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THE FARMVILLE ENTERPRISE

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OUR BOYS AND THE CRIME PROBLEM

Careful Weighing of Facts Shows Fault in Present Methods. Why Not Real Training Ships With Incentives Which Appeal to Youth's Natural Instincts?

By B. H. CANFIELD

Most "criminals" are boys around 21 years of age. The age of law-breakers steadily grows lower. A middle-aged bandit seldom is seen. Jails, reform schools and penitentiaries are crowded with boys. The young manhood of the United States furnishes the prison fodder. This is the outstanding crime of the present era.

These boys are not really "criminal." They are afflicted with a complaint common to youth—energy that is not properly directed. They are not to blame. The war, among other things, gave them a mistaken idea of how youthful energy should be used. They were taught that what is called lawlessness in individuals may become right in nations. They were urged into primitive passions. The trouble is that after we taught them all this for war purposes no one took the trouble to unteach them. And they take naturally to carrying on that philosophy just as they took naturally to being taught—because they are young and the young, as a rule, are adventurous.

After all, Jesse James is a sort of national hero. He is the Robin Hood of America. Every boy in the land knows his name. It is no longer possible to run away from home in order to fight Indians in the west or to become a chivalrous stage robber, but the urge is the same. Boys are no different. Conditions are different.

Boys love romance, adventure and the doing of things they are told not to do. Any boy not like that is defective or perhaps a genius. But the average is what counts.

The boy who joins the corner "gang" and who becomes its leader in what are often lawless activities, has should make him a very useful member of society. He has nerve, initiative, cleverness and energy. The boys belonging to his gang all have these qualities, but one becomes leader because he is the best planner and generally the best fighter.

These boys commit most of the crimes. A raid on an auto parked in a lonely spot and the theft of a few tools is followed by the stealing of a car—at first for a ride, then for profit. A chase and an exchange of shots with a motorcycle officer and you have one or two first class bandits in the kindergarten class. They learn rapidly and as the result of courses at reform schools they graduate and become a part of the ever-increasing crime problem.

The real work for crime commissions, judges, business men, parents and civic organizations of all kinds, does not lie in deciding how many police officers there shall be and whether they shall be instructed to kill or only to hit on the head. It lies in tackling the cause of crime. In this sense the word crime means crimes pertaining to banditry. There are other classes of criminals—bunco men, dope peddlers and so on. Shrewd, shifty folk who seldom are caught. But the bulk of the class we call criminal is composed of boys.

Look at these boys in a court room, waiting to be sentenced. They are alert, keen eyed, frequently well dressed, "snappy." Of course, there is the occasional real defective—easily recognized. This type is even less the criminal. It needs treatment, not punishment. Many are there by accident. Nearly every man can remember instances that might have put him in the same place. He escaped perhaps through luck.

These boys are examined, questioned and third degreed. Sometimes they are given tests. Cool, scientific and efficient persons, equipped with the latest in systems give them this and that test and grade them accordingly—normal, abnormal, subnormal, etc. They get little of the truth. Youth cannot be reduced to mathematics.

A criticism is not justified without a remedy. These boys may be salvaged. Not salvaged—for they are not a loss in the first place—but directed.

These boys resent institutions, no matter how efficiently conducted. They do not want to be put o nfarms. A monotonous, prosaic existence is what they have fought against.

For all time the sea has been the great adventure. Regardless of where anyone has been reared, the sea has its lure. That is a primitive instinct. The answer to this problem is tremendously easy. Not anything suggestive of the old English system of prison ships. But, as the name implies, real training ships.

These ships should be centers of education. The discipline should be strict and the work hard. It should not be made so attractive that boys would want to be "sentenced." But most boys, resenting restraint, would not want to be put in this school, anyway. There should be no stigma attached to this system. The officials and teachers in charge should be selected for their understanding of their charges. Boys respond readily to the teaching and influence of men who understand them. Punishment should not be degrading. Teaching, not preaching, should be a slogan.

Cruises of these ships, hard work, discipline, knowledge of the geography, customs, problems, politics and dangers of the parts of their country where these ships stop, supply the material to make a boy a real man and a useful citizen.

He doesn't "serve a term." He graduates. He gets a diploma and the system is so good that when he finishes, not only does no disgrace attach to his name, not only is he not hounded as an ex-convict, but the course is a recommendation for employment and a guarantee of honesty and right principles. Otherwise he doesn't get the diploma.

The cost of all this would be only a fraction of that for maintaining these boys in prison. The saving to this country in turning out useful citizens instead of jail-birds cannot be calculated.

This is the only real "crime problem."

Army Fliers Ready for 'Round the World Flight

After receiving the President's "Godspeed" and final instructions, at Washington, the U. S. Army aviators went to their posts for the "Round the World" flight which soon starts. Left to right they are: Lt. L. D. Schultz, Lt. E. H. Nelson, Maj. F. L. Martin in command, Lt. L. P. Arnold, Leigh Wade, Lowell H. Smith and John Harding, Jr.

This Week

By Arthur Brisbane

THE WONDERFUL SOUTH.
STARTLING QUICK GROWTH.
BUY THE LANDS OF NO REGRETS.
THE "IF" CANDIDATES.
FALSE, FOOLISH ECONOMY.

This is written at Palm Beach, happy land, where those with nothing to do are doing it energetically. The blue sea is beautifully calm, the breeze that sweeps across it is mild. The water is warm. Human beings are bobbing up and down in it.

The big hotels are packed.

Think what it will be a few years hence at Palm Beach, Miami, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, all the marvelous resorts of Florida, Georgia and the Carolinas when the flying machine annihilates distance.

Buy land in the south, well chosen, and you won't regret it.

Those that live North know little about the South and the rapidity of its growth, surpassing all growth elsewhere.

Thirty-seven million people live in the South. The value of their property is estimated at 65 billion dollars. That sum, 65 times one thousand million dollars, is a good deal. But it represents only a fraction of the real wealth of the South. Florida alone is worth several times what is called "the true value of property in Southern States."

The thirty millions of acres now unemployed in Florida would yield under ordinary cultivation an annual profit of one hundred dollars an acre—that's a low estimate.

That alone would be three billion dollars a year, five per cent on sixty billions of dollars. Under intensive cultivation, with irrigation and proper fertilizing, the thirty million unused acres of land in Florida would easily produce a net profit of $500 an acre, enough to pay off all public debt of the United States with some in less than four years.

That is real wealth, and all that is required to develop it is more good population and capital.

Millions of good agriculturists that would eagerly come here from Italy and elsewhere should be welcomed with open arms and helped, to get a start instead of being stopped at Ellis Island and turned back with strange stupidity.

The growth of the South within the last few years is the marvel of industrial and financial history. Southern bank resources, exceeding eight thousand millions are 55 per cent greater than in 1916. Capital invested in manufacturing has increased from three billion to over nine billions in eight years.

That piece of unfortunate, petty, narrow minded, short sighted, false economy reminds you of the day when members of congress were defeated for re-election because they voted mony "for such a nonsnsical scheme as trying to send messages on telegraph wires."

That item of a million and a half for a flying service between New York and San Francisco would be the best possible investment that the country could make. We appropriate tens of millions for old fashioned ships of the navy and their upkeep. Five millions spent on the development of the flying machine and on marksmanship in bomb dropping would make our naval collection of floating steel junk unnecessary and enable us to sink any fleet approaching this shore.

Flying ships above the water, invisible submarines below the water, will supply all the protection this country needs at sea. And every congressman that votes against American development of the flying machine votes against the welfare and safety of his country.

—Oh I almost forgot. I must order sausage; this is ground hog day, you know.

Mr. Denby's resignation clears up the political situation. President Coolidge is as fortunate in conditions that face the democratic party as he is in the fact that the public thus far holds him free of all responsibility in the oil scandal.

What is supposed to be the elimination of Mr. McAdoo actually leaves the democrats without any recognized conspicuous leading candidate, with the convention only a few months away.

Nearly every democrat mentioned is an "if" candidate.

They say Senator Copeland might get it IF it should prove impossible to nominate Al. Smith.

Senator Reed of Missouri, undoubtedly the most forceful and available candidate, might get it IF he had not made so many enemies.

It is said that William Jennings Bryan might be drafted, because of his known capacity to get votes, IF he had not been secretary of state.

Nominated or not, Mr. Bryan will have a good deal to say about the man that is nominated and also about several that will not be nominated.

The house of representatives passed a bill for $729,000,000 to provide funds for the postoffice and the treasury, and strikes out an item allowing $1,500,000 to maintain an aerophane service between New York and

Federal Oil Lease Prosecutors

OWEN J. ROBERTS

ATLEE POMERENE

At last President Coolidge found two attorneys the senate was willing to accept as Federal Counsel to prosecute investigation of the naval oil reserve land leases. Owen J. Roberts is from Philadelphia, and Atlee Pomerene is a former Democratic Senator from Ohio.

PITT COUNTY HAS THREE ROTARY CLUBS

Can any of North Carolina's one hundred counties lay claim to three Rotary Clubs? There is one, and we believe there is only one,—PITT.

Greenville, Farmville and Ayden all have active clubs and there impress on community good will likely grow with the coming years.

Methodist S. S. Conference Here on Next April

Wilson, Feb. 28.—A conference-wide Sunday school conference, under the auspices of the North Carolina Conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, will be held in this city, April 1, 2 and 3. Approximately 500 representatives from the 227 pastoral charges of the conference will attend this bi ggathering of Sunday school workers.

Outstanding Sunday school leaders of the Southern Methodist Church will take part in the program.

Among those who will take part are W. M. Brabham, head of the department of Sunday School administration, general Sunday School board, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Minnie E. Kennedy, general elementary superintendent of the general Sunday School board, Nashville, Tenn.; Miss Lucy Foreman, head of the department of intermediate, senior and young peoples' work of the general Sunday School board, Nashville, Tenn.; Prof. H. E. Spence, head of the department of religious training of Trinity college and chairman of the conference Sunday School board; Mr. Abel, conference superintendent of Sunday School work, Durham. In addition negotiations are under way for a platform speaker of international reputation for a series of inspirational addresses.

SUCCESS

There's a long, winding road, very
narrow and steep,
and deep;
And as onward you wearily pass
You'll find that its pitfalls are many
It is known as the road to success.

It's a long, dreary climb to the top
of the road,
From the path it is easy to stray;
For the few that we find who can
shoulder the load
There are many who fall by the way

Though oft you may stumble while
climbing the hill,
Keep smiling, 'twill help you pull
through,
Don't turn and look back, but press
on with a will
To the goal that is waiting for you.

—(Anon)

Big Boy—Who told you to put that paper on that wall?

Paperhanger—Your wife, sir.

Big Boy—Pretty, isn't it?

THE "STOVE LEAGUE" UP-TO-DATE

Choral Club Makes Hit With First Production

Presented a Colonial Concert Consisting of Twenty-Five Local Singers on Last Friday Evening February 22nd, in the High School Auditorium to a Large Audience

One of the most notable musical events ever held here was that of the Choral Club in its first production, a colonial concert with a chorus of 25 local singers under the direction of Miss Mary Jerome, given on Friday, February 22, in the school auditorium. Farmville appreciates the thrill of a local entertainment and every member of the cast has received favorable comment. And this local interest was further evidenced by the large audience which showed a keen appreciation of the numbers.

From the time the curtain rose on the churning fireside scene until it fell on the thrilling rendition and presentation of the Star Spangled Banner, the entire program maintained a high standard.

The costuming and scenic arrangement were very effective. And the rendition of the old, sweet, haunting melodies of the southland by the chorus showed the result of Miss Jerome's excellent training.

The scene was laid in the Virginia home of George and Martha Washington, impersonted by Attorney W. G. Sheppard and Mrs. J. M. Hobgood who handled their parts most effectively. The occasion was the anniversary dinner of Washington who had invited his intimate friends and neighbors in for a musical evening.

Mr. Jim Joyner and his sister, Miss May, in their role of negro servants, were particularly good and their characteristic dialogues were refreshing and laughable.

The distinguished guests were "denounced" by Ephraim, cordially received by the host and hostess and served old fashioned southern punch from a silver bowl by Misses Edith and Priscilla Custis, sisters of Martha.

After the arrival of the guests several solos and choruses were given, the condition of "La Marseillaise" was given while the beloved friend and ally of General Washington, impersonated by Rev. D. E. Hill, stood at attention.

The last notable guest to arrive was Madame Jenny Lind, in the person of Miss Mary Jerome, who rendered a number of rich classical selections and was received with enthusiastic applause. Miss Jerome sings with rare sweetness, feeling and enunciation and possesses and enviable stage presence.

While it is difficult to select outstanding features, the following soloists were very pleasing in their numbers: Miss Julia Willson sang "The Lass With the Delicate Air," Miss Vivian Case, "My Old Kentucky Home," Mrs. M. V. Jones, "Swanee River," Mrs. J. L. Shackleford, "Listen to the Mocking Bird," Miss Lila Dell Flanagan, "Sweet Miss Mary," Mrs. R. A. Bynum, "A Spring Morning," Mr. Sheppard, "Bedouin Love Song," Rev. D. E. Hill, "Loch Lomond," Mr. John D. Holmes, "Then You'll Remember Me," and Mr. G. Burgeron rendered "Silver Threads Among the Gold. "If Winter Comes" was given by a quartet composed of Misses V. Burgeron, Hazel Williams, Mesdames L. R. Thomas and J. Loyd Horton.

An attractive feature was the "Minuet," danced by little Misses Bettie Wooten Joyner, Edith Grey Teel, Mary Elizabeth Smith, Serene Turnage, Masters Eli Joyner, David Harris, Carl Beaman, Jr., and Charles Arnold. This was given in a graceful manner and drew prolonged applause.

Altogether the audience experienced a very pleasing and entertaining evening.

The committees in charge were: Stage committee, Mrs. J. M. Hobgood, chairman; Mrs. J. Loyd Horton, Mrs. M. V. Jones and Mrs. R. A. Bynum; costume committee, Mrs. J. L. Shackleford, chairman; Miss Vivian Case and Miss Hazel Williams.

The lines of the play were entirely original and written, especially for the occasion by Miss Mary Jerome, Mrs. J. L. Shackleford and Attorney W. G. Sheppard.

The next appearance of the Choral club will be in an operetta this spring.

DR. J. MORRILL GIVES INTERESTING FACTS ON POULTRY BUSINESS

At a meeting of the Pitt County Poultry Association on Thursday afternoon in the Chamber of Commerce rooms here, Dr. J. Morrill, of Falkland, gave an interesting account of his operations in the poultry business.

Said he: "On September 1st, 1922, I bought 200 white leghorn pullets for which I paid $500.00. I built the necessary houses and cared for the feed bill until January 1st, 1923, at which time I delivered to my son Jenness. After keeping books accurately for the year 1923, on January 1st, 1924, he showed the following: In bank $825.00, 130 pullets valued at $3 each, or a total of $390; 170 pullets valued at $2 each or a total of $340.00."

Dr. Morrill continued: "Starting with a flock of fifty Rhode Island Reds January 1st, 1923, the last of the year disclosed a total profit of $350 and 60 pullets valued at $250."

Dr. Morrill states that he cannot begin to fill the orders he gets for cockerels, pullets, eggs and baby chicks.

A short time ago Dr. Morrill bought a mammoth incubator to help care for his growing business—a 3,000 capacity machine—and stated that while he wanted to hatch a great many eggs for his own trade, there was such a strong demand for custom hatching that he has been able to get only a few in of his own. "Fully three-fourths of the first setting was custom eggs," said Dr. Morrill. Dr. Morrill states that his first hatch will come off next Wednesday.

In concluding his remarks, Dr. Morrill stated:

"Use the very best feed. Purchase the very best breeding stock, use

Mr. W. L. Wall, of Hillsboro, who is visiting his daughter, Mrs. H. A. Bost, attended the Poultry Association meeting and stated he was much interested in the different phases of the business.

The remarks of Mr. Wall disclosed the fact that his son, Mr. Geo. C. Wall, of Hillsboro, who started a few years ago with fifty head of mixed Rhode Island Reds, had gradually added to his flock and at the same time culled very carefully. He now has 200 standard-bred Reds and starts off the new year with five brooder houses of 500 capacity each. His plan for this year, with an incubator to assist in their prosecution, is to raise from 1500 to 2500 chickens.

"Up to this time my son has had the poultry business in connection with his other operations, but it would now seem that his love for it and the steady growth will cause him to devote his entire time to poultry and enlarge considerably."

"Grow into the business and not go into it and you will surely make a success of it," said Mr. Wall.

Among the others to have remarks on the outlook for poultry in Pitt county: W. C. Vincent, W. Jesse Mayo, D. C. Barnhill.

EASTERN CAROLINA EXPOSITION

Under the auspices of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce, the Eastern Carolina Exposition will be held in Kinston on April 7-12.

According to an announcement from the Secretary-Manager, Mr. N. G. Bartlett, this has every promise of surpassing anything of its kind ever attempted in this section.

One feature of the Exposition will be a mammoth pageant, in which will be featured, "EASTERN CAROLINA IN ACTION." This pageant will embrace several periods—colonial, confederate, present, etc.

Every county of Eastern Carolina and in the territory of the Eastern Carolina Chamber of Commerce and which carries memberships, will be featured in the pageant.

The Executive Committee from Pitt county, who will assist in making the pageant a success, are: Mrs. H. S. Ragsdale, Chairman, Mrs. Richard Williams, Mrs. J. M. Hobgood, Mrs. G. W. Prescott, Mrs. G. T. Gardner, Mrs. J. A. Staton, Mrs. T. G. Bonight, Mrs. J. R. Carroll, Mrs. C. M. Jones, Mrs. E. Bruce Beasley, Mrs. G. H. Pittman, Mrs. J. L. Fleming, Mrs. E. T. Dickinson, Mrs. J. M. Hines, Mrs. M. K. Blount, Mrs. H. L. Smith and Miss Jane Moxley.

CASTE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Harry Whedbee, Mrs. Richard Williams.

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Miss May. R. B. Muffy

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Mrs. H. F. Austin, Chairman; C. B. Rowlett, Miss Nannie Bowling.

LIFE LINES

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. For the merchandise of it is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold. She is more precious than rubies, and all things thou canst desire are not to be compared unto her. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. She is a tree of life to them that lay hold upon her; and happy is every one that retaineth her.—Proverbs 3:13-18.