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C. S. FOSTER, President
H. F. LAFFOON, Secretary-Treasurer

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Philander Johnson's Uncle Eben explains it this way: "Money is de great encouragement to work when you ain't got it, an' de great encouragement to laziness when you has."

When Retribution Comes

War is no longer an isolated thing. The whole world stands aghast at what is happening in Spain and China today; each nation stands expectant that it may be brought to its own doorsteps tomorrow. For in this day of interdependent international interests, there is no such thing as isolation, no matter how much we like to preach it here in America.

Hitler, Europe's mad dog, is loose and drunk with his power, is putting forced-draught to the war fire that has been smoldering for the past five years. Linked by agreement with Mussolini, the two of them appear to have set out to conquer the world, and their successes are enough to encourage them. Both have the same program and the same procedure. Both bluffed their way at first, and their bluff could have been called successfully, as France and England now know to their sorrow. Now they are not bluffing, but are strong in their purpose.

Mussolini did not station his soldiers at Austria's southern borders as he once did, when Vienna was threatened by Berlin. Why, it is plain that Mussolini is playing for a bigger stake—Spain. Hitler takes Austria without interruption from Italy, and Italy, after Franco's successes in Spain will have a free hand there. And Italy and Germany together are seeing to it that Franco's success is assured. It is not a civil war between Spaniards. It is a war between the Spanish government and what few friends it can muster and veritable armies from Germany and Italy.

And what a war it is. Only a few days ago Barcelona was bombarded in what is considered the most barbarous attack in all history. Hour after hour bombs rained from the air—from German and Italian planes, dealing death and destruction to defenders and innocents alike.

And all this because of the personal ambitions of two braggarts, who dropped their paper-hanging and blacksmithing to ride the waves of popular favor until the dizzy whirl made them crazy—but not too crazy to outsmart the English and French diplomacy which still holds faith in humanity.

Surely a just God will some day bring these hellions to their knees and without punishing too harshly those who follow them in blindness.

A National Forest Program

President Roosevelt has asked Congress to set up a committee to study the forest land in the nation. He would have this not just another committee, but a group dedicated to the purpose of an actual national program looking to the rebuilding of the wasted forest resources so that they will be adequate to serve the national needs.

The President points to the millions of dollars invested in the development of forest products industries in the South, and declares that only by following sensible methods of timber management, will these investments be protected and the new source of income maintained and assured.

These paper mills and other factories are using the resources which nature provided without much help from man. When they are gone they are gone, unless in our boasted wisdom we prepare for this emergency. Nature will help, provided we join hands with her, but if we insist on raping the woods without any intelligent thought to the replacement of timber we take, then it is probable that even this generation will feel the pinch of a shortage in this valuable and essential resource.

Because this nation has had forests from the beginning is no assurance that it will remain that way. In the presence of plenty we have been wasteful, and now we are about to pay the price. It is late, but not too late. Other nations have pointed the way. Necessity drove them to it too, but the fact remains that they have a forest program that is bringing results.

One remembers that following the President's first inaugural address in which he stressed the need of planting trees and promised to put some of the idle to work on that job, a prominent political leader scoffingly said: "10,000 men can plant all the trees there are to be planted in thirty days." How wrong he was, has been amply shown. It is good to see that Mr. Roosevelt still believes in trees, and still insists that they should be a part of a national program.

Our Foreign Policies

Surely Secretary Hull's speech last week before the National Press Club, setting forth the nation's foreign policies, should calm the fears of those who are apprehensive lest we be sucked into the inevitable conflict, yet assure others that we are not going to sacrifice our national independence and honor.

He speaks with authority when he says that the United States will steer a sound middle course between the two extremes of internationalism and isolationism. The one would mean undesirable political involvements, while the other "would compel us to confine activities of our people within our own frontiers, with incalculable injury to the general welfare, or else expose our legitimate interests abroad wherever lawless conditions arise."

Again he says that the United States is ready to disarm if other powers will join; he flayed dictators and treaty-breakers; rebuked land-hungry aggressors; assailed isolationists and jingoists alike, and concluded with a restatement of his and President Roosevelt's pronouncements against international lawlessness.

Mr. Hull endorsed President Roosevelt's billion-dollar naval expansion program, and defended parallel action with other nations where common objectives are involved, and pledged himself to preserve the traditional policy of no entangling alliances or involvements, and quieted the fears of those who have been claiming that American armed forces would be expected to "police the world."

Certain national leaders have been grumbling that the administration has no stable foreign policy, that neither the people nor the government know where we are headed. Secretary Hull has cleared all that up. If his is not a straight-from-the-shoulder declaration of aims and objectives, we never saw one. And the world, listening in knows what our policies are, so far as the administration is able to state them. A Congress at cross purposes and always eager for controversy can change them, of course, but Mr. Hull's presentation so nearly conforms to public sentiment, that his program will stand.

In the first place the nation is sold on his sincerity and honesty, respects his ability and good judgment, and is ready and willing to follow his leadership.

Facing Ruin

According to Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, Secretary Hull's reciprocal trade agreement with Czechoslovakia "marks a black day for those who earn their living by making shoes. Governor Curley claims "the treaty will destroy our shoe industry," while the New England Shoe and Leather Association says "it sells the industry down the river."

Lets' analyze those statements briefly: Last year's importation of shoes of all types amounted to only 4,404,000 pairs, compared to a domestic total production of 412,000,000 pairs, or 1.07 per cent. If a loss of less than two percent of volume will ruin the New England shoe business, it sure must be in a bad way indeed.

But as a further protection to domestic producers, the new agreement with the Czechs provides that if the shoe imports exceed 11.4 per cent of domestic production, the tariff may be raised again. That would assure our own shoemakers 98.75 per cent of the total domestic volume market, and well over that percentage of value, for in the main the shoes imported are a cheap type.

The short-sightedness is in the fact that by adopting a program of trade and barter with other nations, other industries may build payrolls that will in turn provide potential shoe customers who can buy shoes of the better kind, and thus make up the slight loss sustained in this foreign competition.

But Secretary Hull is having to hurdle this sectional and industrial selfishness at every turn, for, to hear them tell it, about every other industry is about to be ruined in the same way.

1937 Not So Bad After All

According to a survey completed by the Duke Power Company, one hundred and two new industrial plants and additions were established in the Piedmont section of the Carolinas in 1937. Fifty-four of these plants represent new concerns, and forty-eight were new plants or additions constructed by already existing companies.

In addition to this there are several large hosiery mill projects being organized, and which can be counted on almost as a certainty.

When considered in the light of all this talk about "discouraged business" this is refreshing. For it indicates very definitely that those who have invested their money in these new enterprises have faith in the future, and are sold on the possibilities this section holds for the progressive industrialist.

Of course the Duke Power Company will be pleased with this evidence of progress—a progress that it has had no small part in, by providing cheaper power rates and otherwise keeping step with modern factors that spell success.

In the sea of propaganda that comes to the editorial desk, it is refreshing to find an occasional little message that breathes encouragement and optimism, instead of studied phrases, calculated to spread gloom for a purpose.

The Big-Apple, as silly as it is, has the "Goose-Step" beat to a frazzle.

FIRESIDE PHILOSOPHY

(By C. M. Dickson)

"Wings are as necessary to "let" one down as they are to waft him up.

It's often necessary to dig deep in order to get a start to climb.

It takes a little fellow to take the "big-head."

A common saying is that professional men like lawyers and doctors (preachers not included) need a little "larnin'," but farmers' children—especially their 'gals' just need to 'larn to read and 'rite!'

While "peace at any price" may not all the time be the best, but the policy should stand at a premium.

People who "revel" in ignorance should not be disturbed from their ecstasy.

If all the fallibilities could be subtracted from all the promises of political candidates for office, a political heaven would dawn upon earth.

Merely because it is human nature to do a thing does not always justify one in doing it.

At least one "moral thread" should run through all human activities.

When the smoke of battle has cleared away, and the passions have subsided, how often one might say, "this should not have been."

Some apparent victories are so costly that any sort of gloating or exultation betrays a littleness that defies description.

It must have been heart-rending for Moses to gaze upon the Promised Land and yet not enter.

A man may "er" in his own house with a less degree of censure than if he makes a mistake in public.

Some people need to spend long terms in college.

A gnat isn't heavy but it is bothersome.

When a man is "shot in the back" one of two things is certain—he is either shot by a coward or he has his back to his foe.

Some things are so funny that they lose all the "tickle" that is in them.

If more men were called away from their fishing today, there would be more corn in the crib and more coal in the bin.

District G. O. P. Picks Cowles

North Wilkesboro, March 19. — Charles H. Cowles, of Wilkesboro a former representative in Congress, was endorsed for the Republican nomination for state senator in a convention of Republicans of the 24th senatorial district held in Wilkesboro this afternoon.

The district is composed of Wilkes, Yadkin and Davie counties and according to established custom the nominee this year will be from Wilkes.

The name of Cowles was placed before the convention by N. B. Smithey, chairman of the Republican Executive Committee in Wilkes. Nomination was by acclamation.

Republicans Pick Jones For House

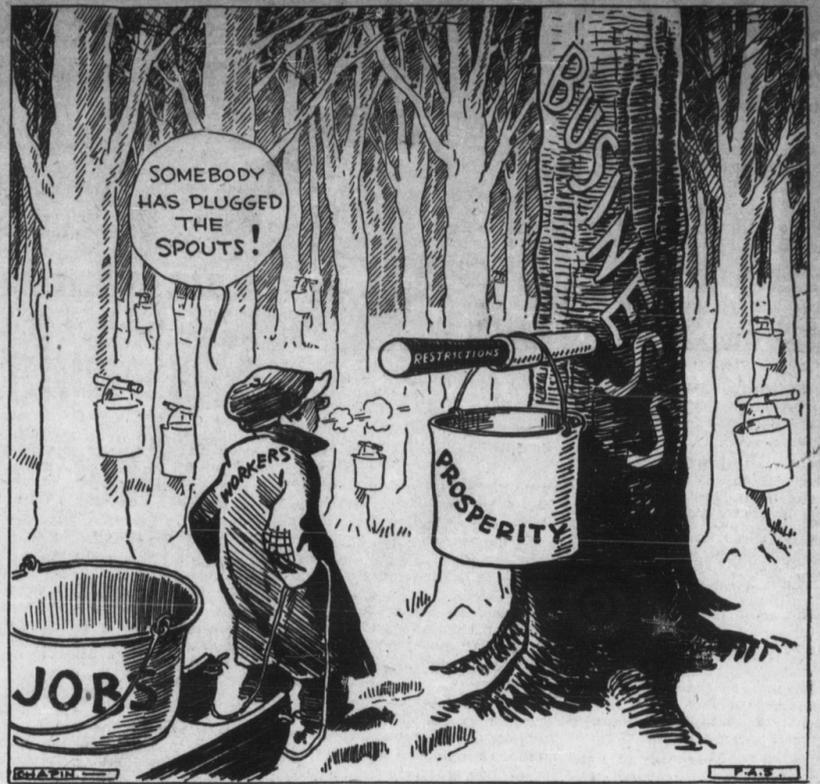
Solicitor John R. Jones of North Wilkesboro, was chosen by eighth district Republicans as their candidate for the House seat now held by Representative Walter Lambeth, who will retire at the end of his term.

Jones was named at the congressional convention at Lexington and promised to make a vigorous campaign.

Future Lawyer
Hopsy: "That boy of ours seems mighty fond of tendin' to the other folks' business."
Hiram: "Guess we'll have to make a lawyer of him. Then he'll git paid for doin' of it."

Where?
Small Boy: Mummy, where does the light go when it goes out?
Mother: That, sonny, I don't know, and you might just as well ask me the same question about your father.

Spring in the Maple Grove



IN WASHINGTON

WHAT IS TAKING PLACE BY

W. R. Reynolds
UNITED STATES SENATOR

One of the most important proposals pending in Congress is that relating to reorganization of agencies of the Federal government. Such a step has been recommended from time to time by a long list of presidents. It is the result of a mushroom growth of bureaus and commissions which has, in turn, meant duplicate functions and sometimes confusion.

When it is considered that there are 132 separate agencies existing in our government, it is readily apparent why there is a need for consolidation, coordination and reorganization. In fact, the need is generally recognized. The principal differences of opinion are with regard to the method, particularly as to the part Congress will have in approving such shifts as may be made.

A vital factor in the proposed reorganization, and one which is the subject of much discussion, is the fact that some agencies more or less under the direct control of Congress are involved. Some question whether Congress should surrender its control over these agencies. Others contend that due to conflicting views among the 531 members of the Senate and House reorganization by Congress might never be achieved. This is used as an argument for giving the President broad powers to reshape the units of government.

While much attention has been given to the pending reorganization bill, due to enlarged facilities for keeping the public informed, the subject is an old one. As far back as March, 1917, the Congress passed a law which provided that: "The Bureau of Efficiency shall investigate duplication or service in the various executive departments and establishments of the government, including bureaus and divisions, and make a report to the President thereon, and the President is hereby authorized, after such reports shall have been made to him, whenever he finds such duplications to exist, to abolish same."

As some members of Congress contend, each agency of government considers its functions most vital. Thus every pressure possible is brought into play to preserve and enlarge these functions. Yet, in the final analysis, it is clearly up to the Congress, the President and the people, to say which functions of the government are essential. The people express their views in the selection of men for office who represent their views.

If Federal expenditures are to be reduced, obviously it must come through elimination of Federal activities which are not absolutely essential. If the efficiency of government operations are to be increased, certainly the first step

is to eliminate duplication and confusion.

In private business, general direction finally centers at one source, regardless of the functions and departments of the business. Thus it would seem desirable, in government, to reduce the number of agencies by regrouping or consolidating those having similar functions under a single head, and abolishing such agencies or such functions, or any part thereof, as may be necessary for the efficient conduct of the government.

It might be cited that individual Senators and members of the House, by reason of varying interests of their constituents, because of work on committees and for other reasons have a particular interest in certain Federal agencies. As a result, they sometimes seek to safeguard the activities of these agencies. This means difficulty in achieving reorganization by Congress.

But whatever the merits or demerits of particular phases of proposed Federal reorganization, the fact that the subject is being aired and given serious consideration, bespeaks future progress in adjusting government activities to the needs of our people.

"Rehall" means king of all.

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For rent: Five room house in Jonesville with bath, garden and pasture. Reasonable rent. See Julia Swaim Wagoner. 1tp

Wanted—Large live owl or hawk. Must be in natural condition. Call at Tribune office. tfc

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