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Friday, January 6, 1933

A Good Citizen Passes

In the passing of A. R. Dunning here, his home loses a good husband and father and the section loses the many-fold services of a valuable man.

While he pushed forward into the public eyes as a practitioner in the law profession, his greatest work ever remained a secret to the masses. For it was with a sympathetic heart that he listened at any hour of the day or night to the pleas of the poor and the needy. And in that he reconciled himself to the Almighty and found it his greatest pleasure. The person of humble surroundings was accorded as great a welcome into his home as was accorded the man of high station. They were all welcome. Never did he refuse his aid to those experiencing trouble or sorrow or actual want. He went further and divided, the balance always going to the one needing succor most. And his counsel, his friendship and his earthly belongings were shared quietly and observed by the hurrying masses.

He will be missed most in his home, surely, but the memory of his goodness will long prevail in many an humble abode made bright during the years of his life through his understanding and his sympathetic heart.

False Cooperation

The wrong kind of cooperation is being practiced by one farmer in this county, according to reports coming from his neighbors. The man is said to be spending much time pleading with his neighbors for a reduction in tobacco acreage, arguing that prices this coming fall will be nothing if there is not a substantial reduction in acreage and production. The neighbors claim, however, they see a false move on his part, that they find him working on a new barn on his farm when he is not going about preaching reduction to his neighbors.

We agree with his preaching for reduction, but bitterly condemn his plans of expansion. His plans are going to be followed, it is feared, by a majority of farmers this season, and there is nothing much more certain than low prices if a full crop is grown this year. The wise thing to do is to plant a small crop, and handle it in such a way that good quality may be had. Then the grower will get a profit. On the other hand the farmer who plants a big crop and makes a big outlay for fertilizer, labor and other expenses, has more than two chances to one to lose money.

The farmer who drills a small quantity of compost of the right kind under his tobacco stands the best chance to make money this year.

But don't plant too much tobacco.

A Bootstrap Lifting Process

We have heard a lot about subsidies and bonuses and socialism and communism and many other allied things. While we are not so much opposed to some of these ideas, yet we are constrained to believe that the proposed farm relief bill embraces some of the elements of all of these principles. The bill distinctly says that the government will pay a Southern cotton farmer five cents a pound on his crop and charge up the Northern and Western laborer with the difference for his cotton goods. Of course, we like that, because we are in the South and like Southern people best of all. But one thing we don't like so much about the bill and that is the government pays the Western wheat farmer 42 cents a bushel and charges it up to us Southern biscuit eaters. So it is just a question of whether we eat more flour or sell more cotton.

After all, it is going to be a kind of bootstrap lifting process in which we will get a penny in one hand and lose one from the other. Of course the measure will do good in that it will force the uneven processes of overproduction of one commodity and underproduction of some other one. This will be of great benefit to the farmer who is generally a plunger, going too heavily for the production one year on the crop that brought the most money the previous year. The farmer does not need special favors. He needs a chance equal with other things. And when the pressure of gold is taken off his neck, and adequate money is put into the channels of trade he will need no subsidies.

Gold is the base of our financial troubles, and is causing more suffering and sin than any other thing we have. That is to say the love and worship of gold is the root of the sin.

Pleasures Before Honest Debts

And Babe Ruth squirmed when faced with a \$25,000 salary decrease. But why should he since he has a non-productive occupation? Why should he be paid more than a good banker, surveyor, or farmer? So far as we can see the only reason is that the American mind is so unbalanced that it will permit us to spend all we have for frivolities and pleasures even if we never pay a debt and our families starve.

It is not half as sad to see Babe Ruth get a salary slash as it is to see a factory hand get a cut in his wages.

The Man Who Fixes the Prices

The Western people want our Eastern peanuts, and we want their wheat. The Northern people want the Southern cotton, and the Southern folks want their iron, automobiles, and manufactured goods. Yet nobody can supply their needs—all because we have forgotten how to trade.

We have followed the plan of carrying everything we have to the man with money, who fixes the price for us, takes our goods to the fellows who need them, where he makes the price to the buyer. He then buys the other fellow's products—where he makes the price again—takes these products back to us and once more sets the price for us.

After all, the man with money has made the price on every commodity we produce twice—which is one reason why there are so many hungry folks.

Depression Not Yet Over

The Industrial News Review says that three years of depression have ended. Of course, it is perfectly true that three years have ended, but how about the depression—has that ended?

The Industrial News Review holds out much hope for the future and praises our institutions, all of which is perfectly satisfactory and very true. However, they place our troubles on taxes, which is only a half truth, because we have more trouble paying interest than we do paying taxes, and it is the combination of taxes and interest that is crushing the country. It is easy to figure how we got into this trouble, but much harder to figure how we are to get out of it. We are having to pay inflated debts and taxes with deflated money. Economy will help us, but it alone can not save us from financial ruin, even if we starve ourselves to death.

There is no use of fiddling around with the same old theories and the old plans that we have used in the past. The same splints that brought us through the Cleveland panic in 1896 and the Roosevelt (Theodore) crash in 1907 will not hold the break together now—the break is too large and the cut is too deep to be cured by such obsolete methods of surgery.

We may be forced to repudiate a large part of both our debts and taxes, to the point of placing them on a level with present-day values of all products. If this is not done, or if our money in circulation is not materially increased, we are not even in sight of the bottom of our depression.

Armaments Must Be Reduced

That man Norman H. Davis, who is one of Mr. Roosevelt's advisors, is talking gospel truth when he says the first step toward world peace and world recovery is to reduce the world's armaments. Of course, everybody knows the best way to break up a fight is to take the sticks away from combatants. And, too, everybody knows that when everybody has a stick we have twice as many fights as we have when nobody has one.

Mr. Roosevelt will do well if he cuts our war expenditures and uses his office to force other nations to do likewise. We do not need war. It has pretty nearly ruined us already, and it has never failed to ruin any people who have stuck to it long.

We need to pray that Mr. Roosevelt may rise above the horizon and poisonous realm of politics and become a statesman.

Prospects Are Fairly Good

Roger W. Babson, well known writer on economic and financial matters, is able to see some bright spots scattered here and there on the somewhat clouded sky. Mr. Babson was one of the first to predict trouble back in the boom period and his words are entitled to more consideration than those of the never give up optimist. Moreover he backs up what he says with rather convincing figures.

Mr. Babson first speaks of the advance in commodities which occurred last summer, then the upturn in stocks and bonds. Some of this advance has been lost but a good deal of it still holds. One of the best signs of better times is that of increased freight car loadings. The railroad business has been badly hurt by the depression but it is getting better. In the past three months there has been a steady increase in car loadings and they are now running only 11.8 percent lower than they were this time last year. Cotton and woolen textiles, rayon and shoe manufacturing have made gains. The automobile business while still below normal has shown a decided improvement.

There is still a great deal of unemployment in the United States, and in other countries too, but in this country the situation is much better than it was a year ago. Manufacturing concerns, railroads and other industries have put a great many people back to work. These workers become cash customers for all sorts of products and thus the movement spreads. It seems therefore that if nothing happens to retard this progress towards prosperity that we will see very much better times in the country before 1933 comes to a close. At any rate this is what we hope for not only for the United States, but for the peoples of the whole world.

A Strange Voice

The "State's Voice," a new paper will be launched next wee by O. J. Peterson, publisher of the Chatham Record, Pittsboro. He promises that it will be unlike anything else in the newspaper line in the State.

Frankly, we do not know just what the voice of the State will sound like, for it has so long been smothered up by the political forces of the land. If the State, which is the people, does really speak out it will doubtless be a sound of hope and cheer so seldom heard in years past. If Mr. Peterson rings out clear and strong it will be of value to the State, and he is generally found on the right side of things.

We wish him success in his venture. Let the State speak and let the people hear its voice and heed its demands.

Unable To Help

We have an unsigned request to publish an article saying that a certain man in the county is back on the job after a week of drunkenness. The request comes from a friend of the drunken man who thinks if the wayward brother could see his name published to the world, it would make him ashamed and stop him of his practice. The man has not been carried into the courts, and of course we cannot give his name. We can only sympathize with him and any other man who, through weakness, cannot help drinking or who is so common that he does not care if people do know he drinks.

If a man has no regard for the body which God gave him and so destroys it that it loses its usefulness then what good will it do to publish his to the world.

"Schools of Crime"

From time to time we hear it said that prisons are "schools of crime" and that young people ought not to be sent there because when they come out they are worse than they were when they went in. This may be so. It is certainly true that evil communications corrupt good manners. The trouble though is that most of these youngsters kept bad company before they got in jail. If they hadn't done it they might not have gotten into trouble.

Most of the states have reformatories where they send youthful offenders and it seems better to send them to such place than to the regular penal institutions. But we hear tales about some of these reformatories occasionally that indicate even there some instruction in methods of crime may be had. And it

is certainly true that some of those who have been sent to the reformatories have behaved very badly after being released. We have in mind a Chicago youth, a reformatory graduate, who only a few days ago was sentenced to be electrocuted for murder and who had committed several other atrocious crimes. The truth is that crime is one of the most serious problems that human society has to deal with and there is no easy way to solve it.

The Sales Tax Question

That question concerning a general sales tax in the State was apparently turned down by the Tax Commission. Yet, there is great suspicion that at the crucial moment somebody who is afraid of some other kind of tax is going to jump up the sales tax and the legislature is going to swallow it like a fish. So far we have not heard a word about tax on coco cola, cigarettes, shows and so on. It might be noted just at this point that the nuisances are all heavily protected by highly-paid lobbyists who are capable of putting argument so strong that they can make black look white in the eyes of some people, even legislators.

More Poultry Needed

The poultry yard is now the brightest spot in the whole farm picture, according to 1933 outlook statements. The latest United States Department of Agriculture figures report cotton prices as only 48 per cent of pre-war, while chickens are 89 per cent, and eggs 121 per cent of pre-war. The egg is the only farm product as high now as in 1909-14.

There ought to be a persistent and continuous drive to increase poultry production in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia. We have the mild climate, the long growing seasons, and the cheap land; while nearly every farm has plenty of labor available for handling three to four times the present number of fowls. Furthermore, it takes little capital to engage in the poultry business, and if prices become unprofitable, more eggs and chicks can be consumed right at home.

Why should we let California, 3,000 miles away from New York, supply that great market when we could supply it at about 500 miles distance. Why should Virginia have only 10,000,000 hens, North Carolina 8,000,000, and South Carolina 4,000,000, when Kansas has 23,000,000, hens Missouri 30,000,000, and Iowa 34,000,000?

IN MEMORIAM

In loving remembrance of our dear husband and father, A. F. Stallings, who died five years ago today, January 5, 1928:

January brings back sad memories
 Of our dear one laid to rest;
 And the ones who think of him today
 Are the ones who loved him best.
 His devoted wife and children.

NOTICE

The undersigned, Pattie Sherrod, having this day qualified as administratrix of the estate of B. B. Sherrod, late of Hamilton, in Martin County, hereby gives notice to all persons, firms or corporations holding claims against said estate to present them for payment to the said administratrix on or before the 3rd day of January, 1934, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of the recovery of same. All persons indebted to the said estate are hereby requested to make immediate payment of same.

This 3rd day of January, 1933.
 PATTIE SHERROD,
 Administratrix of B. B. Sherrod.
 j6 6tw

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed on the 28th day of November, 1931, by J. L. Taylor and wife, Emma L. Taylor, to the undersigned trustee and of record in the public registry of Martin County in book C-3 at page 567, said deed of trust having been given for the purpose of securing a note of even date and tenor therewith, default having been made in the payment of same, and at the request of the holder of same, the undersigned trustee will, on Thursday, the 2nd day of February, 1933, at 12 o'clock m., in front of the courthouse door in Williamston, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described real estate, to wit:

Bounded on the north by the lands of J. L. Taylor; on the east by the Eli Rawls lands; on the south by the Mc. G. Taylor lands, and on the west by the J. D. Bowen lands, and being the same land conveyed to Samuel R. Taylor by deed from A. B. Ayers, bearing date of January 1st, 1915, and of record in the public registry of Martin County in book —, at page —, and commonly known as "the W. D. Lilley land," containing seventy-seven (77) acres more or less, and being the same lands referred to in deed to J. L. Taylor of record in the public registry of Martin County in book N-1, at page 193, which is hereby referred to for a more perfect description.

This the 2nd day of January, 1933.
 H. G. HORTON,
 j6 4tw
 Elbert S. Peel, Attorney, Trustee.

Newspaper Advertising

"No business man in town should allow a newspaper published in his town to go without his name and business mentioned somewhere in its columns. This applies to all kinds of business—general stores, dry goods, groceries, furniture dealers, mechanics, professional men, druggists; in fact, all classes of business men. This does not mean that they should have a whole or half, or even a quarter page advertisement in each issue of the paper, but your name and business should be mentioned, if you do not use more than a two-line space.

A stranger picking up a newspaper should be able to tell what business is represented in the local town by looking at the business mentioned in the paper. The man who does not advertise his business does an injustice to himself and the town. The man who insists on sharing the business that comes to town but refuses to advertise his own is not a valuable addition to any town. The life and snap of a town depend upon the wide-awake, liberal advertising men."

—The American Banker.

The advertising pages of a newspaper are indeed an index to the progress and prosperity of a community. A bankers' magazine would not speak without the authority of definite proof behind its assertions.