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Friday, October 28, 1932

Emphasis on Right Kind of Education

The North Carolina Education Association is urging the State to put more emphasis on the education of her children, which is a wise thing. And the State should place primary emphasis on her children. They should come ahead of roads, banks, or anything else we have.

The kind of Government we are to have in the future depends entirely on the kind of education we give our children today.

Improper education, and the lack of any education, is the source of most of the "hard times" that we are now having. And it may be that much of the education that we are now giving is missing the mark.

For a long time we have educated children upon the principle of looking after somebody else's business, and have failed to teach the principles necessary to take care of our own business. This system needs to be changed. Instead of trying to educate every child to be a lawyer, a doctor, a teacher, a politician, or a bookkeeper, we must educate them to be common laborers who know two things: First, how to attend to their own business; and then, second, to defend their business from the designing grafters who have so far succeeded better in milking other folks than in producing for themselves.

We need to teach that a happy home is the most valuable earthly possession, and the best way to get a happy home is to work for it.

The old system of educating a few folks so that they could march ahead of the great procession of the uneducated masses and skim the cream off of every bit of milk the ordinary, unthinking, and uneducated masses produce must be stopped. It can only be done by educating everybody, so that when the grafters begin to sap the blood out of our business system, all the folks will know it. And when they know it, they will refuse to stand for it. The schools must inaugurate a system that will teach the pupil that it is honorable to work, and that it gives more joy than grafting our existence from the labor of others.

Universal education will do more to destroy graft than all other things put together. We need it and ought to back it in every corner of the State.

Money Is King

Great Britain stabilized herself to a large extent by going off the gold standard, which practically had the same effect as if she had adopted a system of bi-metalism, whereby silver bought goods and paid debts. She saved herself and snatched trade from the American farmer and laborer.

If the American money trust can be broken, so that other countries can trade with us and we with them, on a fair and reasonable basis, it will help the business of all the countries except the grafters'. It ought to be done.

The government now permits the dollar to dominate everything as king, emperor, and czar, while cotton, corn, wheat, and all other products are serving in slavery.

A larger volume of money is the country's greatest need. It will raise the value of commodities and lower the debt and tax burden.

Army and Navy Domination

The French minister of war has taken a fine step in prohibiting his generals and other army officers from speaking on and agitating public policies. He should take one step more and prohibit them from hob-nobbing with governmental law makers.

One of our own government's very biggest mistakes has been permitting war lords to go before our law-making bodies and advising big army and naval programs. Naturally, having a perfect army and navy at heart, they have been very extravagant in their demands, so extravagant, in fact, that we have wasted hundreds of millions of dollars.

The habit of permitting the various bureaus to submit their plans, proposals, and demands to appropriations committees has bred the most extravagant system of any nation in the world.

All of our institutions should be more closely allied in one central system to insure efficiency in all and less extravagance.

Our Army and Navy boards have gotten the country by the throat and frightened Congress into extravagant and needless expenditures.

Get Ready for Next Year

People are going to get their living next year from the seed they plant, the fields they cultivate, and the harvest their labor brings.

There will be no famine in the Southland if we will diligently cultivate our idle acres. There will be no trouble about three meals every day in the year.

The homeless family needs to find a place now and begin to plan to make a living.

Who Pays the Bill?

Sampson Independent.

Probably corporations are sometimes unusually dealt with. We have in mind huge corporations whose business ramifications are so intricate of such proportions that it is almost impossible for the ablest of auditors and public accountants to get to the real facts with regard to their manipulations of their stock or the value in dollars and cents of their holdings.

Granted that some of these great corporations may have been dealt with unjustly in the past, a thing which is in no wise sure, there are other cases by the score where the public has been deprived of hard earned savings through investments in such companies. Unfortunately so tremendous has become the activities of many of the great corporations that efforts on the part of supervising commissions to investigate their value and their earnings are hampered to such an extent that results are almost impossible.

Probably no more outstanding example of these facts has ever been found than in the collapse of the Insull utilities in Chicago. For years the great corporations which were headed by the Insulls exerted such an influence in business life that it was impossible for the state of Illinois to properly restrict and supervise their activities. Unfortunately the influence of these corporations through the Insulls, who headed them, was extended to the field of politics.

Within recent months the collapse came. Then it was found that all the time the Insulls were milking the public dry and, through the sale of watered and worthless stocks, were robbing the ordinary citizen of life's savings invested in the stock. Not only did the crash bring ruin to many business enterprises, but thousands of men and women were left penniless as a result of having invested their savings in stock which proved valueless.

And yet the Insulls are still millionaires. Fugitives from justice, they are living in extravagance on money illegally taken from the people who trusted them and their integrity. An uglier word for the transaction is that they stole, and at that from those who had worked long and hard for their small savings so taken.

The American government should go to every possible effort to bring back the criminals and mete out to them the same punishment as to the man who enters by stealth and robs in the night. Then so stringent should be the restrictions placed around the other great corporations of this land that a recurrence of the Insull failure could never be.

Clears the Way for Better Regulation

High Point Enterprise.

A definite advance towards stricter governmental control of the drafts that are made on the public for essential utilities was effected yesterday when the Supreme Court held that the Federal Power Commission has the right to determine the value of an electric company for rate-making purposes.

The question was raised by the Clarion River Power Company, of Pennsylvania. The company, after claiming that it had spent more than eleven million dollars in the development of its property, attacked the constitutionality of the Federal water power act. The power commissioner's experts contended that more than half of the company's claim of investment should be disallowed. The \$11,032,816 was padded to the extent of \$6,387,731, the accountants concluded.

Among the items of costs on which the company wanted the users of the current to pay dividends perpetually was that for 144 \$3 neckties given away as souvenirs. The company totaled up everything, including the calendar year, apparently, in arriving at its total.

The monstrous padding alleged by the commission's experts is an interesting illustration of the abuse of the public that can occur in unquestioned set-ups, but the vital point in the story is the court's decision that Congress was within its authority in enacting the statute. The estimate that a half billion excess draft is made upon the users of electricity in the United States every year, that was made by an employee of Pinchot, of Pennsylvania, several years ago, is not exaggeration of the facts if all rates are based on the kind of capital claim that the relatively small Pennsylvania company makes.

A Lawn for the Swine

Charleston News and Courier.

By "ploughing up the lawn of the Governor's mansion, planting it to truck, and stocking the premises with cows, pigs, and houn' dogs," the Governor-nominate of Georgia would render the property useful. He so said during his campaign, and now some of the Georgians are wondering whether he shall fulfill his promise. Swine rooting on the Governor's lawn would be a pretty spectacle for Atlanta. It would give that modest town something to tell the nation in words and pictures, but Mr. Talmadge must have been "kiddin'" the Georgians. Somewhere in this land of the free there may be lawns for swine, but among them will not be listed that of the lawn of the Georgia Governor's mansion.

SCHOOL DAYS

By DWIG



THE LETTER-BOX

A DEMOCRATIC YEAR

Well, happy days will soon be here. The old ship of democracy, after an absence of eleven years, being piloted by Franklin Delano Roosevelt, is homeward bound, and will doubtless sail on the victory band-wagon with a majority that will approximate 10,000,000, and old-man Hoover will go down on the tail-end of a defeated kite which will terminate his everlasting farewell; yes, his everlasting political farewell. The ceaseless flight of the years has brought us orge more into the midst of one of the most momentous political struggles in modern times. After eleven years of poverty-producing Republican rule, the American people are turning by millions to the Democratic fold, including Republican voters, for relief from the intolerable conditions that oppress them; and which are the direct result of the malfeasance and monumental incompetency of Hoover and his leaders.

The Republican spell-binders are going up and down this Republic preaching to the electorate that the present depression is due to the aftermath of the World War, and charging it up to the grand old Democratic Party. Every intelligent human mortal is fully aware that a little shaking is always followed by war, but just as soon as the Republican Party was restored to power, instead of trying to improve matters; they began to fatten the depression by favoritism for the privilege few; yes, making the few rich at the expense of the many.

It is needless for me to recall the scandal of the Harding administration, as most all are well familiar with the Teapot Dome—an administration that shocked the entire civilized world. The Coolidge administration sanctioned it and remained silent. The present administration seems to have utterly forgotten it, and has gotten its deputy in the hole, with no prospect of pulling us out.

The Democratic party is unalterably opposed to every tenet in Hoover's political creed, if Hoover ever had a political creed, or any well-defined political convictions. After the outbreak of the late World War the late Woodrow Wilson was looking for a food distributor, and by some reason or other happened to run across Hoover and made him food administrator, and I never have deemed that it necessarily required much brain power to dish out food, but rather muscle power—any one with plenty of muscle could have handled it.

It is a matter of history up to that time that Hoover never had cast a ballot in this country, as he had spent 23 years of his adult life in foreign climes—over half of his adult life. During his sojourn in foreign lands it is a matter of record that he was always partial towards foreign farmers and against American farmers; in other words, causing foreign farmers to get more for their products than American farmers. He is what might be termed a mugwump, anything for office, regardless of party, and every single, solitary time that he leaped he has obtained an office, and let's hope that he has made his last leap. Yes; he is against the American farmer, upon whose shoulder the abckmone of the world rests.

I recall a speech delivered by the lat, able, fearless parliamentarian and statesman, James G. Blaine, one among the greatest men the Republican party ever possessed, who said that the agricultural interests are by far the largest in the nation and are entitled, in every adjustment of revenue laws, to the fullest consideration. Any policy hostile to the fullest development of agriculture in America

must be abandoned. To our regret that policy has been ignored, and the American farmer is the forgotten man.

Hoover has had a chance, and has proven to be a complete failure, and has almost shook this Republic from center to circumference, which has wrought the most depressed times in human history. The American electorate demands a change, a leader, an dth that man is Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who will lead us out of the Egyptian darkness into the light of a brighter day. Our present plight is the fruitage of Republican misrule, class legislation, governmental favoritism, high tariff laws, legalized graft, mischievous meddling with legitimate business, unequal distribution of the burdens and benefits of government, waste and extravagance in the expenditure of public funds. Most of the troubles our government now encounters, and most of the dangers which impend over our nation have sprung from an abandonment of the legitimate objects of government by our national legislature.

The majority of our wealthy men have not been content with equal protection, and equal rights, but have besought us to make them richer by

act of Congress. In fact, the present Republican leaders have gone in business with the government, thereby squeezing and sucking the life-blood out of the masses, and we are now face to face with the most gigantic depression since the dawn of time. Privilege still remains at the helm, and the average man has not got a chance—not a look-in—and it is high time to knock those political vultures into a cocked hat.

I recall 20 years ago, after the late Woodrow Wilson had been nominated for the presidency, I repeat part of an address delivered at Wheeling, W. Va., in which he said in one of his stronger utterances in condemnation of the trusts. He said the thing that has created the trusts, the thing that created the monopoly is unregulated and unfair competition. He further said that if those gentlemen of the trusts had a period in the penitentiary to contemplate what they were doing they would cease from troubling further.

The Grand old Democracy of this nation has joined issues with the Republican party in this campaign. All these things the Harding-Coolidge-Hoover administrations believed in

and practiced. All these things are contrary to the genius and spirit of democracy, which is the traditional foe of the principles and policies that have produced the most unparalleled depression in all of the mighty tide of time. Democracy pleads for legislative formulas that will bring the greatest good to the greatest numbers. So long as our Republic endures, the Democratic party has a mission, and will survive to fight the battle of the masses for social justice and orderly constitutional government. Though routed in 1928, the Democratic party, phoenix-like, emerged from the ashes of defeat and renewed their strength like the young eagles in their upward flight. Its gaping wounds bear mute, but eloquent, testimony of its valor and fortitude.

Yes, the Democratic party comes forth, stands erect, moves forward, grimy with the smoke of innumerable battles, bearing the scars of countless combats, and with confidence and unflinching courage faces the future, its head bloody but unbowed, its soul unafraid and unconquerable.

Just 189 years ago, a Virginia mother gave birth to the Father of Democracy, the greatest humanitarian since Jesus of Nazareth—Thomas Jefferson. It came as a voice from heaven to the beleaguered, the down-trodden, and oppressed under every sky, and in every age and clime.

Let us hope that the golden dawn of a grander day awaits us. Let us pray and hope that this mammon-serving and unpatriotic age will pass, as passed the age of brutish ignorance, as passed the age of tyranny. Let us pray that the day is near when we will no longer place the badge of party servitude above the crown of American sovereignty, the ridiculous oriframme of foolish division above Old Glory's star-gemmed promise of everlasting unity; when Americans will be in spirit and in truth a band of brothers, the wrongs of one the concern of all; when brains and patriotism will take precedence over boodle and partisanship in our national politics; when labor will no longer fear cormorant, nor capital the commune; when every worthy and industrious citizen may spend his declining days, not in some charity ward, but in the grateful shadow of his own vine and fig-tree, the loving lord of a little world hemmed by the sacred circle of a home.

Change is the order of the universe, and nothing stands still. We must go forward, or we must go backward—we must press on to greater heights, to greater glories, or see the laurels already won turn to ashes on our brow. We may sometimes slip; shadows may obscure our path; the boulders may bruise our feet; there may be months of mourning and days of agony; but however dark the night, hope, a poising eagle, will ever burn above the unrisen morrow.

THEODORE HASSELL, Williamston, N. C.

Last and Final DELINQUENT TAX CALL

ALL DELINQUENT TAXES WILL BE ADVERTISED IN NOVEMBER. NO FURTHER EXTENSION WILL BE MADE. PAY NOW AND SAVE COSTS.

C. B. ROEBUCK

SHERIFF OF MARTIN COUNTY