

THE ENTERPRISE

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W. C. MANNING Editor - 1908-1938

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Friday, November 13, 1942.

Problem Facing the Peanut Farmer

The peanut farmer is admittedly facing a problem that he can't understand, and it is a puzzle to figure out why he is able to sell peanuts in excess of seven cents a pound on the open market and then sell oil peanuts for about three and one-half cents a pound to the government.

The puzzle is not as perplexing as the price differential would seem to indicate, and in striving for a higher price for his oil stock, it might be well for the farmer to take other factors into consideration before plunging into an open revolt. Possibly the price of oil peanuts is below the cost of production and the price needs to be increased. And we admit that the farmer has got good arguments to support his demand for a higher price. We sincerely hope he gets some consideration.

Reports state that some farmers, possibly not many, have declared the "government shan't get my peanuts for that price." And those same farmers offer some good argument to support their stand. They point out increased labor costs, added expenses and other items, and then tell about the high wages received in defense industries. They possibly have something there, but there is another side to the question.

Not so many years ago, the government stabilized the peanut market at 3 1-2 cents a pound and lost several million dollars in doing it. Oil peanuts ordinarily sell for a cent a pound or less, and while late market quotations are not available, it is understood that the open price for oil stock is under three and one-half cents a pound, making it quite clear that the government is even now taking a loss in stabilizing the price of oil peanuts.

Back yonder the government tried to play fair with the farmer and lost money. Now, the question is, Will the farmer offer to play fair with the government? It is a question worth pondering over, especially in the light of what has been done and attempted in behalf of the farmer by the present administration.

When the farmer is asked to sell his oil peanuts for three and one-half cents, he should not limit his comparison to high wages alone, but also consider the lot of hundreds of thousands of others. It is an established fact that three hundred thousand small business firms have either been forced to close or are being forced to close to make way for the war effort. Much has been said about helping these small business firms, but to this very minute nothing has been done. They have and are going by the board. Ninety-nine per cent were not favored with special tire or gas rations. And just as some farmers have been drafted, thousands of laborers and small business men have been drafted. But the fact that about 15 per cent of the business houses in one small country town have been forced to close has not been publicized to high heaven, and honest-to-goodness complaints are few as compared with some coming from other quarters where operating schedules were interrupted but not wiped out entirely.

There are two sides to the peanut oil price question, but what ever side one may favor, the farmer will do well to dispose of them, even burn 'em up, rather than for a soldier returning from Guadalcanal or Africa, or Ireland to see them stored in a shelter on strike.

In calling for an increase in oil peanut prices, one will do well to study the potential effects that could follow a change. If oil peanuts were thrown on the open market, "quota" peanuts or those for the edible trade would very likely drop in price. The program, despite the permit differential, is geared to take up the slack at some time in the future when possibly we'll look to the government for assistance. Surely there is more than one side to the price differential than many would want to see.

Ingratitude

The defeat of George Norris in the recent elections is viewed from here as the handiwork of an ungrateful people. His defeat although quite democratic is almost enough to cause one to question the principles of democracy.

There's a man who, for forty years, served the people of Nebraska and served them well. He did even more than that; he served the peo-

ple of the entire nation, asking little for himself in return. No man ever held higher the principles of a true democracy than Senator Norris has in his stay in the United States Senate. And yet his own people desert him, and they do it in a crisis. We can't, in the face of our own shameful record when it comes to nominating and electing senators, say much, but if we could we would rebuke those who stabbed the grand old man of the Senate and keep him in his position until his Master called.

But, it seems to be the way of politics. The voters in a New York district returned one Ham Fish to the National House of Representatives despite his close association with enemies of this country. Our in Illinois, the voters returned Senator Brooks to Washington, despite his close association with the privileged few and the Chicago Tribune.

An ungrateful people raised their voices in other states, too. And dissention, while not expressed at the polls recently, is growing in other sections, including our own. There is a marked lapse of memory and we hastily jump at conclusions. When we have much, we are not satisfied until we get more. We are prone to forget the favors and considerations received since 1932.

Now we rise to express our gratitude. We have delivered a terrific wallop against those who offered and dared help us, and in delivering that wallop we have blocked the path of others who would help when poverty and want come again. Senator Norris steps out in January. His successor will hardly match his record, and what incentive is there for him or even others to try when noble efforts are repudiated?

Senator Norris said he felt his life's work had been "repudiated," and added, "All my life I have fought at every turn for the underdog, the man in the street, and those who found themselves in unfortunate circumstances. Now for the first time in my life my efforts have been thrown into the dust and trampled on by the people whom I love more dearly than life itself."

If the people of Nebraska repudiated Mr. Norris, we can look for a repudiation of others who have worked for the underdog. And that's gratitude for you.

Slackers and Strikers

"They won't give me any tires and I can't get all the gas I want," a Martin County farmer was heard complaining in public the other day, declaring that he was through, that he was going to quit. "Let them come and get me," he shouted. All the facts are not known in the case, and it is quite possible that he has not shared in proportion to some others, but to this very day it is fairly apparent that too many of us have shown little or no ingenuity in meeting a serious situation. That some have really sacrificed is not to be doubted, but so far we have pushed our demands before the rationing board and fumed and fussed when we did not get sufficient allotments to maintain our old way of life, including pleasure trips and sprees. And just because an applicant can't get all that he asks for he declares he is going to quit, to pout and blame others for something that he alone can help. That man is a slacker, a striker. He pouts because he believes someone else is getting more than he is getting. He would have us share with him, but if and when the time comes where he has some to spare will he share with others?

If there is any honest-to-goodness patriotism on the home front, it, in too many cases, comes only after our greed has been satisfied. There aren't many cases in this country where we couldn't get along without an automobile or truck, but to date most of them are still running, and we are complaining and even belly-aching about rations, grabbing for another tire, one more gallon of gas, and added sugar and coffee supplies. There has been much said about sugar rationing, and in some cases the sweetener has disappeared from the tables, but the fact remains that more sugar was sold in Martin County since the rationing program was instituted than in the immediately previous corresponding period.

It is true that many motorists have just about reached the last layer of fabric, but honest-to-goodness some of them are members of that group who back yonder dared run 1,000 miles a month making pleasure trips here and there. Now they are facing a critical situation, but it is their own problem. The government warned them to conserve their tires, and now the government can't help them. But they don't believe they are getting a square deal. They can't seem to understand that Japan has gobbled up the supply of raw rubber. They are apparently helpless when it comes to helping themselves; yet, they sit back and howl because someone does not come along and feed them with a silver spoon. In the eyes of those who are offering their lives on the altar of war, those people who insist on grumbling and quitting are no more than slackers and strikers.

In comparison with the racket that is being advanced by some to milk the rationing board for rations, there is the case of the farmer widow. Operating with only an "A" gas card, that patriotic old soul was a bit puzzled as to what to do when the heavy rains ruined her hay crop. "I invested every available penny in war bonds, and I can't figure out how I am going to buy hay for my mules." She has a problem, but she did not say or even suggest that she was going to sit down, or strike, if you please. She couldn't figure out how she was going to meet the problem, but she did not say anything about giving up. So many of us would have pointed to our neighbors and lamented the fact that they had not bought many bonds.

THE (THREE CENTS PER) MINUTE MAN-1942



CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT

24th Sunday after Trinity. Church school, 9:45 a. m. Morning prayer and sermon, 11 a. m. The Rev. William Daniels, of Grace Church, Plymouth, w'l conduct the service and preach. The Presiding Bishop, the Rt. Rev. H. St. George Tucker, will speak over the Episcopal Church of the Air, Columbia Broadcasting System from 10-10:30 Sunday morning. The Presiding Bishop, in his nationwide greeting and summons, will speak on "To Victory Through Love." Evening prayer at 8 p. m. St. Elizabeth's Auxiliary will meet Monday night at 8 p. m. with Mrs. Henry Manning. The Woman's Auxiliary will meet Monday afternoon at 4 p. m. with Mrs. J. S. Rhodes. Everyone is asked to bring a Prayer Book.

SWEET HOME

A series of nightly services will be held at the Sweet Home Christian Church beginning November 15th. Speakers will be Rev. M. L. Ambrose, Rev. D. W. Davis, and the new pastor, Rev. Mr. Gard. The Bear Grass quartet will sing.

BAPTIST

Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Lesson topic, "Things That Mar Family Life." Worship service, 11 a. m. Sermon subject, "What Price Peace." Training Union, 7 p. m. Worship service, 8 p. m. Sermon subject, "What Price Salvation." Prayer and praise service, Wednesday, 8 p. m.

METHODIST

Church school, 9:45 a. m. D. N. Hix, superintendent. Morning worship and sermon, 11 a. m. Young People's meeting, 7 p. m. Evening service, 8 p. m. The W.S.C.S. will meet at the church Monday, 3:30 p. m. A special program, introducing the Week of Prayer, will be given. All members are urged to attend. Prayer service, Wednesday, 8 p. m.

HOLLY SPRINGS METHODIST
The pastor will fill his regular appointment at Holly Springs Sunday 3:30 p. m. The community is cordially invited to attend.

CHRISTIAN

Bible school, 9:45 a. m. Special talks by teachers in all classes from juniors up on theme, "Opening Doors for God: How Goes It?"

Morning worship, 11 a. m. Subject, "Power to Open Doors to Life."

Young People's meeting, 7 p. m. Subject, "Meeting Our Latin American Friends."

Evening service, 8 p. m. Subject, "Destiny of Faith."

Monday, 4 p. m. Circles one and two meet. Circle No. 1 meets with Mrs. J. O. Manning with Mrs. Ed Hardison as joint hostess. Circle No. 2 meets with Mrs. Herman Bowen with Mrs. Woodrow Jones as joint hostess.

Tuesday, 8 p. m. Choir rehearsal. Wednesday, 8 p. m. Midweek service with subject, "God with Us."

The program "Opening Doors for God" which began on last Sunday in the Bible School and Church has for its main objective for the present the enlistment of every member of the church in the Bible school and attendance upon the worship services. Too, to recruit every person attending either the church school or services. Too, to recruit every person attending either the church school or services for Jesus Christ and His Kingdom. Further, to endeavor to reach the unchurched in our community. This will take the total church doing its deal-level best.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of North Carolina, Washington Division.

In Bankruptcy No. 774 In the matter of: Alfred Archibald Forbes, Greenville, N. C. Voluntary Bankrupt.

Notice is hereby given that Monday, December 21, 1942, has been fixed by an order of the court entered at the first meeting of creditors as the last day on which objections to the discharge of this bankrupt may be filed.

Such objections are required to be specified, to be verified, to be in duplicate, and to be filed with the undersigned.

WHEELER MARTIN,
U. S. Referee in Bankruptcy.
Williamston, N. C.
November 10, 1942. n13-2t

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Under and by virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Martin County made in the special proceed-

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