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### WEEKLY BIBLE THOUGHT

For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men.—1 Peter 3:15.

### LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

**A** GLOOMY prophecy of the outcome of the New Deal is ventured by Cecil Headrick in a letter to the editor which is printed in another column on this page.

Although we cannot agree with some of his conclusions, we hasten to welcome Mr. Headrick as a new resident of the county and new contributor to The Press-Maconian. His expressions of opinion bear the unmistakable tenor of sincerity without prejudice and the earmarks of honest thinking, which make conversation interesting and controversy friendly.

Like Mr. Headrick, we question the ability even of Uncle Sam to lift himself by his bootstraps; but is this the feat the administration is trying to accomplish? True, some of the New Deal methods would seem to indicate an affirmative answer. Cutting production to raise prices certainly has the outward appearance of an attempt to defy the law of gravity by super-economic gymnastics. But the outcome of the New Deal cannot be prophesied with accuracy on any single phase of its program. The plan is so broad that it is difficult to encompass; but we must look at it as a whole, not piece by piece, if we are to forecast its effects.

The agricultural adjustment program may in time prove unsuccessful; even the NRA may fail for lack of constitutional authority or, more likely, for lack of popular support; but there is one thing we can rest assured of: The man at the head of the administration will recognize error when committed and will take proper steps to right a wrong. He has plainly stated that he will follow a policy of "bold experimentation" and experiment almost always entails some mistakes, for it is a process of trial and error. But trial and error is far better than an inert policy of laissez faire.

The public, we think, rightly imposes full confidence in Mr. Roosevelt's statement:

"I may take some wrong turnings, and we may have to retrace our steps at times, but if you will trust me and follow me and all keep together, I will lead you out."

He does not say that he will lead us to a Utopia, to a fairyland where "the stable-boy is going to rise in the world just like the young prince," as seems to be the impression of Mr. Headrick; he does not promise rewards without effort. In fact, his promises are far less lavish than those of his predecessor, who rashly assured us of a "chicken in every pot and car in every garage."

Let us forget the future for the time and view what already has been accomplished by the New Deal; this will enable us the better to foresee what is yet to come. We will not consider the alleviation of suffering through government projects employing millions of men, for this is only temporary. Nor will we take into account the rise in commodity prices and the increase in wages. Disregarding these, there have been other accomplishments of lasting character, accomplishments which before 1933 most of us thought would require perhaps a generation, at least a decade, to bring about.

The worst evils of child labor have been abolished without the necessity of waiting for adoption of a constitutional amendment to that end.

A vast program of conservation of natural resources for the public good has been undertaken. This, in itself, however, is not so important as the definite enunciation of a hitherto hazy principle that natural resources are not merely a field for private exploitation.

Establishment of the Tennessee Valley Authority already has made the power companies, many of them overflowing with watered stock, realize that they no longer can run things to suit themselves. Power rates already have begun to tumble, although the T. V. A. has not yet had time to apply its "yardstick" of production and distribution costs.

A tottering banking system has collapsed and in its place a new financial structure has been reared on a firmer foundation. Banks have been barred from reckless speculation and deposits have been insured up to \$2,500.

State rights have been restored and tolerance has reasserted itself through repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.

More important than all this, however, is the development of a sincere humanitarian spirit in government and a stronger, finer morale in the governed.

All this has been accomplished in less than a year; are we not justified in expecting even greater accomplishments in the future?

### LET'S RAISE MULES AND HORSES

**F**ARMERS on the other side of the Mississippi are making a lot of money through the negligence of southern farmers to raise their own mules and horses.

Dealers in the city of Atlanta alone sold 38,064 mules for approximately \$4,834,128 during the five months ended January 1. This meant big business for breeders in the plain states of the middle west. Why shouldn't this business, or at least part of it, stay at home?

Farmers in Macon county, as well as in other sections of the south, can breed mules successfully, if they will make up their minds to do it and exercise a little enterprise. In fact, there was a time—in the pre-Ford era—when Macon county farmers raised a large part of their draft stock. Many of them took a great deal of pride in breeding fine horses. But now practically all our work stock comes from other states.

While prices for mules and horses, already have advanced considerably, there are indications that they are going to move still higher. It is foolish to think that the automobile is driving our four-footed friends out of the fields as well as off the roads. Regarding the supply and demand situation for work stock, Wayne Dinsmore, secretary of the Horse Association of America, says:

"Taking the United States as a whole, we have been producing only about half as many horses and less than one-third as many mules as we have lost annually for the past five years."

"It will not pay to engage in raising horses or mules purely for market purposes; but it will pay any farmer located in a section well suited to raising horses and mules, and who is a good judge of horses and mules and understands their care, to raise enough colts for replacement purposes, so that he can sell each year the work animals that are five to six years old."

Let's carry our "Live-at-Home" program a step further by producing our own work stock. Maybe we will find it profitable to raise a few extra head to sell to our neighbors.

### BREVITIES—BY E. E. F.

Always room at the top, and bottom.  
Home brew never helped a home-brood.  
Ballots work reforms better than bullets.

Holding the chest high means fuller breaths.  
Nothing stands still; life means progress or decay.  
Heads seldom get together until hearts get together.

The miser finds pleasure in denying himself pleasure.  
Children should never be made sad at bed time or at meal time.

Plenty of wheels turning, but too many of them are rubber tired.

The author of "Give me liberty or give me death" owned many slaves.

"Better is he that ruleth his own spirit than he that taketh a city."

You cannot harm another without harming yourself; or help another without helping yourself.

Mothers have the most responsibility, least appreciation, longest hours, and most heart breaks.  
To be admired, quit talking about yourself, and give the other fellow a chance to talk about himself.

### Clippings

#### EUROPE'S RECOVERY BEYOND NEW DEAL STAGE

Europe is recovering from the depression without an NRA.

How can she do it?

"The reason," says Andre Maurois, French author and commentator on world affairs, in the Rotarian Magazine, "is that this task has been rendered more easy because of two factors. First of all, Europe did have her New Deal, before America. European financiers were very indignant last summer, when America had apparently decided on inflation, and it is true that, at that time, Europe was sick of inflation. Why? Because she herself had gone in for inflation on a grand scale a few years before."

"There is another reason why countries like France, or even apparently much less wealthy countries, like Spain, can stand the crisis better than the United States. In France, the backbone of the country consists of a large number of small farmers, living on their own land, and producing all the food they need, sometimes even the clothes they wear. In good years, the farmers exchange their surplus products with the outside world, and then they buy a dress, a cart, or a bicycle. In bad years, this little agricultural group retires within itself. Granted that they can sell nothing, it is at least certain that they do not die of hunger. "Still another factor," he continues, "which renders the life of European peasants more easy in times of crisis is that almost all of them have money saved. The American farmer had mortgaged his future. On the contrary, the French or Italian farmer has made a habit of always having something in reserve for the future. He does not like to have recourse to credit. He does so only when compelled by illness, but never—or very rarely—in order to buy land. When he buys land, he pays cash for it in bank notes extracted from his 'woolen stocking.' This is a more cautious method, but it is less dangerous to the national economy. "Furthermore, the banking system of Europe is older, more conservative, more centralized, and is therefore better prepared to weather a financial storm."

### Public Opinion

#### A PESSIMISTIC PROPHECY

I am a newcomer in Macon county. It was toward the end of June last year when Edith and I came winding through Swain county, delighted at its beauty, only to be completely overwhelmed the next day by the grandeur of the mountains around Highlands.

We had been recommended to this section by a certain Mr. Smiley who used to teach in Highlands. He, with his wife and eight of his children, now lives and teaches in Bushnell below Bryson City. There may be some readers in Highlands township who recall having gone to school under him. His eldest son is now a librarian at the State University at Chapel Hill.

First we were sent to the Flats.

We didn't find anything there, but we heard about a piece farther up the road. The attractive thing about this new piece of land was that it had a clear title—and the man who wanted to sell a few of his acres was an honest, fair-dealing man. His name is Columbus Vinson. We bought his place back down the Otto-Highlands wagon road below Broadway Gap, a part of the old McCall estate and near the Andrew Wilson place. Last summer we used to sit on the Vinson porch in the evening and talk about business, politics, the economic drift and the NRA. The other day he asked me what I thought the future held in store. I wrote back that I would address a letter to The Press and enlarge up-

### IT PAYS TO CURE HOME SUPPLY OF MEAT

**S**OME good advice on curing pork at home is given by J. H. McLeod, extension livestock specialist of the University of Tennessee, in an article appearing in the current issue of the Southern Cultivator.

Many farmers in Macon county, as well as in other sections of the south, are losing money and living on poor fare because they cure an insufficient supply of meat. There is no good reason why this county cannot supply its own pork, but Franklin grocers each year import thousands of pounds of side meat, most of it for sale to rural customers.

Mr. McLeod points out that pork can be raised and cured at home 35 per cent cheaper than it can be bought. Continuing, he adds: "While there are a large number of farmers who have had splendid success in the butchering and curing pork, there are others who have not been entirely satisfied with results secured."

"Some people have been disappointed in the quality of meat they have obtained. This may be due to the curing or to the type of hogs they have killed. Heavy hogs often attract attention in a community for their size and weight, but they do not make the best quality of meat. The choicest hams and meat come from hogs that do not weigh over 200 pounds—however, hogs weighing around 250 pounds make nice meat and are very satisfactory because of a larger dressing percentage and for the larger amount of lard obtained. Rapidly grown hogs are more palatable and will also keep longer whether fresh or cured. Hogs that are kept off feed for 15 to 24 hours before slaughtering, bleed better and produce meat of somewhat better quality. Hogs for slaughter should be handled quietly and gently. Beating and chasing hogs before slaughter is detrimental to a good 'stick,' and bruises from the licks leave blood spots that have to be trimmed out."

There are four main reasons why pork spoils on the farm. They are: First, improper bleeding; second, failure to get the animal heat out of meat before curing; third, failure to repace meat during the curing process; fourth, failure to cure long enough.

on the few predictions which I outlined to him.

It is a risky business—predicting about recovery or depression. It's like predicting about the weather. Who knows how hot next summer will be, or how dry?

But when we observe closely, we seem to discern a similarity after all—when we compare business cycles, the ups and downs, with the seasons, winter and summer. Or take the parallels of ancient times—such as are in the Bible—where seven lean and seven fat years follow each other.

Nowadays we can be sure of this—that recovery is getting under way in some quarters, that prices are rising, that business is picking up—all (perhaps) because the government is putting money into the hands of the purchasing public—if for no other reason.

It is very risky to predict. One can endanger his reputation "playing with such fire," but I'll take the risk. Everyone has to plan for the future and everyone has to guess. Else, how would a man turn a tra or start up a business or buy a farm?

Before I "predict the future," however, I want to state a few of the things which perplex me as I watch the present trends of national affairs.

The first is the gold hoard. My question is why we—every Tom, Dick and Harry of us—had to turn in every little piece of gold we might have been saving even for sentimental reasons—and now Congress has to engage in a bitter fight and the whole country be torn in verbal conflict in order to get the Reserve banks to release to the government the very gold which we turned over to them. This I do not understand and I believe it would be hard for anyone to explain. Secondly, I am concerned about the future of the farmer. It appears as if he were "in for" years more of hard sledding, turn he left or turn he right. The road straight ahead was long since blocked.

Reasons for concern are easily grasped. We need only bear in mind that the farmer lived under a cloud from 1920 to 1929, while the sun shone on Detroit and Los Angeles. With the return of "prosperity" the government hopes to carry the farmer along with the rest of the boys on their road up to the "peak."

The government is going to try to carry the farmer along? The plan reads like a fairy tale. The stable-boy is going to rise in the world just like the young prince? Incredible!

Can the administration, try as it may, carry the farmer along on an equal basis with the other branches of business? I doubt it, and for many reasons—the greatest being, probably, because land values tend to mount faster than farm profits—because of the influx of "surplus" money from banking, manufacturing, and merchandizing sources. Land is sure — much safer than stocks and bonds. Therefore it is bid up in price until it has an artificial value, a speculative value, so that the farmer who wants to own

## Your Farm - How to Make It Pay

### The Farmer's Question Box

Timely Questions Answered by N. C. State College Experts

**Question:**—Can I get some forms or blanks for keeping records on my poultry flock?

**Answer:**—Forms for keeping flock improvement and production records are furnished by the Extension Poultryman at State College to all poultrymen who will agree to keep such records and make monthly reports to his office. The records turned in each month are figured at the College and a report made to each cooperator together with suggestions as to how to improve the flock. Detailed information may be secured from your farm agent or from C. F. Parrish, State College, Raleigh.

**Question:**—Can a farmer sign the corn-hog contract if he does not intend to plant corn or raise hogs this year?

**Answer:**—Yes, provided that corn and hogs were produced on the farm in 1932-33. However, the grower cannot receive payment for any reduction in excess of 30 per cent of the 1932-33 production. The production of hogs may also be cut as much as the grower sees fit but he will only receive payment for 25 per cent of the 1932-33 production which claim should be supported by sales receipts or by signed statements from persons or agencies buying, selling, or consigning the hogs.

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his farm and live on it must go in to debt in order to buy the land, a debt the return from his labor does not liquidate. Everyone knows the results of false land values.

It is a plain fact that since the grand "opening up" days of 1870 industry and finance have reserved for themselves the best seats in the theatre and have slowly, but surely, pushed agriculture into the end seats and even so far up and out that many must beg today for "standing room."

The administration proposes to do the ordinary business trick, so common among manufacturers and especially among monopolies and trusts, of cutting production in such a way as to be able to "hold up" the consumer, much as if the whole process were not a systematic, slow, but sure method of killing the goose that lays the golden egg. To that end we have special taxes and the movement to take land out of production, especially the production of certain staple crops.

Except for land which the government actually buys and rehabilitates by reforestation, the whole program is in danger of collapsing within the next two years.

The first reason for its demise will be the fact that farmers without contracts will continue to overload the market, production will be stimulated, either because of new land turned over to the staple crops or because of the intensification of cultivation on the part of those with government contracts. Furthermore, American agriculture is geared to produce for a much larger market than the demands of home consumption.

Now appears the second problem—how to increase home consumption. Alas, we find that the city will not, in the long run, be made a better consumer, even though more of his purchasing power is diverted toward agricultural products! Queer as that may sound—because the city man's inability (in that his purchasing power has been diverted to food products) to keep other industries active will throw him into unemployment — thus increasing again the number of people who will have to return to agriculture to produce for the dwindling city market!

Nor can it be maintained that what the city man fails to buy of shoes and shirts will be bought by the farmer—thus keeping the city workers employed. Whatever surplus there is for the farmer due to processing taxes is quickly taken up by taxation, interest, higher costs of that which he buys, etc. Furthermore, the plan will work out to give the farmer the same money for a smaller crop—if it works out at all—by cutting production, making the increase per bushel greater, but the real income per farm will not rise except where aided by actual bonuses from the government.

And, once the city has recovered a bit it will become jealous watching Uncle Sam play Santa Claus to the farmer by special processing taxation, and pressure will be brought upon the government to discontinue "subsidizing" the farm-

### CHECK DAMS IN GULLIES

**T**O get the best results from check dams in gullies, tops of dams should be low enough in the middle and high enough at the ends to carry the runoff water after heavy rains without overflowing gully banks or washing soil around ends of dams, say engineers of the United States Department of Agriculture.

If dams are too high, the carrying capacities of gullies are reduced and water overflows their banks and washes around the ends of the dams, and can form new gullies down the slopes parallel to the old ones. Where dams are watertight the ends should extend far enough into the gully banks to prevent water seeping around the dams and washing away the sides of gullies.

Foundations of dams should extend far enough below the bottoms of the gullies so that hydraulic pressure will not force the water under the dams, to undermine and destroy them. The floors of gullies should be paved at the lower sides of the dams for sufficient length and width to prevent any erosion or undermining of the dams by water eroding over the crests.

Dams are built in gullies to cause their filling with sediment carried by runoff water and to check soil erosion. When gullies in pasture lands eliminate danger of accidents to grazing animals.

Temporary dams usually are made of materials found on farms, such as stakes, brush, straw, logs and loose rock. Woven wire is also used. Most temporary dams are porous when first built, but the spaces gradually fill with trash and soil brought down by the water.

Caldwell county farmers paid \$1,477.75 for enough red raspberry plants to plant 118 acres of land.

In Yadkin county, 94 wheat growers have received rental payments of \$2,490.20 for reducing the acreage this winter.

er. Then he will be back where he was—shunted off into the upper balconies, while protection and subsidies and "loans" will continue for transportation, commerce, manufacturing and finance.

Furthermore, with this extra land which he no longer plants in cotton or wheat, the farmer will raise grass and horses, thereby lessening his demand for autos, tractors, fertilizer, gasoline and freight cars—thereby reducing employment in the cities and diminishing his own market for better-priced vegetables, fruits, berries and other products such as lumber for houses and buildings.

The end result will be that the farmer will become more self-sufficient, the demands for commercial products will decline, the cities will lose their only market and the farmer in turn will lose his market and there will be a general migration back to the land and back to the subsistence level.

This letter is only a taste of the great problem which the government faces, the problem of balancing the city with the country—how to maintain this enormous city civilization, built up under privilege and favoritism—with no real consumers for its mass production, or for its expanded agricultural facilities.

There is an abundance being produced everywhere, but the devices for distribution should be enlarged, rather than the cutting down of production all along the line in order to raise prices and make it harder than ever to distribute!

And now to predict. I predict a rise in farm prices between now and the coming of summer, and then, if the government discontinues its huge relief and emergency expenditures, as it says it will, or even to only a partial extent of what it says it will, down will come the prices—just when the crop is ready for harvest, and the country will find itself slipping again.

Furthermore, good as this emergency money is, it only postpones the day—the day when it will not be distributed any longer—a day which everyone dreads.

True enough, we do not despair. In fact we put our hands into the grab-bag and get what we can out before the bag is empty! But the more we get, the harder will be the later re-adjustment after our speculative "dive." But to many of us it is not speculations at all; it is just learning over again the oldest lesson of the human race, to store food for the winter and for the rainy day.

Sincerely,  
Cecil Headrick.

### Rainbow Springs

J. W. Stanley went to Bryson City one day last week to attend court.

A. W. Agee left last week for the eastern part of this state on business.

S. M. Wolfe, of Asheville, was in town on an inspection tour through our plant last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Troy Sheffield and Miss Edith Tittle motored over to Hayesville for a pleasant drive last Sunday.