

THE MARION PROGRESS

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY THE
McDOWELL PUBLISHING CO.
 MARION, N. C.

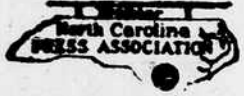
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Entered at the Postoffice at Marion, N. C.,
 as second class matter

SUBSCRIPTION RATE

One year ----- \$2.00
 Strictly in Advance



FIGHT EROSION ON YOUR LAND

For more than ten years, experts of the Soil Conservation Service of the Department of Agriculture have been calling attention to the losses suffered through soil erosion in this country.

Some ten years ago, Dr. Hugh H. Bennett, then Chief of the Service, told a House Committee that about 100,000,000 acres of crop land, some of it the best, had been "completely finished" as a result of soil erosion. He then estimated the annual direct cost of soil erosion to farmers alone, not counting damage to reservoirs, stream channels, irrigation ditches, highways and railways, at \$400,000,000.

This information has been read time and again by the farmers of McDowell county. It undoubtedly attracted their attention and some sporadic efforts have been made, in various sections of the county, to meet the peril and arrest the erosion that washes away so much of our best land.

We take this occasion to call the attention of McDowell county farmers to the necessity of fighting erosion on their land. Like some other things that menace mankind, the time to start the war on erosion is when it begins and, especially before great damage is done.

YOU CAN DO YOUR PART

Every citizen of Marion can make a contribution to democratic government.

It is not by abusing Soviet Russia, the Communist Party or Joseph Stalin. It is not by urging a war against the Communist ideology or the Russian people.

All that any person here has to do to make a fight on dictatorship, or Communism, is to see that democracy works in our own local, state and national governments.

When there is a deviation from the accepted principles of democracy in the government of Marion or McDowell county, or any other unit of American Government, it can be scored as a gain for the isms that we say we abhor.

MODERN CIVILIZATION

Mr. Winston Churchill, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, has received general recognition as a student of history and a writer of repute.

Recently speaking to a university audience, the war leader of the British people said that "despite anxious, critical and even antagonizing moments," modern civilization is "undoubtedly a higher form of society than ever prevailed in ancient worlds."

This is a conclusion which many moralists, reformers and do-gooders will dispute. In fact, the stock of trade of some human beings seems to involve the necessity of denouncing the present generation, with the implication that, for some strange reason, men and women have suddenly degraded themselves.

We have no sympathy with such a view of the present generation. It is apparent, we think, from a study of various civilizations, including habits, customs and civilizations, that the world today is housing a race of people, on the average, which is more intelligent, more healthy and more spiritual than any other generation of the so-called human race.

WATCH YOUR OWN AFFAIRS

It is a good idea for the average citizen to keep up with national and international affairs, but it is a better idea for him to keep up with his personal affairs.

Among these, one would include business interests and also the development of personality, which is often neglected by individuals.

There may not be much that an individual can accomplish in solving the great problems that baffle statesmen, but there is no reason why any person cannot accomplish considerable in regard to his, or her, personal advancement. Despite the belief in luck and fate, this is accomplished by hard work, including the abundant use of such intelligence as the individual possesses.

So long as your money holds out, you will have plenty of "friends" to help you spend it.

THE CHURCHMAN'S CREED

The following appeared in The Churchman, issue of April 1, 1949, and is from the pen of its editor, Rev. Dr. Guy Emery Shipler:

"I believe in America—an America which stands for the equal rights of all to life, to liberty and to the pursuit of happiness; which stands for duties as well as rights; which put people first and things second; which rejects hatred and intolerance, the bulwarks of slavery, and cherished goodwill and understanding, the bulwarks of freedom.

"I believe in America—an America fashioned from the fibre of many races and people, where none shall know discrimination and all shall have respect; an America where the deficiencies of brotherhood can be practiced under a common Fatherhood; where sacredness of the individual is not lost under the domination of the state, and where the church of God speaks not with the voice of a dictator but with the Voice of God.

"I believe in America—an America strong through the high warrants of the Bill of Rights, the rights of freedom of speech, freedom of press, freedom of assembly and freedom of religion; an America which stands not for selfish isolation but for courageous cooperation with all men and nations of goodwill; which dares to dream of a Kingdom of God on earth, when wars shall have ceased throughout the world and the principles of the Prince of Peace, of Love and Brotherhood, shall rule in the hearts of all men everywhere.

"I believe in America—an America which shall be the consummation of all the Utopian dreams of all the dreamers of the world—A Commonwealth of Goodwill.

"I believe in America."

STRENGTH NO GUARANTEE

Recalling the war efforts of the United States and paying tribute to the brave and heroic dead. Defense Secretary Louis Johnson, referring to the possibility of war, says that the nation "must make sure that it must never happen again."

While this is the generally accepted line of oratory on Memorial Day, the thought represents something of an impossibility. The tenor of most remarks is that, by making itself strong, the United States can "guarantee peace through strength."

While we are thoroughly behind the policy that demands thorough preparation for war, there is nothing to be gained by deluding ourselves with the idea that such preparation guarantees peace in the United States.

While it is certainly true that a lack of preparedness may invite war, by permitting aggressor nations to fondle the hope of triumph, the converse of the proposition is not correct. Armed strength alone has never guaranteed any nation from the possibility of attack, either by a similarly armed nation or by a combination of lesser armed nations.

The peace of the world depends upon the development of just collaboration between the people of the world, with equality of economic opportunity for all those who live on the globe. The goal is still afar but, through the efforts of various international organizations and the gradually awakening conscience of the world, it comes closer every year.

APPRECIATION

The Good Book has something to say about it "Being a good thing to be thankful." This is a virtue which many forget. It is difficult for this generation to realize the limitations and deprivations suffered by the older people. Yet, those of us who are old enough to have experienced them, recall a greater sense of appreciation, and a deeper measure of enjoyment than the multitude of privileges, opportunities, and possessions of today. They were happier in the enjoyment of their few things, than the people of today with their many things. All those things are just taken for granted. After all, it was the other generation which created them, and perhaps the new generation cannot appreciate because they did not learn value at first hand. Anyway, it would increase the world's happiness to manifest some gratitude.—Exchange.

The people of this country are able to govern themselves despite the belief of so-called experts that somebody must save the people from themselves.

Your best friend is the person who tells you the truth, not the one who tells you what you want to hear.

Government will cost more money as long as the people demand more services, free of charge.

Medicine has made great progress in the past fifty years. People live longer even if it does cost more.

The test of sincerity is the willingness of an individual to do something without compensation.

Looking Backward

From The Progress Files

JULY 27, 1922

Editorial: "The prettiest town in North Carolina" was the comment of a gentleman who travels much and passed this way recently. Nestled among the foot-hills, with green mountain ranges surrounding its whole environment, winding roads approaching from every direction, with broad, well paved streets, handsome homes with well-kept lawns and gardens, all do go a long way towards making Marion a pretty town. Whether our visitor meant all he said or not, there is an element of truth in his words.

"But beauty alone is not sufficient. Beauty is all right as far as it goes, but the trouble is that it does not go far enough. Beauty is on the outside; it is the thing that attracts one's attention; it is the quality that pleases one's esthetic nature. Beauty is necessary; it is essential. The world would be sad and gloomy, a place of despair but for the beautiful.

"If Marion has beauty it has a desirable quality. Beauty alone, however, will not make a town. What does Marion have beside beauty? She is the most favorably situated town in Western North Carolina, without a doubt. She is the gateway to the west. From Marion we reach the various sections of Western North Carolina. Marion is the centre of gravity, so to speak; she is bound to attract from other sections.

"Marion has great transportation facilities; railroads reach Marion from the north, south, east and west. A system of state highways also reaches Marion from every direction, thus affording autoists from every section an opportunity of easy access. Marion is located in a fine climate, free from the extremes of either heat or cold, it enjoys a temperature not to be excelled by any section. Situated in a region of unlimited natural resources, it affords an opportunity for business not to be found in every section. It is already the seat of great manufacturing industries. Hardwood is found in abundance, hence furniture manufacturing; waterpower unequalled, hence cheap power for mills; labor in abundance; and a good farming section; honest and ambitious people, probably its greatest asset.

"Marion has bright prospects; it has advantages that will make a town; Scenic beauty, natural resources, cooperative people, modes of transportation, and other advantages that are bound to make Marion grow. It is nice to be the prettiest town in North Carolina, but let's work for the biggest and the best, as well."

And in the same issue, an editorial entitled, "The Home Merchant" read as follows:

"Mid pleasures and palaces though I may mend, I find the home merchant a valued friend. The mail order catalogue woos me in vain, or to pay-without-seeing may bring me a pain. The home merchants credit till pay day arrives—he knows all the whims of his friends and their wives. His overalls wear like the buck-skin of old, his buttons ain't brass, if he tell you they're gold! Of every community he is a part, and even the kids know the path to his heart. He boosts for the chapel, the lodge and the school—"Community uplift" is ever his rule. And even the football and basketball teams, look kindly on him, in their athletic dreams. I'd rather have him at my elbow each day than to deal with a shark many furlongs

GOING TO TRADE OR BUY A NEW CAR?



For information regarding financing and automobile insurance, it will be to your advantage to insure with full coverage Farm Bureau Mutual Automobile Insurance—which will fully protect your interests and those of the financing organization which you select.

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away. Let's make the thing mutual, and stand by our friend—there's no place like home for the money we spend!"

TALL TALES

By ELIZABETH WHITTEN

You don't have to go on the field to make a hit at the ball game. Take the case of two women in the stands who gave this performance:

"Yes, I think this will be the best place to sit and there aren't any other seats anyway."

"Look who's going to pitch. They say he's good."

"Yeah, he's so good they make him pitch too much. And you know he has to sleep with a hot pad on his shoulder all the time."

"Really?"

"That's what they say. This man behind me is just riding me up and down on his feet."

"That music they're playing gets worse all the time."

Only soft whispering murmurs for a few minutes.

"Sure, I remember them. Why that boy used to work in the factory and go to school. I always said he's turn out all right. I'm glad he's doing well."

"Yeah, it just shows you children will get an education if they want to. If they'd tried to make him go, maybe he wouldn't have . . . Thelma, this man behind me doesn't know the music's stopped, he's still dancing."

Brief interval of silence.

"Look he's going to make a home run. There comes another one. What were we saying? Yes, I always beat the eggs separately. . . . Well, not

too hot an oven."

"I've been watching the man with the hot dogs ten minutes and he won't look. Hey! Come up here! Just look at that. He went the other way. You holler at him, I'm getting hoarse."

"I just told her—yes sir, I really did. I said to her, I said, 'look here you can't do this.'"

"Well, you know how they always were. You can't do anything with some people."

"What does that score board say? Top o' the eighth. You know we better quit talking or we'll get our minds off the game."

"That's right we had. Who's this team we're playing?"

"I don't know, but we're winning."

There was more, folks, and I wish I could remember it all, but I can't. It was really good.

Conversation overheard in a store:

"Yes, I always buy their shoes in the summer. They can wear them white and then dye them in the fall."

Bridge table chatter: "Your dress is so pretty. I took it home, but my husband wouldn't let me have anything like that."

Sound wave from a beauty parlor: "No, I can't understand business I told my husband the other day when I want to sell anything prices are going down and when I want to buy anything prices are going up."

European crop conditions, as of mid-May, continue to point to a total crop production below that of the favorable 1948 season but considerably above that of the drought year 1947.

FOR QUICK RESULTS USE OUR
WANT ADS
 Terms Cash---25c Minimum

WANTED—I wish to buy a used play pen. Call 44-X. 1tp

THE BARGAIN STORE is the place to find values in Men's Pants. Hard finish rayons only \$4.95 to \$6.45. Others \$2.98 to \$7.45. Men's undershirts 39c.

PIANOS AND ORGANS—New and used Pianos. Minshall-Estey Electronic Organs. Easy Terms. Magness Piano Co., Forest City, N. C. 4t

Trimnings, Laces, and Edgings of every type, now on Sale in Belk's Yard Goods Department.

LADIES DRESSES—Cool summer cottons only \$1.98 to \$4.95—Rayons from \$3.95 to \$7.95. All colors and styles. Save at The Bargain Store. 2t

SHOP THE BARGAIN STORE—for values. Ladies rayon half-slips 79c. Rayon panties 29c. Rayon gowns \$1.10. Sheer batiste blouses only \$1.50 to \$1.98. 2t

TERRACING—Am in position to do terracing, work out farm roads, ditching, etc., at reasonable prices. Phone 258 or 368-J.

SUMMER IS HERE—See us for Arrow Shirts, Ties, Underwear; Sport Shirts, long and short sleeves. Our stocks are now complete. J. D. Blanton. 4t

LADIES buy those good 51 guage 15 denier Festival Nylons at Belk's now for \$1.59, and get every 13th pair absolutely FREE.

GENUINE FORD PARTS—Use our budget plan. We handle repairs on any make cars—from squeaks to wrecks. Sain-Brooks Motor Service. Phone 242. 1t

LOOKS ALMOST LIKE NEW, the reconditioned men's STETSON hats at Belk's for only \$2.98.

Headquarters for window shades in Marion is BELK'S. All sizes of Venetian Blinds now in stock.

DO THE FAMILY WASH at the Self Service Laundry. Economical, convenient, thorough, at East Court street, across from Ford garage. 1t

BABY CHICKS—New Hampshires, pulorum clean. Two strains: For eggs. For broilers. Sexed or straight run. Phone 901-X. Burgin Hatchery, Route 4 Marion, N. C.

MEN'S AND BOYS' SPORT SHIRTS—\$1.29 to \$2.48, all kind, all colors. Men's swim trunks only \$1.19. Men's T-shirts 50c to 97c on sale at The Bargain Store. 2t

FOR SALE—Now at Belk's, satins, crepes, and taffetas, in short lengths one to ten yards, light underwear colors, worth \$1, now only 59c.

RECORDS—We either have them or will get them for you. The shop with a thousand tunes. Earley's Radio and Record Shop, 103 West Court St., Marion, N. C. Phone 361.

IT'S BELK'S in Marion for yard goods. Woolens in new spring colors just received. Linings, trimmings, covered buttons, everything to sew with at BELK'S.

FOR SALE—Nice five room dwelling located on Virginia Avenue. Nice level lots. City water and lights. Wired for electric range. Will sell for less than it cost. Partly financed. See owner, Thomas E. Price, or W. H. Hawkins. 1t

MEN . . . Visit Belk's Men's Department for those new patterns and colors in Arrow Shirts.

FISHING IS GOOD—So is our stock of Evinrude outboard motors and Century boats. Special values in used motors. C. D. Blanton. 4tp