

# The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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### BIBLE THOUGHT

And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.—Romans 12:2.

St. Paul wrote these Romans not to do as Romans did. They remade Rome. Places and people are esteemed because they are different. Emerson said, "Whoso would be a man must be a non-conformist." Live fish swim against the current.

### Governor's Prompt Action

THE whole state welcomes Governor Broughton's prompt action to increase North Carolina's participation in the national defense program.

The Governor has approached the matter in a constructive way. Without referring to the fact that this and other Southern states have not received a proportionate share of defense projects to date, he indicates that he will recommend a joint federal-state survey of water and minerals, as one means to bring directly to President Roosevelt's attention the suitability and adequacy of this state to handle a larger quota of defense industries.

He has urged immediate action upon North Carolina's representatives and senators who are scheduled to confer this week on methods to bring defense industries to North Carolina. The general sentiment in the state at present, whether or not justified, is that the state's delegation in congress has lagged in this particular. At any rate, the efforts they may have put forth so far have not been crowned with notable success. Therefore, their constituents back home will await with keen expectancy the results of this concerted effort on their part to correct the situation.

### State Marketing Label

NORTH CAROLINA'S farm and orchard products will no longer be nameless in the country's markets if plans discussed in Raleigh this week materialize.

The State Department of Agriculture is sponsoring a broad marketing program which would use a uniform label on farm products of quality. Commissioner Kerr Scott pointed out that North Carolina needs and must have such a program if the farmers are to receive a just share of the consumer's dollar.

Consumers in this state daily purchase products from other states marked with a familiar label that guarantees their quality; the more familiar being from California, Florida and South Carolina.

This step would be in keeping with the whole program of agricultural improvement and education in the state, with the proper grading of marketed products. It is a necessary step if our farmers are to compete on equal terms with growers in other states whose products are advertised and well known by the buying public.

### How Some Minds Work

THIS is a great war if we don't get into it," is one man's apt way of expressing the attitude of many who are actively opposing, in one way or another, the lend-lease bill's plan to aid Britain. "Whatever comes, let us profit while we can up to the point of saving our own skins" is the implied, if not expressed, policy of a minority which might be designated as of the "dollars-and-cents" school of thought.

There are many high-minded citizens who base their opposition to any risk of United States involvement in war on the highest plane, believing that this country would lose its moral leadership and future opportunity to help world recovery after the war if forced to enter the war to save Great Britain. These deserve every consideration in respect to their counsel.

But it is well to note the mental processes of those who, for instance, demand the impossible condition that the United States be assured as to the kind of Britain that will emerge after being saved. The implication is that what is left of England might conceivably go fascist or communist; in that case, good American dollars would be worse than wasted.

Going back to the outbreak of the war, these same were the extreme isolationists who opposed "entangling alliances", who expressed willingness to "let Europe stew in her own juice," accepting passively as eternally recurrent, "those European squabbles."

A little later, these same were won over to sell war supplies to Britain on the cash-and-carry plan. They are now likewise for defense on a grand scale to insure perfect security and no risk, with good collateral guaranteed before any surplus war materials be released to "belligerents." And, having thus wrapped the U. S. A. in cellophane, go to speak, we can watch the conflagration at a safe



distance until the last ember flickers out. There is only one cloud on the horizon of this "safety first" minority. The "warmongers" might "get us into this war."

We are skeptical as to whether those of this mind—whom we find in both high and humble circles—could be easily led to see things differently. Their minds have been fashioned on that pattern. But there is one fallacy that we hope a ray of light might penetrate, namely: that there is just one individual who will decide about our entering the war. Today he celebrates the eighth anniversary of his rise to power.

### Communications

To the Editor:

Very few Americans would try deliberately to get America in the European war. The lend-lease bill now before Congress endangers our wish for peace. If we believe in peace, we should oppose this bill as a virtual declaration of war.

The lend-lease bill (H.R. 1776) would give the President dictatorial powers over our entire armaments. The bill would allow him to "lend" our arms abroad. The bill would even allow battleships of warring nations to be repaired in American seaports. It would make conveying of ships to Europe a reality.

With all our faith and energy, as a democratic people, we should fight this bill. We hate the principle of dictatorship. We must not give all our power to a single person.

We are constructing a gigantic defense machine to protect America. How can we afford to throw away our security by giving up our armaments? "Lending" is a misleading term in the bill. If you've ever lent a box of chocolates to a neighbor, you know what is returned to you. America needs her weapons to defend America.

The day American ships convoy arms to Europe is the day that we are practically at war. It would be but a short wait until a few of our ships were sunk. Then the warmongers would push us into war to "save the world for democracy."

If we are concerned with saving American freedom, we must be done with ignoring our problems and trying first to solve Europe's. Let us fight with all our democratic belief against this lend-lease bill that threatens to sell out America.

RUTH C. LEAFER,  
Secretary Chapel Hill Volunteer for Peace Club of the American Peace Mobilization,  
Chapel Hill, N. C.  
January 25, 1941.

### REPLY

Dear Miss Leifer:

We, too, believe in peace. We consider the lend-lease bill to be a belated and much retarded effort to preserve whatever vestige of peace may be left for the United States. We are just a year and a half late in taking the very practical and selfish steps towards sending aid to Britain that does not demand the money down.

We agree with you that "lend" is a misleading term. A "box of chocolates" is hardly an adequate parallel. We are handing our neighbor our gun with a box of cartridges to hold back a common enemy. We do not expect him not to use the cartridges. Right now our surest "weapon to defend America" is being wielded by the strong right arm of the British Empire. The "peace" you talk about is ours just so long as we hand the weapons and ammunition to the men and women who are dying over there.

President Roosevelt does not want war any more than you or we do. As Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy he has stated his position to the American people in words that a child can understand. Neither has he any desire to be a dictator; even if he had, he would not get very far for the same reason that you are free to write the above letter.

We need more than "faith and energy" to know what to fight for and what not to fight for. While we are putting up straw men like the lend-lease bill and demanding

that "as democratic people we should fight this bill" it is well to remember that the British are fighting Mr. Hitler.

Mr. Roosevelt has behind him the support of many men and women of wisdom, experience and knowledge as well as "faith and energy." Hull, Knudsen, Miss Elliott, are fair samples, and these cannot be called "warmongers."

Right now, most thinking Americans, we believe, will agree that we need more constructive leading than is offered by—for instance—Lindbergh, Wheeler, Fish, or the "Volunteer For Peace Club of the American Peace Mobilization." Not one of these has even shown us a road around the corner.

We are reminded of a story. An evangelist just arrived in a town asked a small boy the way to the post office. "I will show you, sir, and he did. "And now", said the stranger, "come to church

### SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK



### Clippings

#### WIDER PEACETIME USES OF ALUMINUM NOW PLANNED

The aluminum industry pushed production to an all time high last year to meet the demand for the metal, chiefly from the aircraft manufacturers. Under a schedule adopted to meet defense needs the Aluminum Company of America will increase its ingot output to more than 700,000,000 pounds by July, 1942, compared with a 1939 level of 327,000,000 pounds. It will spend \$150,000,000 on a program of expansion which normally would occur during the next two decades.

Concerned with the future when defense and emergency demands end, the company is now developing new peacetime uses and wider

tonight and I will show you the way to heaven." The urchin parried, "The guy that don't know the way to the post office, can't show me the way to heaven."

We all have the "wish for peace" that is expressed in your letter. Let us strengthen the arms of those fighting for peace in the front ranks, being careful not to give comfort to the enemy.

And, let us never give up the fight for peace—or the quest for the "road to heaven."

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. J. W. C. Johnson,  
Editor.

peacetime markets for aluminum.

Three times during 1940 the company reduced the prices of its ingots, which are now 17 cents a pound compared with 20 at the start of 1940. The \$150,000,000 investment called for under the expansion program will be financed by the company. The new plant at Vancouver, Wash., originally intended to produce 30,000,000 pounds yearly, went into operation last year with a capacity of 60,000,000 pounds. It is now being expanded to produce more than 150,000,000 pounds annually.—New York Sun.



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J. J. Mann, Secretary

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