

The Eagle.

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FRED K. HOUSER Editor and Publisher
MRS. CREOLA HOUSER—Advertising Director
MRS. CARYE BROWNE—Job Printing
TELEPHONES: Office, 2101 — Residence, 2501
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“KEEP YOUR POWDER DRY!”

(From Editorial Page: The American Rifleman, July, 1954)

One hundred seventy-eight years ago, July 4th, a small group of men gathered together in Philadelphia affixed their names to the final draft of a momentous document—the formal Declaration of Independence of the United States of America.

“We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the Name, and by the Authority of the good People of these Colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connections between them and the State of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independence States may of right do.—And for the support of the Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.”

It is a good idea in these days of confusion, and in a dark and troubled world, to read once again these words of our forebears, and to renew, from them, our strength, our courage and our confidence in the future.

The days in which they lived were days of confusion, too, and the future one of uncertainty and doubt. Against them were arrayed the resources and the strength of the richest and the most powerful nation in the world. Britannia's fleet controlled the seas. Throughout the war she would have the initiative to land troops and supplies at the times and places of her own choosing. Her army was well equipped, well trained, well disciplined, and supplemented by equally capable and efficient mercenaries. Her war chest was unbounded, subject only to the whims of Parliament. She had a numerous and loyal “fifth column” within the colonies for more than a third of the population of the embryonic Republic were loyal to the King and opposed to the idea of independence.

How, then, did the United Colonies hope to achieve their freedom in the face of so many material disadvantages? First, of course, was their trust in the Protection of divine Providence, and in their steadfast belief in the righteousness of their cause. But there were some material advantages, too, as the Encyclopedia of American History states succinctly:— “The Patriots were favored by (1) campaigning on their own ground, (2) widespread acquaintance with firearms, (3) a great leader in George Washington, (4) the superiority (in both range and accuracy) of the American rifle over the British smooth bore musket, and (5) a significant number of officers and men with military experience gained against the French and Indians.”

The second and fourth of these factors are of interest to every member of the National Rifle Association of America. They ought to be of interest as well to every loyal American citizen for they are just as important factors today as they were almost two centuries ago in an effective and well-balanced scheme of national defense.

It was the inventive genius of the American colonists that produced the Kentucky rifle. They were the forerunners of the great names of our munitions industry—names like Whitney and Hall, Colt and Sharps, Smith and Wesson, Winchester and Remington, Gatling and Browning, and many, many others equally as famous.

Since the days of the Revolution, the inventive genius and the industrial capacity of our arms and ammunition manufacturers have been the bulwark of our national security. The ability to turn out superior weapons quickly and in the quantity required to arm ourselves and our allies has been decisive in the last two great wars. That ability will be decisive, too, if ever we become embroiled in world war III.

The inventive genius of a Colt and the gunsmithing skill of a Whitney are essential to the defense of our country. They must be recognized as such and afforded proper protection in the trends towards lower tariffs and freer trade with which I agree basically. These things cannot be stockpiled like tin or copper. They can be kept alive only in the brains and in the

fingers of men gainfully employed in a continuing and healthy private industry.

No weapon, regardless of how superior it may be, is actually effective unless it is in the hands of a man trained to use it. Here again our forefathers had a distinct advantage over the British, for according to an English visitor in 1774, there was “not a Man born in America that does not Understand the Use of Firearms and that well . . .”

Individual accuracy, not volume of fire by volleys as practiced by European armies of those days, was the thing that counted. This is easily attested by the comparison of casualties among the opposing forces of every battle of the Revolution. Regardless of theorists to the contrary, widespread acquaintance with firearms and the ability to shoot them accurately are as essential today as they were then.

The National Rifle Association, as one of its purposes, encourages “development of American small arms, ammunition and accessories.” Our major task, however, is “to educate and train citizens of good repute in the safe and efficient handling of small arms. . . .”

It is immaterial whether this training is conducted on a rifle range as part of a supervised recreational program, or preparatory to hunting in the field, or in conjunction with the courses of fire sponsored by the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice. The important thing is that we do our utmost to see that every loyal citizen is acquainted with firearms and is trained to use them safely and effectively.

It was Cromwell who said, when his troops were about to cross a river to attack the enemy, “Put your trust in God, but mind to keep your powder dry!”

In the seemingly eternal struggle between Communism and Democracy we must first of all, as did the patriots of 1776, put our trust in God. Like Cromwell, we should bolster that trust by keeping our powder dry. Two essential ingredients of that powder are a healthy arms and ammunition industry and a universal knowledge of firearms and the ability to “hit a mark.” We must guard these ingredients with care as with the courage and faith of the founders of the United States of America, we face up to the uncertainties of our times.

WATCHING THE PENNIES

In a recent forecast of business conditions by the Bureau of Economic Warfare, with purchasing power in hand for food products and other goods will remain at a high level. The public mind has been lulled into a false sense of security about watching the pennies. They have been lulled into a false sense of security about watching the pennies. They have been lulled into a false sense of security about watching the pennies.

Over the months and years to come, the state of the nation's economic health will be determined in large part by what goes on in retailing. The factories wouldn't maintain their production and employment long if the goods didn't flow across store counters into the hands of the ultimate consumer. It is pleasant to report that almost all the economists, like Mr. Babson, are optimistic as to retailing's future prospects.

GRASS ROOTS OPINION

BELLINGHAM, WASH., HERALD: “The National Editorial Association . . . has protested at its Baltimore convention against what it calls a ‘flagrant’ regulation—that which makes the mailman a delivery boy for handbills. A ruling permits local post offices to deliver pieces of mail addressed simply ‘Boxholder, Route.’ Everyone on the route receives a copy. As a result, mail boxes are jammed with unwanted advertising letters and pamphlets.”

MANSFIELD, PA., ADVERTISER: “Just as people are able to do better by reviewing their past and avoiding some of the errors they have made, so can we as a self-governing people profit by reviewing the history of our nation.”

ELMER, N. J., TIMES: “One way of judging what the future may bring is to look at the record of the past. The story of American achievement under the individual enterprise system is clear and undisputed.”

DAWSON, MINN., SENTINEL: “We can't reduce taxes unless we reduce expenditures, and we cannot reduce expenditures as long as politicians can get votes by promising more government benefits.”

HERE'S HEALTH! By Lewis

CORN THE ALL-AMERICAN VEGETABLE

CORN ORIGINATED IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. NORSE EXPLORERS WERE THE FIRST EUROPEANS TO TASTE IT . . .

RICH IN ENERGY AND VITAMINS, FRESH CORN IS A FAVORITE VEGETABLE. THE U.S. PRODUCES AND CONSUMES MORE THAN ANY OTHER NATION.

WEST INDIAN CORN GROWS AS TALL AS 30 FEET.

FRANK FARMER SAYS 'FRESH CORN'S A SUMMER TIME SPECIAL, BUT LIKE MOST FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, YOU CAN NOW ENJOY IT ALL YEAR 'ROUND—KEEP IT COOL AND MOIST.' NP

BEHIND THE SCENES IN AMERICAN BUSINESS

—BY RENOLDS KNICK—

NEW YORK, July 12—U. S. Government reporting of statistics on business is the world's best. But New York, the nation's wish that the statisticians could be just a little more realistic. Here are three cases in point:

Rents: The official index of rents is up not quite 4 per cent since mid-1952. Rent, say real-estate agents, whereas a year ago real-estate agents were collecting advance charges, today they are advancing moving expenses, or knocking of a month's rent in lieu of redecorating. It doesn't fit.

Metals: Official prices are up 2.5 per cent on steel, stationary on other metals. But purchasing agents declare these are list prices only, and that alert buyers are getting goods for less than list every day.

Automobiles and other durable goods: List prices have shown little softening in a year, though higher standards and extravagant promotion offers have trimmed “real” auto prices at least 7.5 per cent.

The general business wants statistics to reflect real prices instead of list prices. The “index” of living costs, profit margins, and other “key” figures of the economy for several decades has been our almost

levelled-out yardstick for better living through better things—largely “more convenient” things. Now, according to Paul B. Wisbart, president of Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company, the American people are “in the third stage of enchantment” with this idea, and that stage holds great possibilities, too.

Wisbart told that recent convention of the American Institute of Architects that the first stage was “when they learned they could get them cheap. Now the third is observable—the urge toward human variation.”

Mr. Wisbart forecast that this combination of the desire to have what everyone else has, but with the disinclination to have one's house look like everyone else's, would within 10 years give new homes the same irresistible appeal that now automobiles have being exerted on the American mind—and a correspondingly beneficial effect on the economy.

THINGS TO COME: A magnetic dialer fills a rubber sleeve and a hydraulic cord and holds it against the appliance when it is connected. . . . If you have also a television set, you can get a “red” and “green” dial to let an electric eye between rooms, and eliminate the two work . . . Viscose fiber is being used in the construction of a new type of automobile seat. . . . An aluminum step stool has a bright red seat of fiber glass.

BRIGHT PICTURE—As 1954 goes into its second half, it is clear that the nation's economy, instead of slipping back, is pushing confidently ahead. Strongest indication that business is headed for new achievements comes from the construction industry; all its segments foresee all-time record expenditures this year.

Manufactures of clay tile floor and wall surfacing material, for example, expect as much as a 10 per cent dollar increase in their sales. Government experts concur: they forecast a new record of \$36 billion worth of construction.

Buildings will be better as well as more numerous. In private housing, quality materials are being used as never before. The trend is toward floor-to-ceiling clay tile installations in bathrooms and kitchens. The use of such superior materials, as well as the addition of hosts of time-saving conveniences, make today's houses the best ever built in volume.

BIG CUSTOMERS—New York's National City Bank has just published its annual listing of the hundred largest manufacturing corporations in terms of total assets, ranging from \$5.3-billion Standard Oil (New Jersey) to \$215-million Colorado Fuel and Iron.

These companies took in \$91.4 billion from their operations, paid out not quite \$48 billion for goods and services purchased, \$22.7 billion for wages, salaries and labor benefits, and paid \$11 billion in taxes, state, federal and local. Net income of \$5.7 billion represented 6.2 cents on the sales dollar. Stockholders got 3.3 cents of the sales dollar as dividends.

Reporting themselves to do an even bigger job of producing and selling in 1954, the companies spent \$6.4 billion on plant expansion and modernization.

BITS O' BUSINESS—Three million veterans have used GI benefits to buy homes, leaving 15 million who still may buy up to July 25, 1957.

Coarse paper and paperboard makers have begun building inventory to meet a rising demand expected this fall.

The spring pig crop was 13 per cent above last year's; a 10 per cent rise is expected this fall.

Private estimates place this year's cotton crop at 13 million bales.

lasciviousness, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vainglory, providing one another, envying one another. (Gal. 5:12-26).

“As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” (Gal. 6:10).

heavy chemical industry. This tremendous expansion in fertilizer use has led to vastly improved efficiency in production and distribution. Dr. Coleman points out. Advances in fertilizer technology have lowered manufacturing costs and made possible the production of better quality materials with improved physical properties which make storage and the job of spreading easier and less costly to the farmer.

Civil Service Examinations

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an examination for Fireman, \$3,900 a year, for duty with the District of Columbia Fire Department, Washington, D. C.

To qualify, applicants must pass a written test and be in excellent physical condition. They must reside within a radius of 12 miles from the Capitol Building while they are employed as Fireman in the District of Columbia. Age limits are from 21 to 31 years.

Further information and application forms may be secured from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C., and at many post offices in the area in which this examination is published. Applications will be accepted by the Commission in Washington, D. C., until further notice.

SWEET POTATO CROP SHORT

Raleigh, July 12—A 1954 sweet potato crop of 4 million bushels is estimated on the basis of July 1 reports collected by the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station Crop Reporting Service, which says that the highest one-third of production last year, and one-third less than the 1953 crop (1953-54 average per acre was 7,983,000 bushels).

The state's North Carolina growers will harvest 30,000 acres of sweet potatoes this year—5,000 acres less than the acreage harvested in 1953 and 16,300 acres less than the average. The 40,000 acres for harvest this year is only 3,000 acres above the record low 37,000 acres harvested in 1951.

Yield per acre will average 100 bushels if July 1 prospects materialize. Such a yield would be 7 bushels below the average for the last two years.

Farmers in some sections have experienced considerable difficulty in getting their 1954 crop set, because of dry soil conditions.

Cash receipts from the sale of cattle and calves in North Carolina in 1953 showed a 10 per cent increase over the previous year.

District No. 14229 Reserve District No. 5

REPORT OF CONDITION OF THE

CHERRYVILLE NATIONAL BANK

OF CHERRYVILLE IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA AT
THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON JUNE 30, 1954.

Published in response to call made by Comptroller of the Currency under Section 5211, U. S. Revised Statutes.

ASSETS

Cash, balances with other banks, including reserve deposits, and cash items in process of collection \$ 684,722.80
 United States Government obligations, direct and guaranteed 1,045,309.38
 Obligations of States and political subdivisions 33,890.00
 Corporate Stocks (including \$3,000.00 stock of Federal Reserve bank) 3,000.00
 Loans and discounts (including an overdraft) 581,707.76
 Bank premises owned \$14,690.00 furniture and fixtures \$4,000.00 18,690.00
 (Bank premises owned are subject to No liens not assumed by bank.)

TOTAL ASSETS \$2,367,329.94

LIABILITIES

Demand deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations \$1,489,942.80
 Time deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations 473,671.37
 Deposits of United States Government (including postal savings) 53,107.22
 Deposits of States and political subdivisions 158,899.98
 Other deposits (certified and cashier's checks, etc.) 11,487.96
 TOTAL DEPOSITS \$2,187,109.33

TOTAL LIABILITIES \$2,187,109.33

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

Capital Stock 50,000.00
 Common Stock — total par \$50,000.00 50,000.00
 Surplus 78,220.61
 Undivided Profits 2,000.00
 Reserves

TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNTS 180,220.61

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL ACCOUNTS \$2,367,329.94

MEMORANDA

Assets pledged or assigned to secure liabilities and for other purposes 332,250.00

I, A. C. Beam, Cashier of the above-named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

A. C. BEAM, Cashier

CORRECT—ATTEST:

TROY C. HOMESLEY

E. V. MOSS

F. M. HOUSER

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA, COUNTY OF GASTON, ss:

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 9th day of July, 1954

BILL MAUNEY, Notary Public
My Commission expires Jan. 3, 1955

VANDYKE SUPER MARKET

207 N. ELM STREET

Closing Out Sale

5% DISCOUNT

— CASH ONLY —

Everything At The Above Discount Price Is A Special — Not On One Or Two Items

EVERYTHING

NOW Is The Time To Stock Up Your Grocery Pantry. Delivery Service Include The Above Discount