

THE ENTERPRISE

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Tuesday, September 30, 1941.

Morale and Materials

How good the morale of America's armies is, no one seems to know; how much defense material has been manufactured, no one seems to know, or at least if one knows he hasn't gone to the trouble to tell the world about it. Whatever the status or our morale may be, or how much defense material we have produced, there is one thing to remember that morale is more necessary to our defense than material possessions.

Sir Francis Bacon pointed out three centuries or more ago that the ability of a nation to defend itself depended less upon its material holdings than upon the spirit of its people, that its stocks of gold were of less importance than the grim determination in the body politics: "Walled towns, stored arsenals and armories, goodly races of horses, chariots of war, elephants, ordnance, artillery and the like; all of this is but a sheep in a lion's skin, except the breed and disposition of the people be stout and warlike. Nay, number itself in armies importeth not much, where the people is of weak courage; for (as Virgil saith, It never troubles a wolf how many the sheep be.)

"Neither is money the sinews of war . . . For Solon well said to Croesus (when in ostentation heshewed him his gold), Sir, if any other come that hath better iron than you, he will be master of all this gold."

It would seem that Bacon was writing for the benefit of the United States today. We have talked about billions for defense, vast factories for an expanding production of arms and munitions, and possibly some progress has been made in that direction. On the other side of the ledger, the important side, according to Bacon, we are flopping around in a sea of turmoil. We question our leaders. We lend our ears to the Lindberghs, Wheelers and Clarks. We question the need of surrounding our rights to even life's unnecessary things and pleasures. We fiddle around while far-reaching events transpire in a rapidly moving world. We don't stop to consider the possibility of a gas shortage; we somehow or other feel our own importance and gamble with defense that the wheels of pleasure may continue to turn for another day. We criticize and find fault with proclamations calling for daylight saving time because the schedule does not suit our individual whims and fancies, forgetting the possibility that the change was effected in the name of defense.

We talk about our material preparations, but is our morale strong enough to activate the machines?

No Better Investment

Parents, in this uncertain period and facing a period aggravated by even greater uncertainties, can make no better investment than by devoting their time, thought and material goods to their children. While it was far short of an easy maximum, the meeting of Williamston parents and teachers last week offers a renewed hope for underwriting one of the country's most important ventures—the training of youth.

Stripped of a material heritage, and such has happened in and following wars, the trained youth can manage somehow. The untrained lad can be expected to contribute little to a world that is demanding more thought than material goods.

When parents can find time to at least help

train their children and teach them not in the ways of taking advantage of their fellowman but how to live with others, how to better appreciate the good ideals in life and how to measure life not in terms of wealth and ill-gotten power but in terms of accomplishments for peace, understanding and the common good of all.

Those parents who forsake the pleasantries and who ignore the petty arguments and get in there and literally fight that the youth of today might be trained after the finer ideals of life will have contributed about as much in promoting our way of life as the soldier who is being called upon to defend our way of life.

The work of the association is being watched by many, including the children themselves. If the organization falters and fails, it will have broken faith with those little folks and with society, itself.

If an important organization such as the P.-T. A. can't function successfully, we might as well close the school itself and call it a day, and pray for the coming of the barbarian from across the seas to come on over and straighten us out.

If ever there was a time for a greater interest in youth and his education that time is now. And there must be a very continued alertness in this country to the importance of youth training in a democracy in order to help meet the problems of tomorrow. Parents, think of your children now—don't wait until Christmas.

A Proof of Honor

It is an honor to receive a bill. Instead of getting vexed when the mail man or a collector brings you a statement of account, you should be pleased. For a bill is an indication that someone believes in your honesty.

A bill indicates that someone who knows you depends upon your word or promise to pay, at the time you received the goods or services on credit.

If you never received a bill, it might indicate that your credit was not recognized; that no person trusted you; that no one had been willing to extend you credit and take your word that you would pay.

Credit is one of the finest things you can have. Money may be had by various means but good credit comes only from the habit of honesty and prompt meeting of obligations. It is a proof of honor to receive a bill.—Selected.

School Begins Again!

By Ruth Taylor.

With the first crisp days of fall begins the daily exodus of the children of America. Racing along quiet streets, scuffling through the fallen leaves, chattering together like a group of magpies, they go back to school, with, God be thanked, books under their arms, not gas masks. Gongs are to them the signal for recess or the end of the school day—not air raid warnings.

There they have to learn how to get along with other children, which is the best training for getting along with people when they go out into the world. As in life, if they cannot keep up—no matter what the reason—they drop back into another class. Rain or shine they are expected to be at school in their appointed places at their appointed time. They learn that there are certain things that one cannot get out of—and they learn that alibis do not count.

But one thing that should be done in all the classes in all the schools in this country is to try to make the children realize what a privilege this freely going to school is. What a great advantage they have in a free education in a classroom where opportunity to learn is based on ability and on willingness to study, not on race or creed. We have neglected to stress the importance of school days in our haste to make gala days of holidays. School has too often been something to be hurried through. We have neglected to teach the children to appreciate school itself.

The children of today must be taught that democracy, equality, freedom are not empty words, to be sung or recited about and then forgotten—but that they are clarion calls to tasks which are theirs as surely as they were the tasks of the pioneers, or of the boys in our armed services. The right to freedom must be earned by each generation. The young men of the country are in camp to fit themselves for the defense of their country if war comes. Their brothers and sisters are in school to fit themselves for life under these freedoms. All are soldiers together in an army for America.

Conscience is merely our own judgment of the right or wrong of our actions, and so can never be a safe guide unless enlightened by the word of God.—Tryon Edwards.

At Your Service, Madam



EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having this day qualified as executor of the estate of the late Frances Melissa Moore, deceased, of Williamston, Martin County, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned for payment within one year from the date of this notice or same will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 13th day of Sept., 1941. JAMES DAVID MOORE, Executor of the estate of Frances s16-6t Melissa Moore, deceased.

NOTICE

North Carolina, Martin County. In The Superior Court.

County of Martin against Lewis Slade and wife, Mrs. Lewis Slade. The defendant, Lewis Slade, above named, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Martin County, North Carolina, to foreclose the taxes on land in Mar-

tin County in which said defendants have an interest; and the said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear before L. B. Wynne, Clerk of the Superior Court of Martin County at his office in Williamston, North Carolina, within thirty (30) days after the completion of this service of publication by notice and to answer or demur to the complaint of the plaintiff in this action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint. L. B. WYNNE, Clerk Superior Court of Martin County. s2-4t

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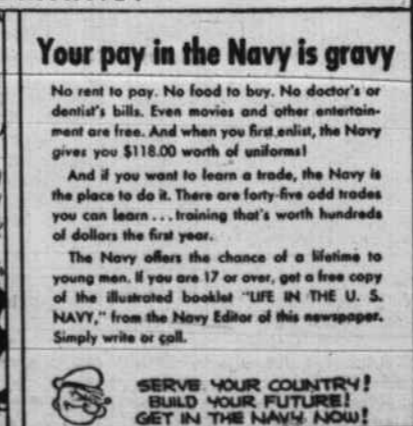


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