

THE ENTERPRISE

Published Every Tuesday and Thursday by
ENTERPRISE PUBLISHING CO.
WILLIAMSTON, NORTH CAROLINA

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
(Strictly Cash in Advance)

One Year	\$3.00
Six Months	1.75
IN MARTIN COUNTY	
One Year	\$3.50
Six Months	2.00

Advertising Rate Card Upon Request

Entered at the post office in Williamston, N. C., as second-class matter under the act of Congress of March 3, 1939.

Address all communications to The Enterprise and not individual members of the firm.
No Subscription Received Under 6 Months

Tuesday, March 20, 1951

And the Cost Would Have Been Small

In trying to woo Western German along with all of Europe to our side, the United States has spent billions of dollars, but, at the same time, something that would not have cost very much has been overlooked.

It has been said that American movies are good propaganda for the Russians. Our would-be European friends are shocked at the low morals, gambling, drinking and high life depicted in the films. It all leaves such a bad taste in the mouths of our would-be friends.

Writing to the Christian Science Monitor, a West German points out that what would have cost us little or nothing we failed to do and the result is not desirable. He says, in part:

The lack of European spiritual forces is—at least partly—an American product. The average European is impoverished and living on a modest standard; the average American, visiting Europe, likes to show his superior standard of living, as measured by jazz, cars, dollars — or war material. Consequently, an American is considered here as wholly materialistic, as an ever-calculating profiteer.

As long as the American system was victorious, to follow in its shade was easy business. But now, the Communists profit by the feeble points of this system of dollar-measuring, of war-material-mindedness, by using and stressing the superiority of individual courage, of instinct, and by exploiting the human traits—hate and envy. Your real friends will show soon in the sieve of troublesome days.

Who looks into any East German daily is realizing what the psychological warfare in World War III is meaning. All around eastern Germany, the people are summoned for training in anti-American imperialism and pro-Russian communism: with classes, lessons, discussions, medals, promotions, punishments, etc. Under the incessant fire of the motto, "The victory of the Proletariat is inevitable," it will be not easy for those living behind the Iron Curtain to save an independent head.

Postwar years brought a considerable sum of psychological failures by the western powers, and so many contradictory ways in politics that the average German (re-educated since 1945) is unable to understand or to meet the American point of view. Last Gallup tests of December showed anti-military votes by 85 per cent in southern Germany. No government could bridge such unwillingness to fight, although 95 per cent of our folks unite in anti-Communist feeling.

The solution offers a psychological problem on the broadcast basis, beginning with American self-examination, leading along the narrow streets of modesty and humility to a western world, where everybody feels responsible to carry his part of the common burden. Suppose, a business for the best people on both sides of the Atlantic.

Profits Affect Costs

The farmer has been held responsible for the high cost of food and the wage earner has been held responsible for the high cost of goods and services. Surely, the income received by the two groups has to be accounted for somewhere down the line—mostly at the consumer end. But it appears that much of the yelling about high costs has been directed at the farmer and laborer just to hide the big steal on the other side of the fence.

Many, if not all those big deals run through or over the Reconstruction Finance Corporation take their toll somewhere in the economy. And the sucker, commonly known as consumer, is sucked in again to pay the bill in the form of higher costs.

Then we read in one daily report:

American Smelting and Refining Co. and subsidiaries reported record net income of \$42,718,823 or \$14.91 a share, for the year 1950. The 1950 take compares with \$25,106,777 or \$8.22 for the previous year.

American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation increased its profits last year by about \$10 million, reporting an income of \$28,453,497.

Crucible Steel Company of America increased its earnings last year by about \$5 million, pushing its share income to \$9.73.

Continental Air Lines reported a net income of \$191,246.83, a *mosty paid* of only about 432 percent compared with the 1949 income.

Bishop Oil Company reported \$276,014.24 net profits last year, an increase of a little over hundred thousand dollars over 1949.

If these be examples, and they are said to be just that, then some of the high costs encountered in this land of our today is not traceable altogether to the farmer and laboring man.

In the Hour of Crisis

By Ruth Taylor

Suddenly the truth has come home. We are face to face with the fact that this is war, that we are in the thick of it, that wars are not won by sudden feats of daring but by everlasting pounding ahead, that war cannot be fought on the defensive alone.

We have found out that that smart slogans, and boastful claims of superiority will not stop the enemy. He is just as sure of winning as we are. We have not only been out-maneuvered but out-thought. We are all to blame. We have demanded too much and given too little. We have quarreled among ourselves and lobbied for our own interests, and cluttered up the hours of our commanders by demanding explanations out of turn. We have tried to run this war ourselves. And it can't be won that way.

We must get it into our heads that we are at war with strong and dangerous enemies. We can't muddle our way through. This is a War for Survival.

The issue is simple. It is our way of life or theirs - the way of democracy or the way of tyranny - and, as Thomas Paine said in the midst of another war - "Tyranny like hell, is not easily conquered."

What we must do is plain. Every one of our problems is bigger than any of us as individuals. We must either work together for the common good or we shall inevitably share the common evil of defeat. Domination by a master race, a master nation or a master class would be intolerable to any of us, and, make no mistake, that is what this war is about.

Let no propagandist befuddle you on the issue - every one of us, White or Black, Protestant, Catholic or Jew, will know the feel of a hobnailed boot on our own, individual, personal neck if we lose this war. It won't be just the other fellow.

We must subject ourselves to the most rigid voluntary self-discipline, showing that we are a free people who are willing to accept restraints because we understand the terrible necessities of the hour. The things we are giving up temporarily, we will have taken from us for good if we lose this war. This is an hour of crisis. We must buckle down to work. We must each of us keep constantly before us Nelson's motto: "A year from now what will we had done today!"

The Rock of Reality

Easter Message by The Rt. Rev. Henry Knox Sherrill, D. D., LL. D., Presiding Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church

The plainest fact today is that we live in a time of crisis. No one is able to predict the future or to give complete and satisfactory solutions to our problems. But deeper than the evident perplexities in regard to action, there is the fact that men and women everywhere are in a state of disillusionment, of emotional and intellectual confusion within themselves. In an era of revolutionary change, they must have some rock of reality upon which to stand. Such was the experience of the first disciples. After the Crucifixion, they were discouraged, bewildered. "We trusted that it had been he which should have redeemed Israel." Then came the impact of the fact of the Resurrection. The stern task given them still remained. But now they understood as never before the meaning and purpose of God, of life, and their lives. They were given insight, courage and above all, spiritual power.

So may this Eastertide bring us once again these great gifts as we realize the truth that God reigns. The joyful news, "He is risen" does not change the contemporary world. Still before us lie work, discipline, and sacrifice. But here is the spiritual power to perform the same.

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long
Steals on the ear the distant triumph song
And hearts are brave again and arms are strong
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Turpentine Drippings

Compiled By Bill Sharpe

GRAND FINALE

(J. M. Eleazer, Hamlet News-Messenger)

The old covered wagon show brought many wonders into our restricted world of 1902 in the Dutch Fork. For the past two weeks I've been telling you about that great event. Today I want to tell you of the crowning act.

That was saved for the last of the show. The men up front were asked to get the two lanterns down and blow them out. They had let the fire die down on purpose and the embers were covered with ashes so there would be no light in the room to mar the picture. They lit up something on the table there at the back of the room. It sputtered and fizzed like it might explode. But soon it settled down to a steady purr.

Then, very dramatically, the man announced, "Ladies and Gentlemen, get ready for the treat of your lives." And, with that, intense light flickered on the bed sheet that had been tacked up at the other end of the room. Forked figures jumped across that light before the picture came. Then all of a sudden there it was, a railroad leading right up to you. And to our perfect consternation, away up the track we could see a train coming right at us! As it approached, a bit of restlessness grew in the room. Everyone seemed to forget where he was, and to feel that he was alone, standing there in the middle of the track, with that monster of fire and steam coming right at him!

As it got closer it seemed to come faster. Someone opened a shutter and a half dozen folks jumped out of the window. Mothers drew their children close to them and awaited the consequences. Several screamed out, and the show-man announced there was no danger. The film broke before the train quite got there. After a ten-minute pause to fix it, it was run again. And when the engine finally got there and looked like it was jumping right out of the screen at you, there were squeaks all over the place, and two men fell backwards from top of the wood box where they were sitting.

Soon lanterns were lit again. Folks rubbed their eyes to see if they had been dreaming, and wondered if they hadn't been seeing things. And the talk about that train running and spouting steam and smoke there on that sheet in our school house never ceased around there for weeks.

WHAT IS A CONSERVATIVE?

(Laurinburg Exchange)
Conservative is a good old word which has suffered somewhat from the smear technique. Words, like persons, can suffer because of injustice and ill treatment.



Lee Tung Foo and Randolph Scott come to the aid of bullet-wounded Bill Williams in an action scene from "The Cariboo Trail", coming on Thursday to the Marco Theatre. A Nat Holt production in Cinecolor. "The Cariboo Trail" is being released by Twentieth Century - Fox.

The editor of The Charlotte Observer comes to the defense of the word "conservative" and says it means, "To keep in a safe or sound state; to preserve," quoting the dictionary. The author of one of the currently popular books says that the word "conservative" is static, while "Liberal" (in the political sense) means dynamic.

Words do take on acquired meaning, and often suffer from misuse. Such is the case with the word "conservative." And when the writer of a book says that it means "static" and backward looking, he is doing it an injustice and pinning a false label on a great number of people.

The words conservative, liberal, reactionary and radical have been banded about so much that they no longer mean much of anything when applied to an individual, or to his thought habits. But for the sake of good, honest words, writers and speakers should not smear them, or bring them into disrepute by making them say what they were never intended to say.

TRY THIS ONE (Marion Star)
Many doctors and ministers who find themselves at a loss for words when called upon to admire newborn infants—attractive and otherwise—have adopted a standard comment which seems to satisfy everybody:
"Well, that is a baby!"
One pastor we know became a bit confused when the christening hour arrived. Peering intently at the baby as it lay in a proud parent's arms, he exclaimed heartily, "Well, is that a baby?"

DEEP FREEZE (Harold Booker, Camden Chronicle)
A story in the State last Friday

INFLATION AGAIN (Greensboro Daily News)
The gardening season is just

around the corner—a short corner at that.

Harold Nau, assistant farm agent, had a few words on the subject yesterday:
"If you're undecided about how much gardening to do, add up your grocery bills. They're terrific, and may get worse."

Nau is the father of twins, and knows whereof he speaks regarding grocery bills.

morning from Chicago told of a woman, who had been found frozen, being thawed out by astonished physicians. Just about the time World II broke out there was a lot of talk about experimenting with freezing human beings and leaving them frozen for a time and then unfreezing them. The belief was expressed that this might effect a cure for cancer and other diseases. It seems that experiments had been made on animals and that diseases in them had been cured this way. It was found that the animals did not age

himself as a guinea pig but the law wouldn't allow the experiment to be made. This set us to thinking. If the experiment had been conducted and had proved successful it would have opened the way to a solution of many problems. For example in times of depression a man could just have himself frozen until times got better. If a couple wanted to go out at night and couldn't find a baby-sitter they could just have the children frozen until they got back home. If a husband and wife got in a fix, one or the other could just go to the deep freeze and remain frozen until the other got over it. Since one doesn't age while being frozen, one could just have himself frozen indefinitely if need be until the world situation got better.

The idea is certainly worth pursuing.

NAGGED BEYOND THE GRAVE

(Thomasville Tribune)
A fantastically henpecked husband finally did something entirely on his own initiative. He dropped dead. His nagging wife mourned his loss—and the fact that she had nobody left to badger.

A visitor sympathized. "How you must miss dear Wilbur." "Yes," said the widow wistfully, "it seems but yesterday that he stood at that very door, holding it open until two flies come in."

An Alexander County farmer, W. C. Moore of Stony Point, has received gross returns of more than \$1,000 per acre on aromatic tobacco during the past two years.

The Letter-Box

CHANGING COURTS

To any way of thinking, when our county gets so small we have to move our court cases to another county to get justice, we should drop an atomic bomb on the courthouse and get clear of the whole show.

P. P. Peel,
Hamilton, N. C., March 15.

Pre-Easter Programs Planned In County

The Christian Women's Fellowship groups at Oak City, Hassell and Everetts are holding special pre-Easter programs this week at Oak City Wednesday at 3:30 p. m., at Hassell Thursday, 7:30 p. m., and Everetts Saturday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock p. m.

Splendid programs have been planned and the public is invited.



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