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MEDITATION

He said, Bring them hither to me.

Matt. 14: 18

To the disciples, who had only five loaves and two fishes, the feeding of five thousand was a difficulty. But Jesus simply said, "Bring them to me" and all were fed with twelve baskets of fragments gathered up afterward.

Who of us today are not encompassed, and sometimes almost overwhelmed, with difficulties, trials, and emergencies? These are but empty vessels which, through faith, prayer, and service, will be filled with blessings, comfort, and peace, if we will but carry them to God.

FSA Farmers Make Good Record

If Congress makes the big cut it contemplates in the proposed budget for Farm Security and other farm programs, it will directly affect several hundred farm families in Jackson county and will put a stop to a program that has been one of the most successful farm programs carried on under a Federal Agency. Of course the North Carolina farm extension program, carried out under the direction of county agent M. L. Snipes, is the biggest and broadest farm program carried on. But this article has to do with the FSA program which will suffer most if the budget is slashed as proposed by the congress.

According to the records of the local FSA office 603 Jackson county farm families have benefited from loans made by this agency over the eight-year period of operation. The records show that 90 per cent of this borrowed money has been paid as it comes due and that many of the one-time tenant farmers, who are now paying for their own farms through these loans, are about six years ahead of schedule.

Had it not been for the program the 34 tenant farmers who are now paying for their farms would probably have continued to be tenants. This means that the economic and social standard of these 34 families have been greatly improved by the fact that they are now land owners which gives them greater pride and interest in the upbuilding of their farm lands, homes, livestock, etc., as well as a greater interest in community betterment. With this kind of program going on all over the nation one can readily see what the stoppage will mean. It is to be hoped that congress will see fit to restore the funds for this program to the original budget figures.

COOPERATING

The citizens of Sylva are to be commended for their splendid cooperation in an effort to help keep a clear through traffic lane on Mill street by refraining from the many years' habit of parking on this street. Since they are cooperating so well in not parking on this street, trucks are able to get to the rear of the various buildings for unloading purposes without completely blocking the street.

The police department is also grateful for this cooperation, since only a suggestion on its part has been all that was necessary, so far, to keep the street open.

CRIME

North Carolina, like other sections of the country, seems to be in the throes of a crime wave which is a challenge to the citizens of the state. Drastic action must be taken in trying to combat and eradicate this tendency.

We note that there is great concern in the press over the clearing of criminals, which makes us all realize how much better it would be if the courts upheld the laws of the commonwealth as written and not be influenced by anyone. However, this seems like locking the barn after the horse has been stolen.

There also arises the question of how far should clemency be granted these

Inside Washington

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON — A well-informed member of the CIO's political action staff freely admits that labor erred in going before congressional committees to oppose any and all types of labor legislation.

This negative attitude, the official concedes, irritated enemies of labor who were determined to enact some kind of legislation regulating unions and probably resulted in much tougher bills in both branches of Congress.

Most important, the "no, no, no" attitude left labor's friends on Capitol Hill behind the eight-ball.

The PAC expert says labor should have mapped out a definite program of legislation and supported it. Then, he explains, labor's friends in Congress would have had some ammunition with which to counteract punitive legislation.

All of this was second-guessing, however, and union chiefs admit their only hope was a presidential veto.

FROM THE FOG SURROUNDING early developments of World War II comes disclosure that American investigators found a veritable "bonanza" when they took over the German embassy in Washington during the forepart of the conflict.

The chief of the State department's special projects division, Albert S. Clattenburg, reveals that when they opened the embassy safe they found \$3,500,000—in good, old United States hard cash.

Then, State department's official "yeggs" cracked the Jap embassy safe. Pickings were slimmer there. It yielded only \$30,000, American money.

The United States government "safe crackers" were disappointed by the amount in the Nipponese vaults—they had expected \$500,000.

SPEAKER JOE MARTIN IS STANDING at the political crossroads and his friends are attempting to entice him down—or perhaps up—an intriguing road for 1948.

They are urging Martin to make a bid for the GOP vice presidential nomination when the convention meets next year in Philadelphia.

They believe that Martin is the man, should Senator Robert Taft, of Ohio, be named to head the ticket. Geographically, they concede their position would be weak if New York's Governor Dewey gets the presidential nomination again.

Martin is popular not only in New England but throughout the grass roots, where his record of consistent public service rates A-plus. However, Joe is letting it be known that he considers the speakership as second only to the presidency in importance.

If things shape up to their liking, Martin's backers will put the vice presidential nomination business on a "duty first" basis. They will insist that Joe Martin owes it to the part he has served throughout his political life. Joe may find it hard to say "no" to that one.

BAD WEATHER THROUGHOUT THE NATION threatens the 1947 output of American farmers, who turned out the world's greatest production of food last year.

Spring work on most farms, says the Agriculture department, has been delayed by continued cold and wet weather. As a result, plowing and seeding operations are two to three weeks later than usual.

Many acres intended for oats in the northeast and north central states this year were still unplanted as late as May 1. Adverse weather also prevented plowing for corn and other crops in the same states.

In the south, corn and tobacco planting is behind schedule because of the cold and rainy weather in recent weeks.

Fortunately, the bad weather hasn't had any disastrous effect on the most important food crop—wheat. The Agriculture department still anticipates a wheat production this year of more than one billion bushels—the largest in United States history.

Eight of the nine justices of the U. S. Supreme Court and seven of the 10 members of the President's cabinet are members of The American Legion.

criminals? Strict enforcement of the laws would certainly have a deterrent effect on potential criminals.

—Waynesville Mountaineer

FANNING THE FLAME



The Everyday Counsellor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

This is being written while I am literally "up in the air," and about 7 thousand feet at that! Travel by plane is becoming increasingly popular. It is certainly more comfortable, and according to statistics, is far safer than traveling by automobile.

Day flying, and particularly night flying, has been made an exact science by radio. In the first place, the pilot is able to communicate with the ground and the various airfields which are along his route as plotted by the special maps which he uses. He can thus secure weather reports as he goes along. By this method, he can also receive landing instructions.

But the greatest marvel of the radio is what is called flying "blind"—by the radio beam. The pilot, wearing headphones, listens for the sound of the radio beam sent out by the radio stations attached to the various airfields below him. He has a map of these. When he is flying "on the beam," the direction of which is indicated on his map, he hears a steady hum in the earphones. If he gets "off the beam" to the right, he gets another signal—"A," which is a dot-dash. If he goes to the left, he gets still another signal—"N," which is a dash-dot. As long as his radio works and he follows his map, he can keep his plane on the planned course and can expect to reach his destination, even though he can not actually see the ground.

The resemblance between flying by the radio beam and daily living is so striking that no one can miss it. We can't see into the future. We live from day to day, hour to hour, —yes, minute to minute.

All of us have a destination, one of two, Heaven or Hell. Many of us seem not to have made a positive selection, however, if actions are to be judged.

Almighty God has provided a When we live according to the divine will, to the divine plan for each individual life, we are "on

the beam." There is inward peace, the steady hum of contentment. But when we get "off the beam," that steady hum of peace and contentment is interrupted, and conscience signals its warning. This we can ignore, and may do, but the warning signal is reflected in confused thinking, erratic actions, loud and selfish talk.

We can go to the left of "the beam," as we break and ignore the great moral laws of God and engage in sin and unrighteousness. We can also go to the right of "the beam," and make our interpretation of God's plan for us through the Gospel so severe, forbidding, divine radio beam — conscience.



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SYLVA GRANITE and MARBLE WORKS

Former Policemen Ask Why They Were Fired

Editor of The Herald

Dear Sir:

In your last edition a story was published headed, "Sylva Police and Clerk asked to resign" and even to now neither we or the people of Sylva understand why this action was taken so suddenly when on May 29th the present board voted to retain the old force, then five days later asked for our resignation. It is not fair to us who have served the town and people without any special criticism to be placed in the light that this action has cast of us.

Through your valued paper we feel that the new board should let the people of Sylva know just why this action was taken. As it now stands the people can only think and wonder. If we violated rules and regulations which as officers we should not have then let the people know about it. If not then come clean and give we men of the former force credit for our faithful duty as well as let the respectable citizens know just what it is all about.

Mr. Aldermen, we expect you to make a public explanation.

Signed:

Don Davis
James Mason
George Evans

LOOKING BACKWARD

From the Files of The Ruralite of 15 years ago

Misses Sadie Lou Southerland and Llewellyn Rhodes have returned from N.C.C.W. at Greensboro, where they attended graduation exercises. They were accompanied home by Miss Caroline Rhodes who graduated there.

Miss Jometa Higdon has arrived from Piedmont College, Demorest, Ga. where she graduated, to spend the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Higdon.

Conrad Nichols, son of Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Nichols, graduated Thursday from Atlanta Southern Dental college and is visiting his parents. He is undecided as to where he will locate for practice.

Mrs. H. C. Allison and daughter, Sue, have returned from Raleigh where they attended commencement at Meredith college. Miss Kate Allison accompanied them home for the summer.

Rev. D. H. Rhinehart, Mrs. Rhinehart, Mrs. M. D. Cowan and Mrs. M. Buchanan, Sr., were in Andrews attending the Waynesville District conference last Wednesday and Thursday.

In the recent democratic primary the following were elected to run in the election this fall: for representative, Dan Tompkins; sheriff, J. J. Manney; finance commissioner, J. D. Cowan; for part time commissioners, W. A. Hooper, W. C. Norton, and J. E. Rogers.

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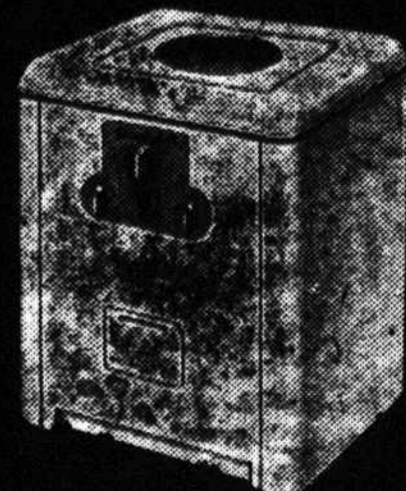
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