

THE ENTERPRISE

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Friday, September 5, 1941.

Deterioration of Our National Character

It is nothing new, but the deterioration of our national character is spreading to include millions upon millions, offering one of the most serious situations this country has ever faced. Back in the revolutionary period there were those who joined the foe against their neighbors, not because they disliked their neighbors so much as they disliked to do their part, to make sacrifices. While those patriotic souls suffered at Valley Forge, there were those who remained at home to grab the fruits of the trial and tribulations suffered by Washington and his little band.

Today, we find the vultures standing by to grab the fruits of the labors and sacrifices of others. The mass slaughter, suffered on foreign battlefields that mankind might escape enslavement, holds no meaning for us. We fail to realize that our only chance of survival as free men lies in an honest-to-goodness effort against Hitlerism. Softened by our luxuries and crazy over wild pleasures, we can't seem to grasp the meaning when 202 members of Congress vote to dismiss the army and industrialists whimper for the business-as-usual plan. Labor, putting over this and that and possibly rightly so, has not yet grasped the real meaning of the situation now facing us. We have deteriorated so rapidly and on such a large scale that we completely overlook the fact that some day we may wake up and find that our walls are no stronger than those in France which crumbled at Hitler's bidding, and that we are no better in Hitler's sight than were the Poles who are now dying in slavery.

Writing in the current issue of the New Republic, Bruce Bliven sorrowfully points out: "A large proportion of our young people refuse to get excited about anything except their personal lives, pleading that the reports of national and international affairs in newspapers are 'just a lot of propaganda' and therefore need not be taken seriously.

"We have managed to turn out many people so insensitive that suffering means nothing unless it occurs actually under their eyes; so shortsighted that they cannot recognize a coming catastrophe until it is upon them, but continue to prattle in the sunshine like children playing in an open field while a hurricane approaches; so wholly intent on personal satisfactions that they are prepared to sacrifice if necessary a great part of their freedom, their dignity, the ultimate human values of their life, if they can only be permitted to retain, for the time being their pretty toys, their automobiles, bridge games, movies, and streamlined trains."

While we gamble with our lives on the high-ways, we have deteriorated to the point that we recognize no principle or nothing else worth dying for. We conveniently and so easily forget those who died before us that the Magna Charta, the Constitution, and other great documents might be recorded in the pages of history and that we today might enjoy our lives on the basis of majority rule. Unless we recognize something worth dying for, we are doomed and might as well bow down to Hitlerism this very day. But before we do that we should look at

bleeding Russia. Bliven points out that the Russians, in spite of everything, have found in their miserable and backward land, so lacking in pink and blue tiled bathrooms, something for which they are willing to fight and die for, and that it is hard to believe that our people, who have so much more to defend, will not at least be equally vigorous in defending it.

Unity

Speaking before the American Legion Convention recently in Illinois, Scott W. Lucas, senior senator from that state, made some timely remarks on the administration's foreign policy and in support of national unity. He said, in part:

Today, my comrades, America again faces a crisis. It is not merely national in its scope, but encompasses the entire universe. The Lincoln doctrine that no nation can live half slave and half free can today be applied to the world. When we see the dictators of tyranny and oppression enslave innocent peoples of one nation after another in Europe, and knowing what the totalitarian ideology seeks to do—well, can we seriously ask, "Can this world continue half slave and half free?"

In order that the play may work successfully, those charged with the responsibility for carrying it out must have the united support of all our citizens. Failure to support them in their endeavors cannot alter the plan, but may hamper them in their efforts by giving aid and comfort to our enemies.

It is our duty to lead the fight against the enemies of democracy through the promotion of national unity. We cannot hope to supply that leadership unless we are united within our own ranks. Let us put patriotism and the welfare and security of our country above every other consideration in determining the course which we are to follow.

Mr. Commander, why do I discuss unity of thought, unity of purpose, and unity of action in this great emergency? Well, I happen to be the senior United States Senator from this great State, and I firmly believe that Nazi-ism, with its cruel intolerance, its perverted notion of racial superiority, its so-called rendezvous with destiny, all backed by the most powerful military machine the world has ever known, is the greatest menace to democracies and their ideals since the cruel reign of Napoleon Bonaparte. I am convinced that Hitler and his fanatical followers hope some day to dominate the world.

From One Extreme To the Other

While the labor picture has been painted to be far worse than it really is, there are cases where unionism has been carried to the extreme. Some, if not many, employers have always recognized their employees as belonging to the human family and not as inanimate parts of a machine. Others have been literally forced to recognize human values over property values. The sweatshop operator, the employer who would pile up profits while his employees worked without essential food or clothing and others who would deny the laboring man a living chance in this world. Their acts, being recognized as an extreme, gave rise to unionism, just as other individuals in a given trade or profession organized to advance their interests.

Now, we are headed to another extreme with some branches of labor pushing the pendulum out of balance, just as the sweatshop operator pushed the pendulum to the extreme on the other hand. Labor, as a whole, has not reached the goal it deserves, but there are some segments that have warped the movement and now are about to cause the pendulum to start a swing in the other direction.

There are those within the ranks of labor itself who are interested in fair play for both sides. There are those outside the labor ranks who are desirous of seeing both labor and capital share proportionately in their joint efforts. If labor swings the pendulum too far, these groups will take a stand that will cause the pendulum to start a reverse swing. We will do well to avoid the extremes and settle down on an even keel if we are to make progress and measure up to the big tasks that lie ahead.

I look on that man as happy, who, when there is a question of success, looks into his work for a reply.—Emerson.

No more important duty can be urged upon those who are entering the great theatre of life than simply loyalty to their best convictions.—Chapin.

Does Christianity Exclude National Patriotism? . . .

By REV. Z. T. PIEPHOFF
Pastor, Presbyterian Church

We are just closing a Vacation Bible School at Roberson's Chapel and each day during the worship service the pupils present give the salute to the American flag and sing a verse of "America" which is followed immediately by the pledge to the Christian flag and the singing of a verse of "Stand Up, Stand Up, for Jesus."

Is it wrong for the Church to follow such a practice? Is it against the teachings of the Scriptures for the Church to teach patriotism? Does Christianity deny its followers the right of the free and open and active expression of a natural love for their country?

There are some who think so and in support of their feelings they remind us that Christianity is a universal religion and our love therefore should be for the whole world and not for some particular nation.

Is this the correct stand to take in the presence of our present national emergency? Personally I do not think so and here are a few facts I would like to pass on to those of you who may at the present time be faced with such a problem.

First of all, let us ask Moses the Lawgiver for light in this direction. You recall I am sure that God gave to Moses 10 commandments. The first four contained our duty to God and the last six, our duty to our fellowman. In the fifth commandment we find these words:

"Honor thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."

For years I have known and repeated these words over and over again but only recent was I struck by the force of the words—"The land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." God had given a land to the Egyptians. He had given a land to the Babylonians. Now He was giving a land to the Israelites. It was to be their land. They were to possess it, protect and defend it. In like manner God has given us this land of ours. He has given to the other nations of the earth their lands. These lands are God given trusts, therefore, to misuse or abuse them is blasphemous.

Historically, America was given to us in the sense that we set out merely to fight against unjust taxes and God gave us independence.

America is the land that God has given to us. It is ours, then let us love it, defend and protect it. Our

failure to do so will be to betray the responsibility God has placed upon us.

In the second place, let us seek light from the Psalmist.

Listen to the Psalmist as he gives voice to the inner feelings of his soul in the 137th Psalm.

"How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land? If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning. If I do not remember thee, let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth."

Here the Psalmist calls us to a Geographical loyalty. If we don't have it we are abnormal. I was born in Spartanburg, S. C., the place where I first saw the light of day will always have a big place in my heart, so much so that I refuse even now to be born anywhere else. If I had the power to be born again physically I would be born there again.

Stephen Foster when he wrote "Carry Me Back to Old Virginia," was not giving expression to merely a personal feeling but to a universal feeling on the part of every normal man for the "Place where I was born." The playing of "Dixie" sets me on fire, but "Yankee Doodle" leaves me cold. When the "Star Spangled Banner" is played if I will but let my thoughts go back over the early history of my beloved country tears will form in my eyes but the playing of every other country's national anthem brings no response whatever. "Just a Little Bit South of North Carolina" expresses the feelings within me far better than "My Old Kentucky Home." Kentucky is not my home. South Carolina is my home and there is within me as there is within you a rightful loyalty for the State where I was born.

The fact that this feeling is universal argues that God expects of us loyalty and patriotism for the Land That He Has Given Us.

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who has not said, 'This is my native land?'"

(To be continued)
and Tuesday.
In Town Wednesday
Mrs. Allie James, of Hamilton, vis-

CHURCH NEWS

PRESBYTERIAN

The regular services of the church will be held at all points this Sunday. The hour of the Bear Grass service is 7:30 p. m. old time.

CEDAR BRANCH

Regular services will be held at Cedar Branch Baptist Church Sunday at 11 a. m. and Sunday night at 7:30. Henry Peel will conduct the night service. These will be the last services before the revival meeting. It is hoped that the membership will make a special effort to be present and the public is invited.

BAPTIST

Bible school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.
Young people's meeting, 7 p. m.
Evening worship, 8 p. m.
The sermon for Sunday morning will be in keeping with the observance of the Lord's Supper—"The Meaning of the Lord's Supper." The subject for Sunday evening is "The Perfect Will of God."

A large number of new people have come to Williamston. The public school teachers are back again. We welcome you all into our fellowship and extend to you a cordial invitation to worship with us.

CHRISTIAN

Bible school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.
Young People's meeting, 7 p. m.
The Rev. Griffith Hamlin, of Wilson, will bring the message at the morning worship. There will be no evening service.

ST. MARTIN'S, Hamilton
Evening prayer and sermon Sunday night at 8 o'clock.

Revival Services Begin At Piney Grove Sunday

Beginning Sunday night at 7:30 o'clock, the pastor, Rev. W. B. Harrington, will conduct a series of revival services in the Piney Grove Baptist Church. Schedule to continue through the second Sunday, the services will be held each night. The public is cordially invited to attend.

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

13th Sunday after Trinity.
The Collect

Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift it cometh that Thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service; Grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Church school, 9:45 a. m.
Celebration of the Holy Communion and ermon, at 11 a. m.

The Woman's Auxiliary will meet with Mrs. L. T. Fowden on Monday afternoon, 4 p. m.

St. Elizabeth's Auxiliary will meet with Mrs. W. R. Glover on Monday afternoon, 4 p. m.

NOTICE OF SALE

North Carolina, Martin County. In The Superior Court.
County of Martin vs. T. T. Adams and Others.

Under and by virtue of an order of sale and judgment made by L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court, on Monday, the 11th day of August, 1941, the undersigned commissioner, will, on Friday, the 12th day of September, 1941, offer for sale for cash to the highest bidder, in front of the courthouse door in the town of Williamston, at twelve o'clock noon, daylight saving time, the following described tract or parcel of land, to wit:

One house and lot situated in the town of Parmele, N. C., adjoining J. A. Whitehurst and Bettie Carson Estate and others, and containing one-half acre, more or less, and being the same property deeded to Mrs. Lillian Adams by A. L. Bellflower, recorded in Book V-2 at page 295. This the 11th day of August, 1941.
ELBERT S. PEEL,
Commissioner.

Turnage Theatre --- Washington, N. C.

Sun.-Mon.-Tues.

Sept. 7-8-9

Wednesday-Thursday

September 10-11

'Shepherd of the Hills'

with John Wayne and Betty Field

ALSO SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS

"She Knew All the Answers"

JOAN BENNETT and FRANCHOT TONE

Friday-Saturday

September 12-13

"Parachute Battalion"

ROBERT PRESTON and NANCY KELLY

1917

Perhaps You Remember

THIS IS NOT the first time that you have called upon Dodge automotive plants and men to meet a National Emergency. You probably remember that you called them to the colors once before; that you found their service good; that their dependability was not a catch-word, but a watch-word, in France and on the training fields at home, for the highest mechanical excellence.

Now again you have called Dodge to the National Defense. And Dodge has swiftly answered. Already many thousands of its highly trained men have been transferred from the work of building motorcars to the more urgent and crucial tasks of building army trucks, tanks, guns and airplane assemblies. Again Dodge is throwing its great industrial weight into your program of Defense. And, as you require, Dodge will again remain a defense force, with every ounce of its energy, every inch of the way.

You May Also Recall

You may clearly remember that the first time you called on Dodge for aid in National Defense, its motorcars were reaching the very peak of their first young success. Then suddenly, remember, there were fewer of them because there were fewer men to make them, and less material to make them with. Perhaps you also remember that it was these fewer Dodge cars, and the qualities inherent in them, that helped to lay the lasting foundation for a worldwide reputation for Dependability.

Later—A Quarter Century
Again Dodge moves full speed ahead in the service of the Government,—with full knowledge of its duty and confidence in your own respect for the spirit that is Dodge. These cars will, of course, always remain at their finest. You may approach your own Dodge purchase with complete confidence in its enduring value,—its ability to serve you extremely well for even more years than you would normally choose to drive it. It is a firm fact these are the finest cars that Dodge has ever built... There can be no curtailment of Dodge quality... No substitute for Dodge Dependability.

DODGE DIVISION OF CHRYSLER CORPORATION

DIXIE MOTORS, INC. — Williamston, N. C.

C. E. AYERS, Plymouth, N. C.

For A Night Of Real Pleasure, Visit The

OLD TOWNE INN

IN GREENVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Good Food Air Conditioned **DANCING**

The SOUTH'S MOST MODERN RESTAURANT

Hear Jack Stephens and His Organ In Person!

Old Towne Inn We Welcome Our Williamston Friends