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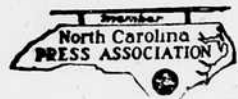
S. E. WHITTEN, Editor and Proprietor

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**URGES GOOD MANNERS**

American tourists who go abroad and sneer at local customs or deride conditions that do not compare favorably with those in the United States may lose this country much of the goodwill that it is winning through its programs of assistance, in the opinion of Jerry D. Ryan, director of an international travel bureau.

Mr. Ryan says that sometimes tourists mock at unfamiliar customs in Latin-America and other countries to produce a bad effect. In Paris, he continues, residents get a poor impression of tourists who strut the boulevards in shorts when good taste prescribes other garb. In Great Britain, he points out, no sensible American should expect the same food variety as exists in this country and sneers and jeers at the menu are bound to arouse resentment.

We call attention to the points made by Mr. Ryan, not because many readers of the Progress will go abroad, but because the basic plea of the gentleman is for good manners by tourists and travelers, which, at times, are needed in this country and at home.

While the average American is a well-behaved individual, there are some self-deluded big shots, who think themselves superior to everybody else and therefore entitled to preferential treatment everywhere. These objectionable individuals make difficulties for well-mannered and courteous travelers and reflect upon the community of their origin.

"TALK ABOUT GOOD CHILDREN"

We feel like commending Judge Bernard J. Roetzel, of Akron, Ohio, because he recently talked commonsense about youth and its problems.

Stressing the large percentage of well-behaved children in his county the Judge said that "Folks should stop dwelling on the misdoings of about 800 boys and girls in the county" and "talk about the good children for a change." It's an idea that might do some so-called moral leaders a lot of good.

Judge Roetzel expressed the view that today's children are stronger physically and more alert mentally than children of old and, "what is more, they are at least as emotionally stable as their sometimes very much disturbed parents."

Referring to the youngsters who came before his juvenile court, the Judge declared that three out of every four "never got into any trouble again." He blamed parents for some of the shortcomings of misguided youth, declaring that children are, in most cases, "mirrors of their parents" and asserting that "many parents are not willing to accept the onerous duties of parenthood."

**HOT ASHES CAN COST PLENTY
IN COLD CASH**

This is the season when hot ashes cost the nation plenty in cold cash. County Agent Paul Choplin of the State College Extension Service warned local farmers today.

"More than 11 million dollars is lost each year in fires caused by carelessness with hot ashes and coals," he declared. "With the country's fire losses at an all-time high—700 million dollars was burned up in 1948—there is no excuse for such waste."

Mr. Choplin suggested four fire safety rules for farmers during February and March.

1. Never empty hot ashes or coals into wooden, cardboard or flammable containers. Use, instead, a metal trash barrel, preferably of the lid type.

2. Keep the area surrounding the furnace, stove or fireplace free of refuse and combustible material.

3. Be sure an Underwriters'—approved fire extinguisher of the type designed to put out coal or oil fires is handy.

4. Always use a fire screen in front of the fireplace to prevent sparks from escaping into the room.

Good habits of fire safety should be taught each member of the family, the county agent said, because "tending the fire" has become everybody's job in spite of modern inventions

which have made many parts of the job automatic.

MORE PEOPLE FOR THE U. S.

The population growth of the United States continues to confound the experts, who predicted, during the 1920's, that a falling birth rate would lead to an equilibrium between birth and death rates by 1960.

Last year, the population of this country increased nearly 2,500,000. The increase was largely due to the number of births, 3,650,000, which exceeded the lowest death rate in the history of the nation by about 2,200,000. The other part of the increase came through immigration.

An increase in population, coming about by the increase of births inside the country, is much better than a similar increase through immigration. It is natural to expect that native-born citizens will have a better comprehension of American ideals than those born in foreign countries who come to the United States in later years.

The extent of the increase in the number of births is indicated by the fact that in the eight years, 1941-1948, more than 25,000,000 babies were born in the United States. This compares with a little more than 19,000,000 in 1931-1938.

It should be noted in this connection that there are now 48 persons per square mile of land area in the United States. This compares with 25 in 1900. While there have been considerable shifts of population, it is interesting to note that the ten most densely populated states in 1947 were exactly, in order, the same as in 1900; Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Delaware and Illinois.

One of the revelations that come with a study of population figures shows that the death rate in 1948 was a trifle over 9.9 per thousand, which was a little below the previous low rate established in 1946. Moreover, the infant mortality rate in 1948 declined to a new minimum low of about 31 per 1,000 live births, which is nearly 40 per cent under the comparable figure of only a decade ago.

Indicative of social, political and economic changes is the fact that the percentage of our population, sixty-five years or older, continues to grow appreciably. In 1900, it was only four per cent, or nearly 3,000,000 people. In 1940, it was 6.8 per cent, or about 9,000,000 people. This phase of our population characteristics is expected to continue to accelerate.

While these figures apply to the United States, as a whole, the figures for the various states and counties naturally vary considerably. Every state has shown an increasing density of population in the years of this century, but the relative increase has varied. In Vermont, it was only four per cent, but jumped more than two hundred per cent in Florida and the states of the Far West.

THE CASH VALUE OF COLLEGE

The rush to college holds hazards for the future, experts are saying. A bachelor of arts expects to make more money and enjoy more prestige because of his degree. If the mass production of college graduates increases in the United States as expected, young hopefuls with sheepskins 10 years from now may find the market for professional and executive jobs flooded, and be forced into categories of work below their expectations.

To us there seem two constructive possibilities in the situation.

1. A new emphasis on college as education for living rather than education for making a living. Contemporary materialism obscures the fact that the rewards of living are not all monetary. The American success story still reckons success in dollars. Unless society is to break down under the weight of its own materialism, education must equip its new recruits with other standards and values.

2. A new emphasis on secondary education and its improvement to meet average needs more fully. Higher education, by its own definition, is not meant for mass production. It may properly seek ways to draw talented youth to it from every level of society and thus tap neglected sources of leadership at low-income levels. But it needs to discourage the influx of mediocrity which merely wants "what goes with" a college education.

You can't flood the market with genuine leaders. But you can flood it with disappointed graduates who mistook the torch of learning for Aladdin's lamp.—Christian Science Monitor.

It's a very unpleasant subject but, believe us, you might as well make preparations now to pay your income tax in March—you'll need money.

Criticism of government officials is not always to be condemned but when one becomes a perpetual critic, nobody should pay any attention to his grumbling.

No business ever became great without a program of progressive expansion.

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

"Washington, the brave, the wise, the good—
Supreme in war, in council and in peace.
Valiant without ambition, discreet without fear,
Confident without presumption.
In disaster calm, in success moderate, in all himself."
—FROM AN INSCRIPTION AT MOUNT VERNON

Looking Backward

From The Progress Files

MARCH 28, 1918

"The car load of pigs brought to this county last Friday by Farm Demonstrator Thurman numbered about 165, 70 of the lot sent to Old Fort and the balance held at Marion for convenient distribution. It was a good lot of pigs and they are being sold readily, the prices ranging from \$6 to \$16. They are sold at cost to citizens of the county. Mr. Thurman says he has several of the pigs yet on hand but will likely dispose of them within a day or so."

"The Old Fort Sentinel has suspended publication temporarily—until 'local conditions' and public matters will afford the opportunity to again place the Sentinel in their homes," it is announced. The Sentinel plant has been moved to Marshall and Mr. Jervis has accepted a position as business manager of the Marshall News-Record."

"The Grand Theatre announces that they have some especially attractive features for the coming week, including such high class stars as Mary Miles Minter, Olive Thomas, who is being called a second Mary Pickford, and Ruth Roland in the first of a new series of pictures that is attracting attention all over the country."

APRIL 4, 1918

"The Republicans of McDowell county met in convention at the court house Saturday afternoon. The convention was called to order by Chairman J. L. Morgan, after which C. F. James was elected temporary chairman and C. M. Pool, secretary.

"The following were elected as delegates to the Congressional Convention at Asheville April 6th: J. L. Morgan, C. F. James, C. C. Lisenbee, I. H. Greene, J. C. Greene, J. P. Ray, Garland Williams, W. H. Hawkins, Dr. B. L. Ashworth, G. A. Banner, J. V. Walker, J. W. Souther, J. D. Hogan, S. A. McCall, J. M. Walker, C. M. Pool, Henry England, R. E. Roper, W. T. Moffitt, Elisha Lavender, J. M. Mashburn, L. J. Epley, W. P. Artz, D. A. Kanipe, Charles Craig, Joe McNeely, J. B. Lonon, W. H. Swafford, Charles McCall, J. C. Hall, M. C. Caldwell, Sam Pyatt, William Marlow, John Banks, B. G. Gettys, E. K. Hild, J. A. Gilliam, B. D. Hogan, J. W. Wise, J. G. Pyatt, William Hudgins, W. A. Hall, Augustus Byrd, J. H. Hensley, J. P. Hanes, R. L. Simmons, Leonard Turner, J. C. Crawford, Garland Noblitt, J. S. Lavender, James Taylor, H. Sparks.

"C. C. Lisenbee, J. W. Souther and I. H. Greene were elected as delegates to the Judicial Convention at Hendersonville April 5, and I. H. Greene, B. L. Ashworth, J. L. Morgan, D. A. Canipe, Thos. McGuire and Julius Parker were nam-

ed as delegates to the State convention which convenes in Greensboro April 9."

GARDEN CITY

"Garden City, April 1.—The weather has opened up and the farmers are doing good work to help win the war.

"The logging work on Clear Creek is progressing nicely.

"S. D. Glenn has returned home from Government survey work near Asheville.

"Joe Elliott has returned home from Hot Springs.

"There was a baptizing at Clear Creek Sunday afternoon.

"Will Suttles left here March 31st for Camp Jackson.

"Gordon McKoy of the Camps spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Chapman.

"Miss Thessa Jameson has returned home from Statesville.

"Milton McMahan, son of Rev. W. F. McMahan, of this place, visited on Clear Creek during the week.

"Rowe Johnson, a successful farmer and hog raiser of the headwaters of Buck Creek, has moved to Garden City.

"There was a grand serenade conducted by the young men of Garden City and G. W. Grindstaff's Saturday night.

"Garden City people are wading in egg shells knee deep."

THE CONSTITUTION

The Navy's four-engine Constitution, world's largest commercial-type land plane, made a non-stop trans-continental flight, with ninety persons aboard, from Moffett Field, California to Washington, D. C., covering the 2,560 miles in nine hours, thirty-two minutes.

A 3,800-acre memorial forest will be preserved in perpetuity in North Carolina in honor of Joyce Kilmer, author of "Trees."

Career-Minded!

These words are addressed to young men who want to be the leaders of tomorrow. It is addressed to ambitious men who are truly career-minded, and not those merely interested in a job. To these ambitious men today is offered the greatest chance for advancement in the nation's history... a career in the new U. S. Army or U. S. Air Force. These organizations—representing the biggest business in the world—hold career opportunities unmatched anywhere. Find out yourself, in a frank talk with your recruiter. He's at the U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force Recruiting Station at the Marion Postoffice, Marion, N. C. This recruiter, a trained expert, is actually a career counselor. You'll find it worth your while to check with him about enlisting. For women, WAC and WAF careers open a bright door.

TALL TALES

By ELIZABETH WHITTEN

The publisher of a small paper and the linotype operator had a difference of opinion and parted in anger.

As the linotype operator was walking down the steps to the door the publisher called after him:

"If I did what I ought to, I'd write you up in the paper for what you've done."

Without a moment's hesitation the answer came back:

"Go ahead if you feel like it. I can outwalk your circulation in twenty minutes."

John and Joe had worked at the same mill a long time and the days, the months and the years passed slowly. There was always the same dull routine, the same monotonous work. That was before Tom came to work there.

Time didn't pass slowly for Tom. Each day he was absorbed in his work and always he tried to learn more and improve the work he was doing.

John and Joe put in their schedule of hours, groaning, complaining and yawning—but they were there to serve their sentence. They thought of an eight hour shift as an eight hours to be endured.

Tom walked from one machine to the other. He kept his machines at the right temperature. He gave attention to other details.

One day Tom was called into the office. He was given a promotion. His new position was higher than that of John and Joe. Yet he had been there only a few months and they had been there for years.

In the wash room that afternoon, John and Joe took Tom to task. They asked how he did it. Tom knew, but he knew better than to tell him. So, he told them he didn't ask for the promotion, it was offered to him and he was planning to take it. They said they didn't blame him.

Promotions followed promotions for Tom and raise followed raise. One day when he had gone as far as he could go he decided to launch into another career of salesman which he believed would be even better.

When he left he was told that any time he wanted a job he had one waiting for him at the mill. It was comforting. After all he didn't know how successful or unsuccessful he might be as a salesman. But day in, day out, he plugged away. Sometimes it was discouraging. After endless demonstrations people would say they approved of the product, had no money, and as a matter of fact, hadn't intended buying anyway.

But he used tact and left his prospective customers in sound spirits. He found that the hours of a salesman could not be regulated like those of a mill employee. Sometimes he had to see people at night or not see them at all. Sometimes week-ends were interrupted by prospective buyers.

Some of the other salesmen didn't put up with people who wanted to see them after hours. If they wanted a day off, they took a day off. No week-end work for them.

Sometimes they look at Tom and compare his success and his income with their own meager sales. They say Tom is a lucky fellow. They say success comes easy to him.

And poor John and Joe. As the years pass they sit for eight hours each day letting errors occur, accepting poor production as inevitable and wondering how on earth that Tom that used to work here had so much pull and nobody knew anything about it. As a matter of fact they believe Tom has pull anywhere he goes. He takes a job as salesman and sales just seem to come to him in batches.

Of course the names in this story are fictitious, but the story is as true as can be.

CORRECTION

In a release from the North Carolina Extension Service published in the Progress February 3, 1948, it was stated that the value of North Carolina's farm crops for the first 11 months of 1948 was \$581,515.00. It was also stated that the value of North Carolina crops marketed during the same period last year was \$582,249.

A letter from the Extension Service received last week advises that those figures were released by the Service in error.

The figures should be millions instead of thousands. The correct figure for the first 11 months of 1948 is \$581,515,000, and for the first 11 months of 1947 it is \$582,249,000.

George Washington owned 49 race horses and had a penchant for betting on gray-colored ones.