


**GATES COUNTY INDEX**

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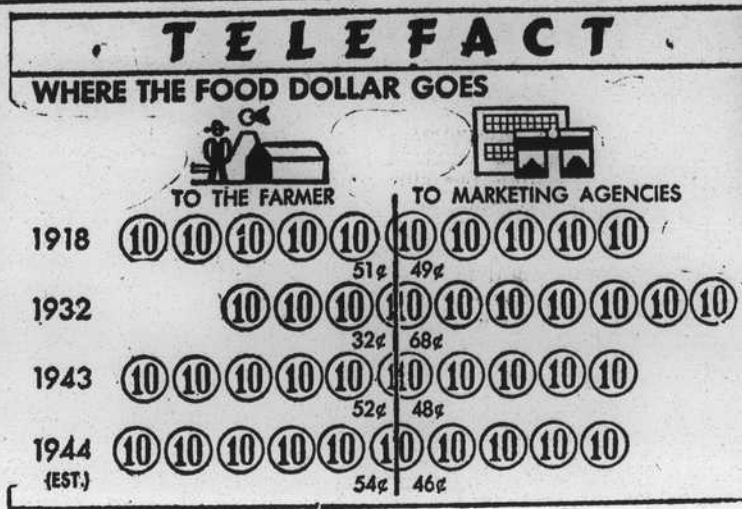
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**Six-Inch Sermon**

† REV. ROBERT H. HARPER †

Loyalty to the Kingdom.  
Lesson for January 28: Matthew 6:33; 7:12; 16-29.  
Memory Verse: Matthew 6:33.

When Jesus commands loyalty to the Kingdom, He promises loyal men freedom from anxiety. In seeking the Kingdom first, men have all of spiritual things to gain and no material good to lose.

Nowhere does Jesus demand a choice between earthly good and spiritual things. Not money but the love of money is the "root of all evil." But the Master does demand that material things be given second place. And He assures those who seek first the Kingdom that they will not lose needed lesser things. Such assurance should relieve men of faith of all burden of anxiety.

Loyalty to the Kingdom requires benevolence toward all men. Five hundred years before Christ, Confucius had said that upon the word, "reciprocity," the whole of life may proceed, that what man does not desire he should put before others. There is a vast difference between this teaching of Confucius and the Golden Rule given by Jesus. The best of life is not gained by merely abstaining from doing wrong; it is to be gained by doing good.

Men will be known by their good deeds, even as a good tree is known by its fruits. And 'tis useless to pretend, to say unto Jesus, "Lord, Lord." For at the last Jesus will say unto those whose lives have been devoid of good, "Depart from me."

Good men learn the word by doing the word. They build their houses of character upon a rock and they withstand all the storms. But they who hear but do not follow the word are building upon the shifting sands—in evil day their houses will fail and great will be their fall.

**Eason's X Roads**

Mrs. Lillian Piland of Portsmouth, is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Piland and Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Jordan.

Miss Edna Earle Lang of Aulander and Elmo Lang of Newport News spent the weekend with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Lang.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Rountree and children and George Edward Worrell of Portsmouth were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Worrell.

Mrs. W. B. Williams and Mrs. J. R. Turner spent Friday in Norfolk.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Turner Sunday were, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Jones and Mrs. Pearl Eure of Portsmouth.

Howard Rountree, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Rountree reported at Norfolk Tuesday for duty as a member of the United States Coast Guard.

Buffaloe, was sitting around waiting for transportation to take him back home; and John Holsouser, the Chapel Hill druggist, was dandied up for an early return home.

I CAN QUIT . . . and it looks like I'll have to. There aren't any ready-made smokes where I hang out, except for the military boys.

WHAT FEVER YOU HAVE? . . . I spent Christmastime in Roanoke Rapids with Doc Murphy and his rabbit fever (tularemia); I've just sent The Boy off to his first moving picture of the week (laid up with glandular fever); and I get daily bulletins from the bedside of the 6-year-old next door who's lying in with scarlet fever.

**A BILLION RATIONS**

Ration boards have now been operating in practically every community in the United States for three years. In that time they have issued more than a billion rations, including 534,000,000 food ration books and 229,000,000 gasoline rations.

These ration boards, says Chester Bowles, head of the OPA, have made it possible for civilians, through three years of war, to get their fair share of available goods at a fair price.

In a democratic, quickly organized, largely voluntary set-up, such as ration boards are, there are bound to be some mistakes made and some charges of favoritism or unfairness. But as we look over the present status of our civilian life and compare prices and the availability of goods with the last war, it is apparent that the ration boards of the nation have made an invaluable contribution to our welfare.

We want to take this opportunity, on the third anniversary of rationing, to thank the workers on our ration board for the service they have given to us.

Horace racing and conventions have been banned by the government in the interest of conserving man-power and cutting down on unnecessary travel during the war. Now if there was some way to persuade the war-rich that it would be more pleasant for them and a contribution to the war to postpone their unnecessary pleasure trips until after the war, it might be possible for traveling service men and others on necessary business to get a seat on a bus or train.

**Roy Parker's Column**

**GOVERNOR'S GENERAL AGENT . . .** Gregg Cherry has a Roanoke-Chowaner for his legislative agent, or whatever you call the fellow who interprets the governor's mind to legislators and counsels them on framing and constructing legislation. He is H. P. (Pat) Taylor who has represented Anson county in the general assembly several times. . . . Pat is a Hertford county Taylor and was diaper-wrapped in Winton. Raleigh political forecasters are saying that he wants to be lieutenant-governor four years hence.

**THE BERTIE TRAVELLER . . .** Arthur Willoughby, writer of your Bertie travelogues between filling up the countryside homes with products from his store-on-wheels and keeping his asthma under control, went collegiate last Sunday. The boys and girls—and the professor—who keep their eyes and noses in newspapers searching for smart sayings by country philosophers, lifted one of Arthur's anecdotes and wrote it into an otherwise dignified university script for presentation over radio. . . . This fellow Willoughby has been one of my favorite column broadcasters ever since he took over the Bertie County Traveller space in Roanoke-Chowan newspapers.

**MIDDLE-OF-ROAD BONNER . . .** Herbert Bonner, First District congressman, won't go witch-hunting with the toned-down Dies congressional committee and that news will not hurt Herbert down in his district. It's my idea that we down-easterners have more important things to do than go witch-hunting, and we don't want our congressman spending a lot of time spying around for evil-eyed communists when there are plenty of things for him to do at Washington taking care of the interests of the folks who put him in office. . . . It'll be all right for him to cock an eye towards his new committee work, but keep his hands free for more important work.

**HOSPITAL CHECKING . . .** I went back to one of my old haunts one day last week—lounge rooms, corridors, and lying-in rooms of Duke hospital. It was clinic day when hospital workers do double-quick overtime work to get through with the thumping, sticking, X-raying, and 101 other things they have to do for the humanity crowded in halls, corridors, and two-by-four guinea pig rooms. Watch that crowd—patients, doctors, nurses and helpers—and hear case reports of those on hospital waiting lists and you need neither argument nor appeal to open your purse strings—voluntary and taxable—for a vastly enlarged state and local hospital program for the state. You get involuntary action from your senators, if you have any at all. . . . James Bateman, the Jackson editor, was sweating out his last day before bandage removal from an abdomen-cutting he got some days before; John Davis of Faydo, but from legislature to legis-

**AS WAS EXPECTED . . .** The statistics-loaded Gentleman from Orange, John Umstead, had the dice loaded against him when he sought to shave the legislative budget for committee clerks, assistants, and pages. Anybody spending a while in Raleigh watching legislative workings knows how hard a job it is to upset the system of handing out pap in one way or another. . . . Legislators more often plead nolo contendere if a case is made out against them, admit it may not be exactly the proper things to do, but from legislature to legis-

**Editorial**

**INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITY**

There has not been as much talk of "post war planning" in the past few weeks as filled the papers during the summer months when a mistaken optimism over the military situation in Europe had many people lulled into the belief that most of the battles would be over by now. Too much concern has been felt over the immediate need for military power to hold our own in battle against an enemy whose up-surge of hidden and desperate strength dashed out the bright hopes of early victory. That is as it should be. The first concern is to win the war. Yet it is wise, too, to look beyond the present fighting to the day of victory and be prepared for the change to peace. Fighting men will want jobs and security of livelihood when they return. These things they are entitled to and will richly deserve.

Not all of them will want to return to the farms from which most of them who have gone into the service from this section came. They will want opportunity to put new mechanical and other skills learned in the service into practical use in peacetime living.

There is much surplus money now in this area awaiting profitable investment. If not wisely used now and after the war, this surplus money, the present profits out of the war accumulated by those who have not had to fight, can bring about a disastrous speculation and inflation. On the other hand, it can be wisely used to bring about the development of this section industrially and commercially. If wisely invested in local enterprises, it will provide the jobs and the security that returning service men want and deserve.

There is opportunity now for local capital to finance local industrial enterprises that will compliment this section's agricultural production and its production of raw materials. It can and should be done with local capital. The time for planning to take advantage of the opportunity is now. To do so is also an obligation due the young men from this section who will return wanting jobs.

**TOO MANY PRESSURE GROUPS**

Selfish pressure groups, employing high-paid contact men who "know their way around" in Washington and state capitals, are becoming one of the greatest threats to our democracy.

We believe organization is necessary among those who have a common interest to defend. But when we see how far these pressure groups go in their "me first" activities, we realize that they must be curbed.

And the best way we can suggest for curbing them is to get back to the status where the greatest pressure of all is exerted by the consumer. Only by more voluble expression of views by the people themselves can we hope to drown out the voices of the self-seeking lobbyists who disregard the public welfare in their scramble to gather up loot for the group which is paying their salaries.

If you are old enough to remember the last war—that was the war when the words "Profiteer" and "Slacker" came in for meaningful use—, whenever you get ready to cuss out the men and women who make up your War Price and Rationing Board, we suggest that you recall the price of sugar, when you could get it, and of other commodities. Rationing and the OPA are not perfect—our gasoline allotment might be a case in point—but with OPA and rationing there has been enough to go around to all and profiteering has been curbed.