church or another, comes out with a solemn warning that the United States is "spiritually bankrupt." These declarations are easily made and sometimes received as evidence of moral degradation. As a matter of fact they represent nothing but the half-baked conclusion of a man without much optimism and, we suspect, little faith.

The argument is advanced that this "spiritual bankruptcy" is to be seen in the failure of millions of people to belong to any "organized religion," which means a church.

The critics of humanity in general do not imagine that it might be possible for the churches to improve their services to mankind and thus gain greater support. They calmly assume that the churches are above reproach and that any individual who fails to support a church organization is bound for hell-fire.

The Progress certainly believes in organized religion and readily advises its readers to join and support the church of their choice. At the same time, we cannot condemn, offhand, every man and woman who, for reasons of their own, fail to follow our advice.

The contest between various faiths is not without effect upon people, who often, and unfortunately, conclude that church leaders are more interested in church success than in the advancement of religious ideals. They think, and sometimes with correctness, that the message of God would reach more men if some of the churches were less interested in material things.

**DESTROYERS AID BRITISH**

Early this month a fourth group of overage destroyers entered a Canadian port, where they were taken over by British seamen, who had just arrived from Britain.

The first batch of American destroyers went September 6th and are now in service overseas. Since then other over-age ships have been taken to England, where they were refitted for immediate service.

The assistance that the United States is rendering the British is important and will probably become more vital as the war continues. It should be remembered by Americans that the aid is being dispatched as a means of defending the United States, rather than as an act of generosity to a brave people.

The first line of our defense is now located in the waters that lap the coasts of Europe. It is being manned by British ships, which have isolated the Axis navies, rendering them impotent so far as we are concerned. As long as they continue to be confined in their own waters the security of our shores is guaranteed. It is our business to see that the British fleet is always strong enough to assure this.

Farmers in McDowell county should live off the products of their land, as nearly as possible; what you raise ought to be cheaper than what you have to buy.

What every community needs is unselfish leadership; what have you to offer Marion?

Too many congressmen have the idea that everything is accomplished when they appropriate money.

Maybe Hitler wants to give the Germans an opportunity to be thankful for Turkey on Thanksgiving Day.

American women may favor the Chinese but they still wear Japanese silk stockings.

Many a patriot is giving his time to the nation—at twice what he was making before service began.

Hitler, it seems, is offering Germans Rumania instead of England.

**The Oldtimer**



**THE ONLY WAY TO WORLD PEACE**

More than twelve years ago fifteen nations of the world renounced war as an instrument of policy and instructed representatives to sign the Pact of Paris on Aug. 12, 1928. Subsequently, forty-eight nations assented to the pledge.

Some of the nations were sincere in their renunciation. Others were not, as the history of the world since that day, has demonstrated. This does not mean that there is no way to outlaw war but it demonstrates that another Pact of Paris would be useless.

Some day in the future the nations of the earth will have a new pact of peace but it will undoubtedly contain clauses designed to punish the outlaw nation that resorts to war.

The United States as the most powerful nation of the modern world, must be willing to assume its share of the responsibility for maintaining peace. We see clearly today that a refusal to do so in the past has not protected us from the danger of war. Let us avoid the same mistake again.

There will always be outlaw governments in the world, ready to use force for national aggrandizement, which is a polite term for ordinary stealing. The outlaw governments will respect no treaty promises but they will pay attention to superior gun-power.

The moral is this, that peace-loving nations must maintain, either individually or collectively, sufficient force to deter the outlaws. By working together, the peace-loving nations can reduce the cost of the job, but if they want to insure peace, they must be prepared for war.

**OCTOBER NOON**

From the secret darkness of the vineyards spill the splendid jewels, translucent in the late sun of October, round and beautiful, filled with the fragrance of autumn. The wind's great cloak billows over the hills and the quiet lakes, stirring the last dreams of summer, waking the slow music of autumn. Each day the sun comes reluctantly a little later to the garden. Soon even the stone wall will be in shadow. The late flowers blooming bear the seal of autumn on their petals; — the red of autumn fires, the mellow glow of the Indian summer sun.

More piquant than spring's pale glimmer is the bright sting of the maple and the birch lifting their swift torches. The earth, in a last gesture of bounty, lifts to the wind the scent of the apple and the grape. The round, yellow pumpkins lie like hoarders of the sun. The wine of autumn bubbles to the brim. And summer becomes a song remembered, a fragrance lost, but to be found again.—Christian Science Monitor.

**A TEACHER'S PRAYER**

I ask Thee for a sure and certain skill,  
A patient and consecrated will,  
I ask Thee for a white and perfect dream,  
A vision of the deep and wide unseen  
Dear Lord I need these things so much, so much,  
A little child is plastic to my touch.  
I ask Thee for a love that understands  
When it should reach and when withdraw its hands:  
A selfishness that flings the locked door wide  
For youth to enter while I step aside.  
Dear Lord I need these things so much, so much,  
A human soul lies plastic to my touch.

—Author Unknown.

The Axis powers will compromise their differences with smaller nations provided the smaller nations do the compromising.

**Health and Beauty . . .**

Dr. Sophia Brunson

**THE WASTAGE OF EXPERIENCE**

Youth today like the rest of us is living in a strange, bewildering world. In America they are being given too much freedom for their own good; time and conditions will give them discipline for which they are wholly unprepared. They will be rebellious and resentful, which will only add to their hardships.

In Nazi Germany, Fascist Italy, and Communistic Russia, Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin regiment the children and train them to become trained and accomplished killers. They are bred to slaughter and to be slaughtered for the glory of their masters. Their physical training which they receive has only one object, to produce enduring, hardened soldiers.

In our own country a very curious and unnatural cult has arisen, "the cult of youth." The idea is to shield them, and not permit them to work until they are eighteen years old, and then, alas, to push them all unprepared into the places of men and women who are still fairly young.

A very fallacious idea has taken possession of many of the American people; business and industry for some unaccountable reason have come to think that a man of forty or above should be thrown out of his position and his place given to some younger man.

Walter Pitkin's best seller, "Life Begins at Forty," is packed with arguments, for the contention that a person's best work is done after that period.

He says that the largest majority of those who enjoy positions of trust are past fifty or sixty. Cicero tells us that, "it is not by muscle, speed, or physical dexterity that great things are done, but by reflection and ripened judgment."

He illustrates this by a sailing ship. "If you look at it, you will see the sailors hurrying across the deck, pulling ropes, climbing masts, and will think that they are managing the ship, but a closer look will reveal that the important persons are the more aged captain standing on the bridge and the pilot at the wheel."

It is a stupid law that forbids children under sixteen and eighteen years of age from engaging in some kind of work that is not harmful. By having a certain amount of work "they learn lessons of industry and the discipline of close application to duty while they are still young." Children are debarred from wholesome and useful work for fear that adults will be displaced and men of forty and above are being refused the privilege of working and supporting their dependents because they say younger men must have their jobs. Jo Fort Newton wrote an article under the heading of "Wastage," in which he said that a splendidly equipped, well trained competent man with a clean record applied for a position. He was forty-two years old and that barred him from being hired. "Sorry," said the executive, "we do not employ any one over forty." By forty-two such a man as has been described has settled down, his judgment is matured,

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his character good, he is eager to learn to render the best service, for his responsibilities at that age are heavy. He is trying to support and educate a growing family and yet the doors of industry are shut in his face because he has reached the age of forty.

"A famous journalist who made a great name as a war reporter was turned down because he was forty-eight, by a newspaper old enough to know better. Now he is 'tops' on the war front."  
(To Be Continued)

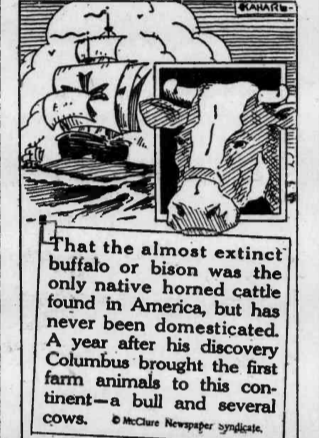
**DYSARTSVILLE P. T. A. MEETING; OTHER NEWS**

The regular meeting of P.T.A. of Dysartsville school was held on last Thursday night with good attendance. An interesting program was rendered by the fourth and fifth grades under the direction of Miss Inez Daves. The fourth and fifth grade room won the prize for best attendance. A brief business session was held.

A Halloween program will be given Saturday night, October 26th, at 7:30 in Dysartsville school auditorium. "The Haunted House," a 30-minute play by sixth and seventh grades, songs, stunts and Halloween exercises by the first-fifth grades will make up the program. A small admission will be charged. A beauty contest will be held as an interlude. Everyone is invited.

Mrs. L. G. Redding is a patient in the Marion General Hospital.

**DO YOU KNOW—**



That the almost extinct buffalo or bison was the only native horned cattle found in America, but has never been domesticated. A year after his discovery Columbus brought the first farm animals to this continent—a bull and several cows.

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