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MONDAY, JUNE 11, 1945

It isn't true because the COURIER-TIMES says it, but the COURIER-TIMES says it because it is true.

JUST FIVE-SIXTH OUT OF BALANCE

An interesting, a well-known and an often repeated state of affairs with regard to the one-crop system under which Person lives and thrives (?) is revealed in Person tobacco figures gathered by the State Department of Agriculture and reassembled for local viewing by Person's Assistant Farm Agent C. C. Jackson, Jr., whose Thursday article in the Courier-Times fitted nicely, but we hope not too neatly into a story announcing the opening date of the Old Belt market. We will get at the heart of the matter by quoting the first and the last paragraphs of Jackson's statement:

"Tobacco accounts for Person County's rank in total value of crops grown. Latest figures place Person 27th among the counties of North Carolina. This is chiefly due to the fact that \$5.00 out of \$6.00 income of the eleven principal field crops from farms is derived from the sale of tobacco, according to the Department's figures. 17 per cent of the county's cultivated cropland is grown in tobacco.

"With the shortage of farm labor, it will require the help of every available man, woman and child to harvest this year's crop so we may continue Person County's leadership in tobacco production."

The damaging part of the statement lies in the single sentence of the last paragraph which implies the desirability of continuing a leadership here in the production of tobacco even though that leadership means that five-sixth of the money Person farmers make on crops is derived from one crop—tobacco.

Such a proportion, we maintain is economically dangerous and wholly unsound and it helps matters not a whit to say calmly that other tobacco (and cotton) growing counties in the state are laboring under the same mistaken burden of a one-crop leadership. We do agree with Agent Jackson's figures that it is desirable that Person should rank highest in the Old Belt in yield per acre and in value per acre where tobacco is concerned and we are pleased to note that market sales last year in Roxboro doubled both in price and pounds over the sales of eight years ago here, but we lament and shall continue to lament the inescapable evidence that farmers in Person County take an equal pride in having their money come from one crop.

We know for a fact that Agent H. K. Sanders, together with Mr. Jackson, is doing what he can to preach diversification of crops, but we are convinced that the report given by Agent Jackson ought to spur both of them to an even greater zeal in hitting at the hydra-headed monster that the one-crop cash crop system is. Tobacco sells well now and our farmers get money for it, but a single bad season, whether from man-made forces or from nature can for that season and years to come, bring financial ruin, poverty and near-starvation. It is an old story, but we are stiff-necked and like the prodigal son, will not learn it until we have to eat the husks.

Diversification of crops might mean that Person would not rank as high in the State in the total value of crops produced, but such a stepping down, backed up by sound and sensible farm practices on a live at home basis, would be an honor and not a disgrace.

TACTICS AT WORK

Over in near-by Caswell and down in Harnett, in which last named county a Person native was for years County Superintendent of Education, a couple of schools, at Pelham and at Dunn, are reported as having troubles with the hiring and firing of school principals and superintendents. In the Dunn incident Person has an interest because the center of controversy is H. C. Gaddy, who had his own share of similar troubles in Roxboro, while the Pelham affair, as reported in the Caswell Messenger, is close to home, although the Messenger itself failed to get wind of the

incident until some two-three weeks after it had happened.

Commentary on the Dunn squabble, is we think, sufficiently taken care of by the Greensboro Daily News and quoted elsewhere on this page of the Courier-Times, but we think that local readers should have a chance to sample a few of the words of J. R. St. Clair, of Pelham, who in the Messenger of last week comes vigorously to defense of Pelham's Superintendent Allison E. Belk, who, as the grape-vine has it, was subjected to personal indignities while on the stage at Pelham's graduation exercises, May 18.

Here is Mr. St. Clair talking:
"Allison E. Belk, the principal, is a wonderful school man, as well as a Christian gentleman, however, pressure was brought to bear on Mr. Belk by the (Caswell) County Superintendent of Education and by the local (Pelham) school board to the extent that he resigned".

Further recitation, quoted from Mr. St. Clair, reveals that 127 interested citizens and school patrons requested the re-election of Mr. Belk prior to announcement of his resignation and that a petition embracing this request was presented to the County Superintendent, Holland McSwain, of Yanceyville, and to the local board concerned. Mr. St. Clair also reports that protest against non-action on the petition at the close of Pelham school after commencement was made and that a vote was taken then and there calling for re-election of Mr. Belk.

We do not know Mr. St. Clair, who is quite obviously a Belk partisan, but we thank him for referring so strongly to "pressure" tactics. Whether at Pelham, or at Dunn, the disease appears to be the same, and quite unlovely, unsavory and of ill repute, even without the Belk allegation as to the power of gossiping over the board to which he, as a "Christian gentleman", is held accountable.

ECHO FROM IWO JIMA

One of the four thousand Marines to die on Iwo Jima was Person's Sgt. James Warren Swanson, who lost his life on March 2, and who may have been one of the fighters shown in the "To the Shores of Iwo Jima" film displayed here last Thursday and Friday in the interest of the Seventh War Loan. On the afternoon of the last showing of the picture, J. H. Swanson, father of the Person Marine, came to the Courier-Times office with yet another reminder of that bloody conflict, a letter from Sgt. Swanson's commanding officer, Lt. John Murray Fox.

Parts of that letter are reproduced elsewhere in this issue of the Courier-Times. It is a message of sympathy, not so different from hundreds of similar letters written almost every day as a gesture of comfort to sorrowing parents, wives, brothers, sisters and sweethearts of slain heroes, but Lt. Fox's letter is symbolic of all the messages sent and is typical of them in the best sense, serving as a reminder that commanding officers and chaplains do not shirk one of their most important duties. Messages of sympathy are never easy to write, even at home.

Some who saw "To the Shores of Iwo Jima" must feel that the picture was "too pretty" in the technicolor sense, with the horrors of war softened by dubbed-in music and a superimposed sense of glory. The Swanson-Fox letter comes much closer to a personal approximation of sacrifice, which is what we must feel if the meaning of the war is to be brought home. And men like Lt. Fox, who do their sad duty and at the same time comfort the sorrowing, are to be commended for their oftentimes real delicacy of statement in terms of courage and hope.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

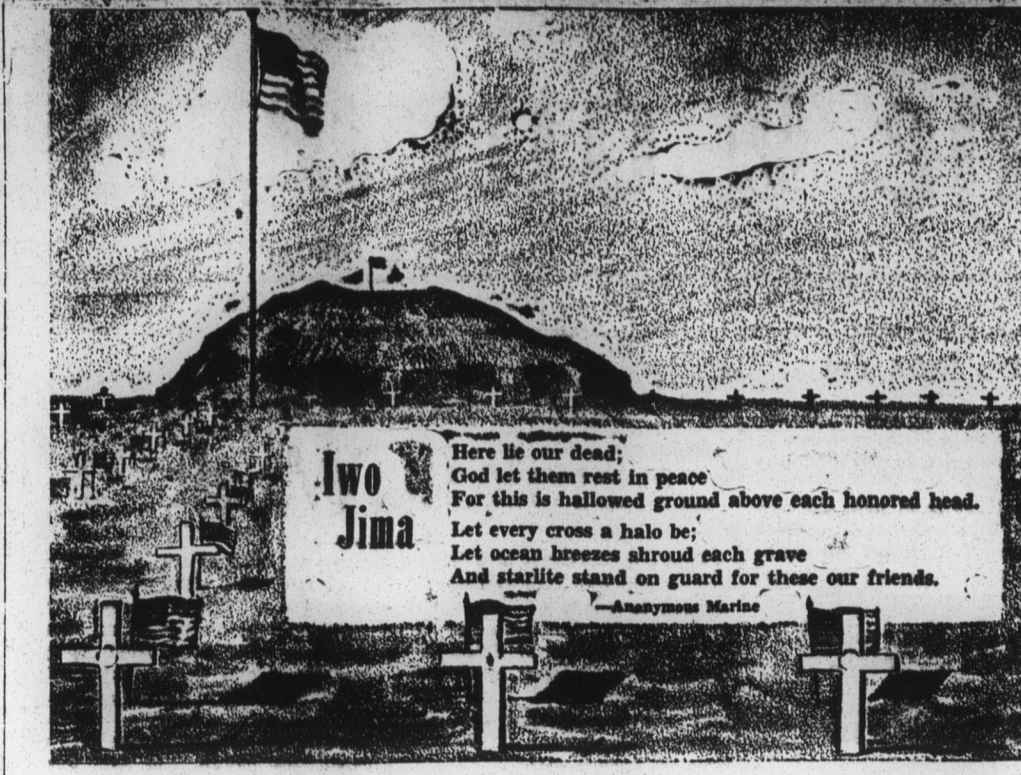
WE STILL HAVE A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY

Durham Sun
A division or its equivalent is slated for Camp Butner; men from the European Theatre will be retained for service in the Pacific. The Butner Redistribution Center is moving out, going to Fort Oglethorpe near Chattanooga; which will make room for the troops which will come in for redeployment. Thus the post personnel under Col. Herbert M. Pool will continue at about its present strength.

Meanwhile, the Butner General Hospital is growing; may be expected to expand materially. That, too, will mean more fighting men in the Durham community.

Durham has a heavy responsibility in the situation, not simply one of proving southern hospitality but of proving that we have an understanding of human contacts and are equal to the delicate task of making friends with the heroic strangers coming into our neighborhood.

It will not be easy. The men will present, just as any cross section of Americans pres-



ent, a complex group. All, however, who come home are glad to be back in their beloved United States. We shall need to remember, however, that they are not asking anybody for anything. They are standing on their own feet and have proved their ability to do so. They have been out fighting our battles as well as their own. They are receptive to friendship as we are receptive to friendship.

There need not be shyness on either side. Indeed, we suspect we Durham civilians will be a little more shy than the soldiers. We are not so sure that the veterans want to know us or care anything about us, being doubtful that we are particularly good company. We shall have to overcome that natural reserve lest it be misunderstood and be interpreted as indifference. In brief, our objective should be to welcome our warriors back and make them feel at home, just as we would any other distinguished guests within our gates, "man to man."

Editor's Note.—Substitute in proportion if you will, Person County and Roxboro wherever the name of Durham appears for an approximation of the Person and Roxboro share in responsibility.

IT'S DUNN'S DOING

Greensboro Daily News
After, and perhaps because of, having been called upon by the parent-teacher association

Open Forum

June 9, 1945
Editors, The Courier-Times
Roxboro, North Carolina.
Dear Sirs:

Will you please publish the following, "Christ, the Light of the World?"

Sincerely yours,
O. D. FRAZIER.
(Enclosure)

"CHRIST, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD"

(By O. D. FRAZIER)
Christ the light of the world. The world loves darkness rather than light. They won't come to the light lest their deeds be reproved so says the Bible and true it is Hitler and Germany chose darkness rather than the light and Japan did the same. Germany has gone down in disruption and Japan is on her way, and she has it coming to her and will get it in due time.

If Germany and Japan had chosen the light and had followed the teaching of the Master in dealing with their fellowmen Germany would have been intact and a thrifty and prosperous country today. While she lays in ruin, humiliated and beaten. Any individual or nation that rules God out of their lives and chooses darkness rather than light and defy the master and try to run over Him rough shod by dealing out injustice to His people or nation is headed for a fall.

Sin is darkness in itself and when one follows the life of sin, their eyes are closed to the light, to the right and reason and justice. Hitler's life was so full of sin and darkness he was just about as low as lower animals. He lost all reasoning power and had no mercy for humanity and was a beast or worse.

There is a sin sweeping our nation and it is lust and grave for sinful pleasure. If people do not wake up and seek the true light I wonder what and how the conditions of our beloved country will be forty years from now.

I wonder, yes, I wonder, God has blessed our beloved America and He will continue to bless you if you heed and try to please Him. Pray that we won't ever reach the stage or be by Him as Germany has been since He has blessed and loved us.

The world loves darkness rather than light. They won't come to the light lest their deeds be reproved. Dear Friends, our Master sees all and knows all things, won't you let Him, Christ the light of the world, show you the light and the way.

to re-elect the current district principal (H. C. Gaddy, one-time district Superintendent in Roxboro) or explain its refusal, the Dunn school board has resigned.

Offhand, and without recourse to personalities—let's not list by names either the members of the school board or the officers of P.-T. A.—we'd say the majority of the freedoms were being given a workout in Harnett.

Certainly a parent-teacher group ought to have an opinion as to the value of the service rendered by the district principal and coupled with that opinion should go a willingness to make it operative in educational management. On the other hand, a school board might not be blamed for deciding that it did not care to refer its decisions of policy to a self-elected advisory board.

One hears that the board thinks the principal has been none too effective as a disciplinarian and sought his resignation, but stood willing to compromise on what was termed an "agreed discharge." We wouldn't know the difference unless it should be that the principal was as a matter of principle insisting that the board take full responsibility for his retirement.

There is no suggestion from this quarter as to the exact course to pursue, but we have often wondered what would happen to a school if the parent-teacher association were required to take over.

The Meaning Of The Blue Uniform

By Miss Agnes Bowe, District Supervisor, Tri-County Health Department.

Are you one of those who has asked whether the nurse in blue is a graduate nurse? The public health nurse is always a graduate nurse. In the Orange-Person-Chatham District the public health nurse is a graduate nurse plus one year of University training in public health and a certificate in public health nursing.

The navy blue uniform is the traditional uniform of public health nurses in the United States. It consists of a tailored blue dress with a white collar. It doubtless was adopted because it was more practical for street wear. The public health nurse carries on her activities in the community and in the homes of the community instead of in hospitals. There are approximately twenty thousand public health nurses.

The public health nurse comes in response to the family's call for help or as a part of the community educational program for health. She helps families solve the problems created by acute or chronic illnesses in the home, demonstrates necessary nursing procedures, gives them health facts to serve as a guide for healthy living, refers them to available community resources for medical care and for solution of social problems affecting the health situation.

The public health nurse deals primarily with prevention of disease and promotion of health. Her interests include family nutrition, a routine of daily living, and sanitary environment, housing in relation to health, and mental hygiene aspects of home life, including psychological guidance of young children. Often she finds these factors affecting a health situation, as in tuberculosis, malnutrition, nervousness in children, venereal disease, maternity and other problems. She is constantly helping families and individuals recognize and solve their health problems. A program of maternity and infant and child supervision affords many opportunities. The supervision and control of acute communicable disease, tuberculosis, and venereal disease, provides further access into health situations. The school program of physical examination brings to light many defects for correction such as poor teeth, poor eyes, orthopedic defects, malnutrition, and diseased tonsils.

She can never help with one problem alone. The health of the individual member of the family is tied up with good medical knowledge, technical skills, and teaching ability. But this is not enough. She must be able to face any crisis in human living on whatever level of intelligence she may encounter it, and relate herself helpfully to the individuals involved in the situation. To do this requires an educated heart and steadiness of character. Public health nurses have dedicated themselves to preventive nursing of the physical and mental life of the world. They are the first line of defense among community health and medical workers. The blue uniform symbolizes their service.

"Papa Belong" And "Hello Mary"

In the South Pacific Islands much of the talk between the natives and outsiders is carried on in pidgin English. Here is the Lord's prayer in pidgin, as furnished by Chaplain R. H. Sanders, former pastor of the Methodist church in Temple City, Cal.:

"Papa belong me-fella He stops on top Name belong You if tabo Kinkdom belong You it com. Me fella down all the same all on top he hear talk belong You. You bring food today belong me-fella. You forgive me-fella all the same me-fella he forgive all, all who make no good to me-fella; You no bring me-fella close to road it, no good. You lose all the same things no good is kicked out from me-fella."

Most of us will find this language a little awkward, to say the least, but it is said that our service men soon pick up a knowledge of pidgin and speak easily with the primitive natives. These natives have been of invaluable aid to our forces in fighting the Japs, who treated them cruelly. Many of them are Christians, having been taught by missionaries from Protestant and Catholic churches before the war. Here is the Catholic Hail Mary in pidgin:

"Hello, Mary, you full up with grace. Him mahster He stop with you, you number one among altogether Marys, you good fella. Jesus, the child, belong you. He good fella. Mary Holy Mother belong God, you help me-fella man belong sin, now and up to that day me-fella die.—Amen."—E. D. Stephens in Caswell Messenger.

Negro county agents in 43 counties report that production of chickens is being increased to help solve the meat shortage.

Cooperative wool sales are scheduled for Williamston on June 20; Asheville, June 22; and Fugate Springs, July 11.

A CHARTER OF EDUCATION FOR RURAL CHILDREN

The first White House conference on rural education presents the following as the educational rights of every rural child and pledges itself to work for their achievement: Conference held October 3, 4, 5, 1944, Washington.

1. Every rural child has the right to a satisfactory, modern elementary education. This education should be such as to guarantee the child an opportunity to develop and maintain a healthy body and a balanced personality, to acquire the skills needed as tools of learning, to get a good start in understanding and appreciating the natural and social world, to participate happily and helpfully in home and community life, to work and play with others, and to enjoy and use music, art, literature and handicrafts.

2. Every rural child has the right to a satisfactory, modern secondary education. This education should assure the youth continued progress in his general, physical, social, civic and cultural development begun in the elementary school, and provide initial training for farming or other occupations and an open door to college and the professions.

3. Every rural child has the right to an educational program that bridges the gap between home and school, and between school and adult life. This program requires, on the one hand, cooperation with parents for the home education of children too young for school and for the joint educational guidance by home and school of all other children; and, on the other hand, the cooperative development of cultural and vocational adult education suited to the needs and desires of the people of the community.

4. Every rural child has the right through his school to health services, educational and vocational guidance, library facilities, recreational activities and, where needed, school lunches and pupil transportation facilities at public expense. Such special services, because they require the employment of specially qualified personnel, can be supplied most easily through enlarged units of school administration and the cooperation of several small schools.

5. Every rural child has the right to teachers, supervisors and administrators who know rural life and who are educated to deal effectively with the problems peculiar to rural schools. Persons so educated should hold State certificates that set forth their special qualifications, should be paid adequate salaries, and should be protected by law and fair practices in security of their positions as a reward for good faithful services.

The accomplishment of these objectives is the responsibility of local leadership, state departments of education, the teacher-education institutions and national leaders in rural education.

6. Every rural child has the right to educational service and guidance during the entire year and full-time attendance in a school that is open for not less than nine months in each year for at least 12 years. The

educational development of children during vacation time is also a responsibility of the community school. In many communities the period of schooling has already become 14 years and should become such in all communities as rapidly as possible.

7. Every rural child has the right to attend school in a satisfactory, modern building. The building should be attractive, clean, sanitary, safe, conducive to good health, equipped with materials and apparatus essential to the best teaching, planned as a community center, and surrounded by ample space for playgrounds, gardens, landscaping and beautification.

8. Every rural child has the right through the school to participate in community life and culture. For effective service the school plant must be planned and recognized as a center of community activity; the closest possible interrelationships should be maintained between the school and other community agencies, and children and youth should be recognized as active participants in community affairs.

9. Every rural child has the right to a local school system sufficiently strong to provide all the services required for a modern education. Obtaining such a school system depends upon organizing amply large units of school administration. Such units do not necessarily result in large schools. Large schools can usually provide broad educational opportunities more economically, but with special efforts small schools can well serve children and communities.

10. Every rural child has the right to have the tax resources of his community, state and nation used to guarantee him an American standard of educational opportunity. This right must include equality of opportunity for minority and low-income groups. Since many rural youth become urban producers and consumers, it is necessary for the development of the democratic way of life that the wealth and productivity of the entire nation should aid in the support of the right of every child to a good education.

These are the rights of the rural child because they are the rights of every child regardless of race, or color, or situation, wherever he may live under the United States flag.

—Quoted from May issue, N. C. Public School Bulletin.

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