

Editorial

THE CHARLOTTE LABOR JOURNAL

(and Dixie Farm News)

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H. A. Stalls, Editor and Publisher W. M. Witter, Associate Editor

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CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM

North Carolina is to have a complete, practical cancer control program that is unequalled in any other state in the South. Some features must wait for legislative enactment and appropriation to supplement the provisions of the cancer control bill passed by the 1945 General Assembly. It is estimated that about five years will be needed to get the program in full operation.

The six-point five year cancer control program, which is calculated to fill a void in the state's medical and health picture, that has troubled thoughtful doctors and lay citizens who have watched the rising toll taken by cancer, was mapped out by the cancer committee of the Medical Society of the State of North Carolina, of which Dr. Ivan M. Proctor, of Raleigh, is chairman. It has the approval of such medical leaders as Dr. Oren Moore, of Charlotte, president; Dr. Roscoe D. McMillan, of Red Springs, secretary-treasurer; and Dr. Hubert Haywood, of Raleigh, legislative chairman, of the Medical Society of the State of North Carolina. It has, too, the approval of Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, of Raleigh, secretary of the North Carolina State Board of Health. Dr. Robert P. Morehead of Winston-Salem was recently appointed educational director for the State.

The cancer committee, as stipulated in the 1945 cancer control act, includes one physician from each congressional district in its personnel. The group represents, too, various branches of medicine that are directly concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

FORGOTTEN MEN?

There is reassurance in the knowledge that, with hostilities now well over, the men who suffered wounds or illness in winning the victory are not forgotten. We have ample evidence that every effort is being put forth not only to hasten physical recovery but to bring about complete rehabilitation in mind and morale, and the knowledge that they are not forgotten doubtless is a strong contributing factor in instilling assurance and confidence to any men who suffered permanent injuries in conflict or who have become discouraged during necessarily slow convalescence.

Medical and Army and Navy authorities recognize the value of endeavors which serve as diversions from the regular routine. One such project to which they pay high tribute is the model car design competition now being conducted among hospitalized service men by the Fisher Body Craftsmen's Guild. This General Motors educational foundation is enrolling hospitalized service men in a project which combines creative thinking with handicraft. The men design and build their own model cars, and to make it additionally worthwhile the Craftsman's Guild is offering \$30,000 in awards

to those who make the best models.

General Omar Bradley, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, has said that "activities of this nature are a modern and direct approach to the problem of rehabilitation." He added that in the anticipated expansion of occupational therapy programs the building of model cars might well have a place.

Edward N. Scheiberling, retiring commander of the American Legion, sees the Craftsman's Guild program as "a most worthy project—but even worthier is the thought behind the project, that America is remembering her disabled heroes and that this memory extends into the halls of industry." Mr. Scheiberling, noting that our Army was the most mechanized the world has ever known, believes that the service men "may well contribute something worthwhile in new design to industry."

MORE PROGRESSIVE FARMING

The farm population of the United States in 1940 was more than 30 million; there were 1,060,852,374 acres of land in farms. That is the basic foundation of the Nation's "bread basket." And yet, the place of tractors is down to number 30 in manufacturing, while other agriculture machinery ranked at 61 in importance. Full-fashioned hosiery, cotton yarn, rayon, dyes, footwear, canned and dried fruits and vegetables, and products and articles too numerous to mention topped the record of farm machinery.

All of this points clearly to the fact that the major part of farm labor is manual labor. Mothers and the boys and girls, are working almost twice as many hours as factory laborers—and part of their drudgery is milking the cows. Did you ever see electric milkers in action? They milk a cow so fast that bossie doesn't have time to switch her tail into the milk pail.

Of course we have all seen farm tractors—they do more "work" with one or two men engaged most of the time in sitting still and watching than a half-dozen farm hands. A modern farm with modern farm machinery looks so comfortable to the uninitiated "city-feller" that he would be tempted to give up his place in town and retire to an easier locale on a well developed, machine-operated farm. He forgets that the farms of our country have been made possible by hard work, and frugal living.

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson reminds his countrymen that only a century and a half ago the United States was predominate as an agricultural nation "with 9 out of 10 people living on farms and homespun self-sufficiency, but now less than 2 people out of 10 live on the land." While farming was still in the handicraft stage at the turn of the present century, its power was that of men and draft animals. The Secretary says that "the farmer of 1946 is far more productive than he was even five years ago," and he ex-

plains the reason, briefly as follows: "He is making wider use of modern methods, modern machinery, and improved crops and livestock. He knows the need for soil conservation and is making rapid progress in the art of

conservation-type farming. He knows more about the economic forces that regulate his market and his prices, and he knows how to manage the national production of food and fiber to keep it in line with effective demand."

WORKING IT OUT

By Frances Perkins

One is impressed with the vitality and energy with which the Belgian people are working on their recovery, economic, and political. They are politically very sophisticated. Their history is full of the periods of occupation by foreign conquerors and invaders, and they say of themselves, "We understand the mentality of all invaders and how to protect ourselves in some degree." When I was in Ghent recently, I was so impressed with the activity of Belgians and with the obviously improved economic condition of the country that I asked many people in all walks of life, "What is the cause, why is Belgium so much better off than the neighboring countries?" A former Prime Minister who is also an economist and financial expert, one greatly experienced in several countries of the world, pointed out certain favorable economic factors, such as the Belgian Congo's production placed in the Allied pool and therefore giving the Belgians an actual credit under lend-lease of a very large amount. Also, he pointed out the diversification of industry and agriculture and the variety of skill. He mentioned the fact that Belgium is accustomed to being occupied and therefore did not suffer the psychological shock which came to Holland and France. And then he added, "Another thing and most important—it is always the habit and attitude in Belgium that everyone must do what he can where he is."

I talked also to a former large industrialist who is now conducting his industry temporarily in a small shed and in a small way but every month showing expansion, repairs to the war damaged plant, and more employment. I asked him why, and he said again, "In Belgium it is necessary that everyone should do his part and promptly."

A University President whose brilliant record during the resistance is universally admired said the same. A little grocer in a side street confirmed it. An elderly great lady of aristocratic name and position, explaining her resistance which had been courageous and explaining the fire in honor of American visitors in the little airtight stove in her drawing room (fire and heat in any room is most unusual in Belgium) described how, to have it, she had cut small trees and shrubbery in her own garden at the back of the house, and then added, "In Belgium, everyone must do what he can in his own way."

And in the last day of my visit in Belgium, I was talking with a group of workmen who, with picks and shovels and pikes and crowbars, were painfully destroying the West Wall of German fortifications and rebuilding the destroyed docks and fish market without cranes and bulldozers and mixing machines—doing it painfully by old-fashioned hand methods because the Germans had carted off their modern machinery. I spoke briefly to one of the groups and congratulated them upon their work and their determined assault upon the problem of recovery in Ostend. They smiled politely as though it were nothing to make a fuss about. Then one of them said to me, "It is all right. In Belgium, everyone must do what he can."

I came to the conclusion that this is the Belgian motto, and the key to their mentality which makes it possible for them to move so rapidly and effectively without waiting for an over-all plan, a directive, or even a promise of reward. Copyright, Institute for American Democracy, Inc.—1946.

RUTH TAYLOR SAYS:

OUR TAXES

There are a lot more people paying taxes today than ever before. And it is supposed to be very funny to joke about the subject in a bewailing sort of way.

I don't find a joke about taxes at all humorous. I just don't happen to think we should joke about something that should be taken seriously.

No, I don't like a curtailed income better than anyone else—but, somehow, reading the great mass of reports of conditions overseas that come to my desk each day, has made me see in a different light.

Taxes are one of the few ways in which every citizen can participate in the government.

Taxes are a contribution every free born man and woman can make to the freedom which has given him and her an opportunity to earn a living.

Taxes are an insurance against slavery. They keep the brutal heel of the conqueror from pressing against the neck of any man or woman in this country.

Taxes are a tangible ex-

pression of our faith in the democratic processes, in equal justice for all before the law, in the way of life which is evolving for the first time on earth equal opportunity for every man and woman according to his or her talents.

Taxes are every citizen's obligation—paid as fairly as is possible upon every person able and willing to earn his way. Tax-shirking and tax dodging aren't American. It's like cheating yourself—because you, too, are American.

Taxes are the price of liberty. To pay taxes is a privilege not a penalty. It is a proof of fitness. You should take pride in your ability to earn enough to pay a man's sized tax. Slaves do not pay taxes. Only free men pay them.

That is how I feel. And I don't think I'm different from anyone else. Let's not take this tax-paying lightly.

Let us instead think of the suffering, starving people all over the world—and be glad we have the privilege and the opportunity of paying our own way!

OFF THE BEAM

Worse Luck

Wife—I'll have you know that my mother came from a very fine family.

Hubby—That's all right except she brought it with her.

Air Cooled

Customer—I want to buy a derby.

Clerk—What size?

Customer—Oh, it doesn't make any difference. It's for my trombone.

Uncle Sam Says



This lad in the coal mines near Wilkes Barre, Pa., buys a Savings Bond every month because he is going to be married. "I've seen plenty of sickness and layoffs in my time," says Joe. "I've \$375.00 in War and Victory Bonds now. Ten years from now 25 bucks a month coming in. Imagine what that will mean to Irma and me, and maybe a couple of kids, specially if these diggings should be shut up for a while." U. S. Treasury Department

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