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and

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A Fine Opportunity for Generosity

ALTHOUGH a benign federal government has assumed in the time of dire necessity a large part of the burden of caring for the destitute, the responsibility of the individual toward his neighbor in want has not ceased.

It behooves each and all of us, as much for the benefit of our own consciences as for the relief of others' sufferings, to be generous toward those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a fine thing for government to realize its social responsibility and to care for the needy, but it would be a sad outcome should public relief replace private giving.

The Macon County branch of the Needlework Guild of America offers a good opportunity for an expression of individual generosity toward the needy. On Friday, November 2, this organization will hold its annual ingathering of garments, which will be distributed among worthy families in want. Anyone—man, woman or child—may qualify for membership in the guild by contributing two or more pieces of clothing or household linen, or by making a small cash donation. It is especially requested that clothing for children of school age be given, as the guild has learned there are many children in the county who possess insufficient clothing for the rigors of the approaching winter.

It is a worthy cause espoused by the Needlework Guild and it is sincerely hoped the people of Franklin and the whole county will respond whole-heartedly.

Reformers and Human Nature

OUR OBSERVATION of reformers is that they are always in too much of a hurry. We haven't anybody especially in mind, but we see and hear of lots of good people who think the world ought to be made over at once.

As far as we have read about what has gone on in the world in the past, there have been lots of tries at remodeling human nature, or at least of changing the shape of human organizations and institutions in the hope that, somehow, the change will react beneficially upon human nature. We have heard about very few such attempts that have succeeded in less than a few hundred years. Therefore we are inclined to be somewhat skeptical about any sort of an attempt to reform anything of material consequence in a few weeks or months or years.

We are not against reformers. Quite the contrary. We feel a good deal, at times, the way Omar Khayyam did when he wrote: "Ah, Love, could you and I with Him conspire

To grasp this sorry scheme of things entire,
Would we not shatter it to bits—and then
Remold it nearer to the Heart's desire?"

We confess, however, that we have been unable, so far, to "grasp this sorry scheme of things entire," and we question whether anyone else has been able to do that. And if we were able to "remold it nearer to the Heart's desire," the question would immediately arise to vex us: "Whose heart?" It takes a brave man, indeed, to assume that what he thinks is best for everybody will be accepted by everybody as best for themselves.

On the whole, perhaps, reformers do not do as much damage as some people imagine. And, on the whole, we think humanity has been doing a pretty good job of reforming itself, through the ages.—Selected.

"Easy Money" Is Gone Forever

WE HEAR a good many people talking about "Recovery" as if they believed that the aim and purpose of all the things that are being undertaken in the name of that commendable objective was to bring back the "easy-money" days of the later 1920's. We don't think that any thoughtful men, in or out of politics, expect or desire anything of the sort.

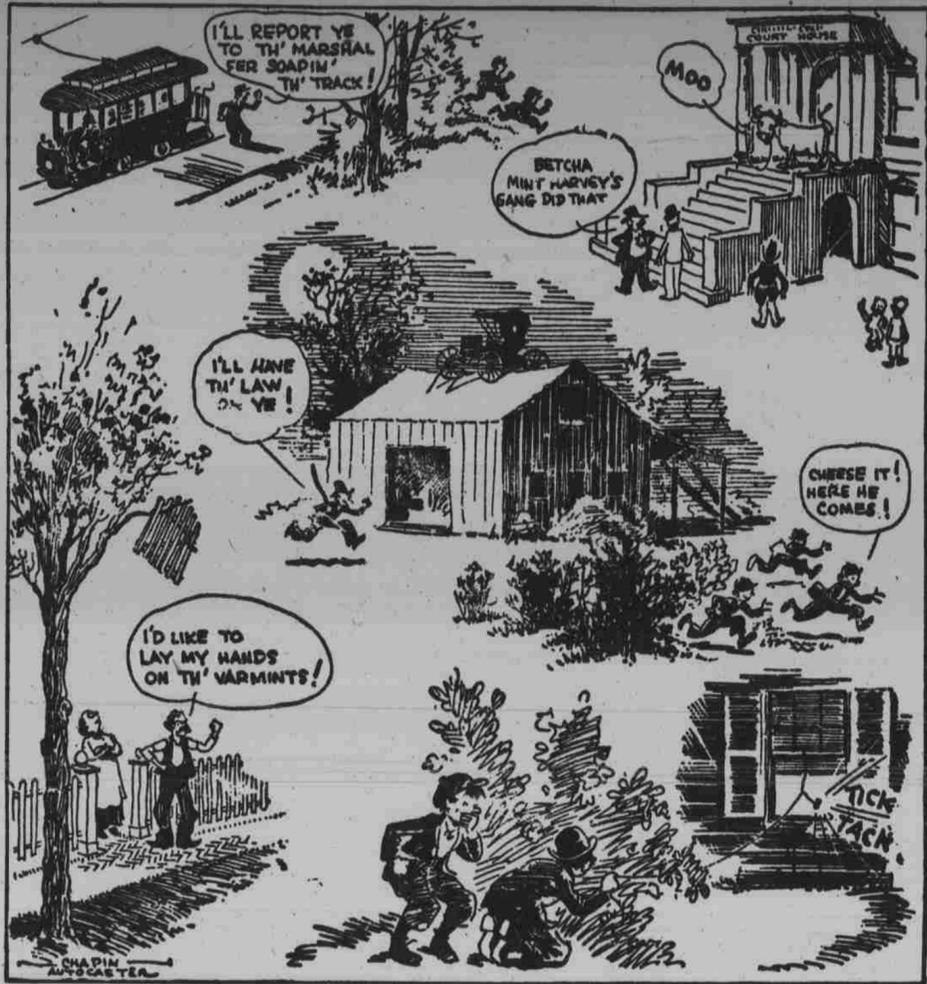
Those days were times when the hope and belief that there was some short-cut to riches pervaded a large section of the American people. We fear that there are many ambitious young men today who cherish the same sort of hope. We believe that most of them are doomed to disappointment.

To be sure, not many people actually did get rich in a hurry, but everybody, figuratively speaking, had a try at it. And enough achieved sudden wealth to inspire others with the belief that it was easy. As a matter of fact, it never was easy. The public simply didn't hear about the hard, patient work that those succeeded did before riches began to come their way; they only heard of them after they had won their wealth.

We do not understand that there is a purpose, anywhere, to restore conditions under which anybody can expect or hope to get rich without working even harder for them than those who gained them in the past worked. There always have been, always will be, a few to whom making money is a natural talent, who, under any social scheme, will always accumulate more than the majority. And we believe that there are as many opportunities as ever, perhaps more than ever, for the accumulation of wealth.

It seems to us, however, that for a good many years to come there is going to be a much closer scrutiny of the means whereby men become wealthy, and important riches are not going to be earned except by those who, in earning them, do something which definitely benefits society as a whole.—Selected.

Halloween of Yesteryear — by A. B. Chapin



THROUGH CAPITAL KEYHOLES BY BESS HINTON SILVER

CHISELING ON THE FARM—

Tenant farmers attending the meeting of tobacco growers at State College let the cat out of the bag on some landlords signing the acreage reduction contracts that boosted weed prices. These horny-handed sons of toil said that their landlords kept them on the place according to the terms of the contracts but appropriated all the tobacco allotments and made the tenants raise cotton and other less profitable crops. The share-croppers said they thought the Roosevelt program was a fine thing and that it was working swell in raising prices but that they would like to have the contracts revised to compel these chiseling landlords to let tenants in on the profits.

TROUBLE BREWING—

Political news-casters are spreading the word that Doctor (that's his name not a title) Mac Johnson, of Enfield, is getting his ducks in a row to oppose Congressman John H. Kerr for the Second District seat in 1936. The same boys also say that A. O. Dickens, Wilson attorney, plans another attempt at the job two years hence. Judge Kerr is co-author, with Senator (Cotton Ed) Smith, of South Carolina, of the Kerr-Smith law levying a tax on tobacco sold by non-signers of the government's tobacco crop reduction program. On the same day farmers at State College were praising the law, others met at Winston-Salem in protest and planned a campaign against it.

SQUABBLES—

Word trickling into Raleigh from Western North Carolina relates some of the difficulties Democrats in the mountain counties are experiencing as the November election draws near. The "regular" boys complain that many federal jobs with the CCC and other emergency agencies are going to Republicans and the rank-and-file of Democrats are not enthusiastic about that. The grapevine hears rumblings that this condition may cook Democratic order to the extent of electing Republicans to the General Assembly in some close counties. The followers of Jefferson would like to know what to do about it. Republicans aren't reporting any worries over the situation.

TIGHTENING UP—

Some time ago Keyholes called your attention to the coming drive of the State Revenue Department against delinquent tax-payers in order to swell receipts and justify the reorganization that has been going on for a year. Revenue Commissioner A. J. Maxwell and his executive assistant Dr. M. C. S. Noble, Jr., started out by prosecuting a number of Raleigh lawyers who had not paid their license fees. If suits against merchants and cafe owners haven't been filed in your town by this time you either live in a prosperous community or the suit-filers just haven't been able to get around to your town as yet.

BOYS, GET THE MONEY—

If you want a little money you might organize your neighbors and start a drive on the State highway fund. At least you could join the crowd. At present the schools want some of the money collected from gasoline taxes; county commissioners want some; cities and towns want a bit for paving streets and the automobile tax reduction league wants some so as to cut gasoline and license taxes. If there's any left, you may get the toll taken off your bridge and the bumps and mudholes in your own road repaired.

IT MAY BE A RACE—

Clyde R. Hoey, Shelby's gift to the Democratic party, and Congressman R. L. Doughton, have both signed-up for a long list of speaking engagements during the present campaign. Both are considered almost certain candidates for the gubernatorial nomination in 1936 and some of the political gumshoes are wondering if these two prominent Democrats are conducting a get-acquainted campaign while driving a few tacks for the party's candidates this fall.

BURRUS THREAT—

Dr. John T. Burrus, High Point surgeon and anti-sales taxer who defeated Capus M. Waynisk, State Director of Federal Reemployment, for the Democratic nomination to the Guilford county Senate seat, now pops up as a threat to Clyde R. Hoey, of Shelby, Congressman R. L. Doughton and Lieutenant Governor A. H. (Sandy) Graham in the race for the gubernatorial nomination less than two years hence. A lot of High Pointers, who have been giving barbecues and chicken stews frequently, believe that the Doctor has a good chance of succeeding Governor Ehringhaus. "We shall wait and see. It is some time off yet before another Governor is elected. If ever the call comes, I am in the hands of the

people," is the Doctor's answer to inquiries.

BADLY NEEDED—

Western North Carolina Democrats wish that Senator Robert Rice Reynolds hadn't decided to go tripping off to Old Mexico right on the eve of an election that holds Republican hopes in some mountain counties. They believe that the Junior Senator could have given the voters the works and made everything hotsy-totsy for the followers of President Roosevelt in some of the doubtful localities. They figure he can't get any votes down in Mexico, and long for the familiar pat on the back of voting overalls. Senator Reynolds chased off to Europe at a critical period of the repeal election last year. Those westerners take their politics seriously and count their friends among the men and women with their shoulders to the wheel when the old party wagon is in a hole.

BANKHEAD BILL—

More than one politician drifting into Raleigh is wondering what effect support or opposition to the Bankhead cotton control law may have upon the political future of North Carolina's Senators and Congressmen. Regardless of what your opinion of this measure may be, Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, estimates that about 90 per cent of the cotton producers favor the bill. Growers have been told that statutory control is responsible for prevailing prices. That makes it easily understood why many farmers favor the Bankhead law and the Kerr-Smith tobacco control bill. It is entirely possible that some of the North Carolina delegation have placed themselves on the spot. Only time can render the final verdict.

DEATH—

Speaking of automobile accidents—there were 856 deaths attributable to this source last year. No glaring headlines in the newspapers proclaimed this, no feature writers were called into action as was the case where the liner Morro Castle went down in a fire at sea with about 140 souls lost. Tragedy rides the highways every day and there's lots of room for safety provisions.

The virtues which serve the common weal originate primarily in feeling. An elemental sympathy with the happiness of others and an elemental sorrow for their misery are innate in our minds.