

THE Roanoke Beacon
and
Washington County News

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"Missing in Action, in the Service of His Country"

As the casualty lists begin to come in, some of them directly affecting our friends and neighbors in Washington County all the agitation and furor occasioned by rationing become of little moment, and we begin to see how very little we have been called on to sacrifice.

This week a telegram came to Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Bateman, of Creswell, informing them that their son, Bossie Bateman, was "missing in action, in the service of his country." Besides this, the demands made on the remainder of us pale into nothingness. Mere words can be of little solace to the grieving parents in this dark hour; yet the world moves on, and later will come to them abiding satisfaction in the knowledge that neither they nor their son were found shirking when their native land called on them for a real sacrifice.

We, and everyone of us, are indebted to them and extend them our heartfelt sympathy. Like messages are coming to others of us before this war is over. Some may escape such messages, but will be called on to give up other things. Such demands should serve to bind us into a common fellowship of those who have performed their duty at whatever cost.

Now let us have done with bickering and division and petty argument over inconsequential matters. The task ahead is grim and demanding, on some more than on others. Whatever the call, there is but one aim: To get the job done as quickly and as cheaply as possible in human lives—the one value that really counts.

Think Straight
By RUTH TAYLOR

In our hurry, in our patriotic fervor, in our zeal to be of service at this crucial hour, we must not overlook the fact that there is a need to think as well as act. Just as we drop peace-time luxuries from our lives, just as we concentrate all our efforts on work that will help in winning this war against the posers of darkness—so must we think straight toward our goal, so must we drop fears, prejudices, petty hatreds and personal preferences from our mind.

Now most of all must we learn to think straight. Elmer Davis, the director of War Information, made a statement some time ago which every one of us who fight for democracy, must well remember: "Not only does our future, and probably the world's future, depend on our ability to fight straight through to victory, it depends as well on our ability to think straight through to the end of the war and afterwards."

This is a time of complete re-orientation. We must realize that even history is speeded up these days. The changes that are taking place are rapid and we must be able to keep up with them mentally, and adjust ourselves to the idea that the way we had thought things out may not be the best way to work things through.

We must ruthlessly discard old habits of thought. We must think in broader terms. We must praise the right action—no matter who does it; and we must condemn the wrong, no matter whose it is. We must not detour for selfish motives, whether that selfishness be a selfishness of an individual or a group. We must think straight toward the high end of victory both of the war and of the peace, and we must recognize the source of all efforts to divide us and create hates and dissension.

We must not be led astray by

those who are seeking their own personal gain or the fulfillment of their ambition in this war, or the satisfaction of their grudges and hates. We cannot even afford to spend time hating them. We have our job to do—and we must think straight to it.

We have a mental code to guide us. The Four Freedoms are not just a statement of national policy, but a challenge to all of us, a call to the minds of men to think straight through to these goals, and to put them into practical application—not merely at some future date when victory rests on our banners, but here and now in our daily lives.

The war will be won by those who have fought straight through to the victory of the United Nations. The peace will be won by those who have thought straight through to the victory of the Four Freedoms.

Suckers Beware

The sale to the public of a great variety of "incendiary bomb extinguishers" powders and devices such as "scoops," "grabs" and "snuffers" for handling fire bombs has reached alarming proportions. Vigorous sales campaigns, frequently based on misleading advertisements, are still being developed. In the interest of civilian protection, it is necessary that further sale of these materials be discouraged, as they are entirely without merit and may endanger the lives of persons who depend upon them.

With reference to a bulletin dated October 26, 1942, it will be noted that the use of sand and a spray of water for controlling fire bombs also cannot be depended upon, due to the fragmentation effects of the new bombs.

Civilian Defense officials recommend that every possible means of promoting the use of a jet or a solid water stream be developed. The necessary equipment includes an adequate reserve water supply, and water type equipment such as pump tanks, stirrup pumps, garden hose, and other water type extinguishers.

"This is a time when Americans should stand together and do no wrong against each other, a time when all human destinies are dependent upon the American people," charged Judge Felix E. Alley of the Yadkin County superior court, addressing the grand jury. It is a nice thought, but judging from the number of defendants charged with various offenses appearing in court immediately afterwards it is being breached quite a lot in Yadkin county.



U. S. Treasury Dept. © Art Lofare

Religious News and Views

By REV. W. B. DANIELS, JR.

Letter To the Editor—

Mr. Jack Booker, Editor
Roanoke Beacon,
Plymouth, N. C.

Dear Jack:

As I sit at my typewriter to compose this letter, I know that you are not going to want to print it. However, since you have given me the space in your newspaper for my column, with instructions to fill that space in any manner I see fit, I shall insist that it be printed even over your editorial protests.

You see, this letter is not only to you... it's also about you. And it's to be in the nature of a tribute to the Roanoke Beacon and to you as its editor. You say you won't have your own newspaper tossing bouquets at you... oh, yes, you will. You edit the rest of your newspaper, I'll handle this column!

I just wanted to say publicly that in my opinion, Washington County is indeed fortunate to have a newspaper such yours dedicated to the highest standards of journalism. I have watched the Beacon for nearly three years, and have yet to see anything in its columns which smacked of sensationalism or unwarranted prejudice. I have admired its journalistic integrity which insisted on presenting the truth without fear or favor.

In particular, I would like to express my appreciation... and here I feel that I speak for most of the people in this community... for the space you have given in your publication for church and religious news, and indeed, to any kind of news that would work for the general welfare of Plymouth and Washington County. The Churches, the Boy Scouts, the Cubs, the Lions' Club, the American Legion, our schools and welfare organizations have often times depended upon you and your newspaper in carrying out their functions for the betterment of our community. You have always been willing and eager to lend your valuable assistance to those groups which have called upon you.

GRAND JURY

(Continued from Page One)

present needs. The principal's office is poorly heated. We recommend a large radiator be installed to properly heat this room. In general we find the building poorly maintained and janitor service poor.

Item IV—County Garage: The garage is maintained from a house-keeping standpoint in a commendable manner. The mechanic reports there is some trouble in getting correct information from drivers as to break-downs and minor troubles. We recommend that regular forms be made and supply to each driver. The drivers to hand in writing a report on condition of the school bus. This report would be called trouble-card. This procedure would give the mechanic definite information and aid in repairing all buses. We are advised that State Patrol does hold periodical inspections of buses and drivers, etc.

Item V—County Home: This building is maintained very good considering the size of the building, the number of rooms and number of inmates. Mrs. Basnight states she is unable to get the proper help. We commend the keeper in his work. The building is badly in need of paint both inside and out. There are a few places of broken plaster that should be repaired. We recommend that the county commissioners be instructed to have this work done.

We are grateful to you and to your newspaper for this whole-hearted and consistent cooperation. With the hope that you can grin and bear the blushes, I am

Sincerely Yours,
WM. B. DANIELS, JR.

at an early date to avoid excess cost and future deterioration of the building.

Item VI—Courthouse and County Agent's Office: These buildings are in fair condition only all offices and corridors should be painted. The housekeeping is deplorable. From observation the janitor possibly sweeps the floor but makes no effort to clean behind radiators or furniture. Window panes are never washed. There is an accumulation of dust, cobwebs, and rubbish to be found in all parts of the building. The commissioners should see that proper janitor service is given or replace the present incumbent. The public demands it.

Item VII—Roper High School (White): The plumbing fixtures are broken causing leaks and water to flow over the floor, seeping through the ceiling, resulting in plaster falling in the auditorium and classrooms causing a constant hazard. Electrical outlets with exposed live wires that are easy accessible to pupils constitute a menace to their safety. These defects should be corrected at once. The commodes are broken, escaping water causing nauseating odor and very insanitary conditions. Mr. Arnold, the principal, is making an effort to keep the building and premises clean.

Item VIII—J. J. Clemens High School (Colored) Roper: With the exception of one heater pipe and a few window panes out this school is well kept with ample lunchroom facilities and sanitary conditions satisfactory.

Item IX—Creswell High School (White): Although this is practically a new building it is readily deteriorating from a leaking roof. Some places the woodwork of the interior of the building is rotten from the leaks. Janitor service is very poor, and in general this school can be maintained in a better manner.

Item X—Creswell Colored School: The committee found 40 window lights out and using the same seats that had been in use for 20 years, the principal, P. W. Littlejohn, states. The Grand Jury has reported the same condition for the past 10 years and no action has ever been taken or any inclination shown to improve conditions of this school.

Item XI—We found all other colored schools are in need of general repairs and additional furniture to seat the pupils. In every building there are windows out, poor heating and flues a constant fire hazard. The sanitary conditions are very poor.

Item XII—From inspections of all schools that maintain lunchrooms it is very noticeable and commendable the manner in which these departments are maintained and operated. It is probably because the lunchrooms come under the supervision of the State Health Department. They are doing a swell job, we commend them in their work. The State Prison Camp, located in Scuppernon township is also commendable in the manner in which it is maintained.

On checking the clerk's office we find that there are books that have not been posted for the last three years. There are documents and other papers that should be recorded. The grand jury recommends that the county commissioners should provide competent help to have this work brought up to date. As it now stands it is a reflection on this office which is not the fault of the present incumbent. We also found that the justices of the peace throughout the county are not making monthly reports as required by law. Only two are making regular reports, J. T. McNair, Plymouth, and M. F. Davenport, Creswell. Those that are not making reports are W. A. Everett, Mackey; E. L. McNair, Plymouth; T. F. Davenport, Creswell; W. W. White, Roper; and W.



Rev. W. B. Daniels, Jr.

H. Peele, Plymouth. With those not making reports it is our information that W. H. Peele has issued several warrants, tried the cases and no record of fines or costs being reported to the county auditor or the clerk of the court.

XIII—After a tour of inspection of all county property and analyzing the conditions of each and all buildings the jury were unanimous in their decision that the county property is rapidly deteriorating, and unless measures are immediately taken to correct these conditions it will soon be necessary to replace all building with new ones. We are reluctant to charge incompetency or lack of interest in their duties to any of our officials, but the condition of the county property and the definite lack of attention to its preservation speaks for itself.

There is at best an indifference to these matters on the part of those charged with them that is inexcusable. Perhaps a part of the trouble is financial, but we believe the people realize the importance of preserving their property, and are willing to pay enough taxes to do it. But there is not a reason, and not even an excuse, for the filthy conditions of the buildings. That could not exist except for indifference on the part of the officials, and an unwillingness to work on the part of the janitors. It should not be permitted to continue. It is our information that all grand jury reports are read, orders are given by the presiding judge to the county commissioners, reports filed and forgotten. We ask if failure on the part of the county commissioners, board of education to comply with the court's orders does not constitute contempt of court? If so, we recommend that previous reports be presented to the court and non-compliance be dealt with according to their value and importance.

J. C. SWAIN, Foreman.

★ IN THE NAVY ★
they say:

"SCUTTLE BUTT" for gossip
"JIMMY LEGS" for master-at-arms
"CHIPS" for carpenter's mate
"CAMEL" for the Navy man's favorite cigarette

CAMELS WIN WITH ME! THEY DELIVER A FULL CARGO OF MILDNESS AND RICH FLAVOR!

FIRST IN THE SERVICE
The favorite cigarette with men in the Navy, Army, Marines, and Coast Guard is Camel. (Based on actual sales records in Canteens and Post Exchanges.)

COSTLIER TOBACCO

Camel

"REDDY" IS COMING!

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

ATTENTION, Farmers!

ALL THOSE WHO WISH TO PLANT Cucumbers

during the 1943 season are urged to see us at the C. C. Lang & Son, Inc., plant on Brinkley Avenue, Plymouth, and arrange for a contract.

The cucumbers will be machine graded, and prices will be higher than they were in 1942. Prices for the coming season will be as follows:

GRADE	LENGTH	PER 100 LBS.
No. 1	(1½ to 3 in.)	\$3.50
No. 2-A	(3 to 4½ in.)	1.80
No. 2-B	(4½ to 5½ in.)	1.00
No. 3	(Crooks, 1½ to 4 in.)	.80
No. 4	(Oversize—Not over 6 in. long)	.40

C. W. Dinkins and Harry McNair are in charge of the local office, which will be open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. on week-days and from 8 to 12 noon on Saturdays.

Contracts May Also Be Obtained At Blount's Hardware Store

C. C. LANG & SON, INC.

C. W. DINKINS
Plant on Brinkley Avenue

HARRY MCNAIR
Plymouth, N. C.

Remember—Chevrolet Dealers Service All Makes of Cars and Trucks

GET A SKILLED CHECK-UP NOW!

- ✓ Check and rotate tires
- ✓ Check lubrication
- ✓ Check engine, carburetor, battery
- ✓ Check brakes
- ✓ Check steering and wheel alignment
- ✓ Check clutch, transmission, rear axle

Chevrolet dealers have the leader's "know-how" in servicing all makes.

Chevrolet dealers have had the broadest experience—servicing millions of new and used cars and trucks.

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Chevrolet dealers give quality service at low cost.

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