

A PAPER FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

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Published Every Thursday and Sunday. Entered As Second Class Matter At The Postoffice At Roxboro, N. C., Under The Act Of March 3rd., 1879.

	-SUBSCRIPTION RATES-	
One Year		\$1.50
Hix Months		.75

Advertising Cut Service At Disposal of Advertisers at times. Rates furnished upon request.

News from our correspondents should reach this office not inter than Tuesday to insure publication for Thursday edition and Thursday P. M. for Sunday edition.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1940

## The Beginning . . . . .

On Thursday of this past week it was announced at the City Hall that arrangements have been completed for street repairs in the city and that with the cooperation of WPA and the State Highway department the sum of \$26,000 will be expended on the improvement of Foushee street, the resurfacing of Main street, and the reconditioning of part of Morgan street. Also on the program will be the placing of curbing and gutters on certain streets.

Another item of almost equal importance will be the surfacing and marking off of the county-owned area back of the court house as a parking lot.

We have known for sometime that these improvements were contemplated and all of them give us satisfaction as much needed renovations in the city's traffic facilities. Too, we are pleased that the WPA will apparently have a job that is a job herebouts. Persons who hve need of WPA assistance and who can meet the terms required for the jobs now to be undertaken will greatly benefit thereby. And for all these blessings we are grateful, most especially for the truck route to be provided over Foushee street, since any improvement reducing heavy traffic on Main street is more than welcome.

Knowing, as we do, that municipal finances are limited and that there is in advance a place for every municipal dollar right down to the last red cent, we suppose that we ought to be satisfied with the improvements outlined, but we do hope that before another year has passed some means will be found to extend the street paving program to residential streets on the other side of the railway and to other streets not normally thought of as main avenues of travel. As these streets now exist it is a question whether the greatest evil is summer dust or winter mud, though private opinion, plus experience gives the top score to winter mud.

The needs for these additional improvements are known to city officials and we are sure that improvements will come in due time, along with sidewalks, better sewerage and plumbing, lights, etc., but we could wish that citizens who live in areas where civic improvements are in order would be a little more vociferous in asking for items they ought to have. It is bad enough for people to do without reasonable comforts: it is tragic when doing without is accepted with complacency.

PERSON COUNTY TIMES - BOXDORO, N. S.

the only unbiased cause left and even it, as we have

shown, is not completely free. Despite that fact, we hope that Person people will do what they think is right when they are asked to help mitigate the horrors of war.



## Can Patriotism Be Compelled? . . .

#### **Christian Science Monitor**

"The flag is the symbol of our national unity," wrote Associate Justice Felix Frankfurter in the decision of the United States Supreme Court holding that compulsory salute of the American flag may be enforcin public schools. ed

What the opinion further says of the flag is very true, namely that it represents liberty under laws, protection for the weak, and security of free institutions. These facts deserve to be deeply and genuinely appreciated. The flag and the Nation for which it stands are worthy of love and devotion on these counts.

But can such devoton be enforced? Can an unappreciative child be made to love its parents simply by commanding it to do so? Compulsion may obtain discipline and grudging respect for superior strength, but it can hardly evoke enthusiasm.

These are points for State legislatures and local school boards to consider in their decision as to what the court calls the "appropriateness" of various methods of inculcating patriotism. The wish of the Supreme Court to avoid being made "the school board for the country" is understandable. Yet there is a question whether in this case dealing with the scruples of a religious sect it has not taken a step toward abdicating its position as a constitutional guarantor of freedom of wor-

Every liberty, of course, has its limits. But if freedom of conscience can be encroached upon by "legislation of general scope" so long as this does not aim at particular sects, then in excited times a great deal may be done under the name of the general welfare which leads in the direction of State religion, or State irreligion as in Nazi Germany or Soviet Russia.

Again, as a matter of actual national unty is it efficacious, as the dissenting Associate Justice Harlan F. Stone puts it, "to coerce these children to express a sentiment which, as they interpret it, they do not entertain"? The Nation certainly should punish injurious, disloyal acts, and may segregate those who refuse their part in a national effort, but active patriotism is a matter of understanding. A voluntary unity of 99 per cent makes the flag a more impressive symbol than an artificial "unity" of 100 per cent.

0-0-0-0 Getting Rid of Mr. Browder . . . . .

#### **Greensboro Daily News**

We need to consider only the case of the current numbr one nominee of the Communist party, Earl Browder, running for President, to realize how useless was the action this week of the Martinsville, Va., post of the American legion, urging the enactment of legislation barring members of that party from a place on tickets in national and state elections. Comrade Browder's chances for becoming an office-holder, never the best, are becoming dimmer and dimmer. In 1936 he received approximately 80,000 votes of the several odd millions cast. With a war going on in Europe and popular sentiment hammering away at the subversive elements it is doubted whether he will get even as many this fall, provided, of course, that the legion doesn't get through its proposed legislation in time to keep his name from being offered. But there are other complications. Since Browder last ran for President he has been indicted for offenses against the federal government and regardless of how the balloting goes is reported to have considerable prospect of living on government expense account. Be that as it may, it serves well to illustrate the old American custom of passing a law every time something or somebody bobs up we don't like. After all, the simplest method of ridding ourselves of the Browder menace, if that is what his aspiration is, is to let the statutes we already have take their course. Or better yet, vote against him; which we can't do if we won't let him put his name on the ballot whose freedom has been one of the country's boasts.



#### herited tendencies. The Fatal Divide Ezekiel, as a watchman over Israel, warned his people that life is in two divisions-right

eousness and wickedness. One side of the dividing line is safe and happy. Whoever stays on it has security in all the promises of God's covenant. They must There is a perpetual argument stay, however. It is not sufficient

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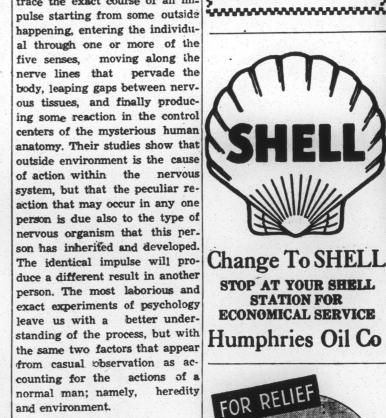
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among historians, psychologists, to be on the right side habitualand sociologists as to the extent ly or occasionally. When the of man's personal responsibility righteous commit sin, they are for his acts. Some say that chara- automatically and instantly in cter and ability are fixed very the No Man's Land of the undefinitely by inheritance, that righteous. All past good behavior possibilities of each human soul will not save them,

The wicked are on the other were determined by ascestors long before the birth of the indi- side of the line. They can remain vidual. Other students claim that there by their own decision. On enviroment-all the surroundings the other hand, there is a path and pressures that touch a person across. They may move to the side from the day of birth and onward of righteousness; and their past -is the deciding factor. This record is nonexistent. They are second side of the age-old argu- safe, just as if they had forever ment holds that a child of very dwelt with the good.

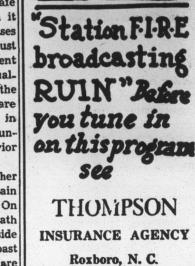
poor heritage will be altered greatly if placed from early days within an excellent set of sur-roundings, and that, conversely, a child of the best ancestry will probably be reduced to low behavior if subjected to bad envi- & Public Hauling ronment.

The psychologists go into very tions of human behavior. They Transfer Service trace the exact course of an im-



#### The Third Ingredient

The scientists have helped greatly in clearing up the details of mental processes; but they have never answered the question of personal responsibility. The study of the famous Jukes family, which through generations pro duced criminals, harlots, and degenerates of several types, and which only rarely brought forth a normal citizen, confirmed what observation and common sense already had shown, that bad ancestary tends to produce inferior offspring. The history of such families as the Adamses of Massachusetts or the Lees of Virginia is proof of the force of a good inheritance. Environment was not a sufficient reason for the results in any of these families. Admitting the great power of heredity and of environment, the careful student is yet forced to the conclusion that these do not sufficiently account for humanity as we find it. They do not account for the "black sheep" that appear in families most members of which are good, successful, or great. They do not account for the geniuses that grow up occasionally in families of ordinary inheritance. Thomas Edison cannot be reasoned out from his home or family tree. There is some other element mixed into men. What is it? Shakespeare refers to the fact that as a human being plans something, ""the Genius and the mortal instruments are then in council; and the state of man, like to a little kingdom, suffers then the nature of an insurrection." The great drematist realized that in each person there is a "Genius," an ego, that is himself alone and that makes him different from all others. The "mortal instruments" are the environment and the bodily being, the inheritance. Every man has somewhere inside his make-up a sort of "point of balance,' a place at which the decision is his, no matter what may be the weight of surrounding pressures or in-





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#### SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1940

### Sidewalk Forums . . . .

The other night after a civic club meeting we stood on a street corner listening to half a dozen citizens who carried forward with their own ideas the club speaker's recently finished talk on "Saving Democracy".

Some few of the sidewalk talkers agreed in toto with all that the speaker had uttered; others pleaded for the long view of history by saying that probable defeat of the Allied forces indicates the approach of another decisive cycle in civilization's constant march westward and that out of chaos in Europe may come the beginning of an enlarged cultural development in the two Americas.

Based on strict logic it is possible that the decline of European civilization will shift the burden to the peoples of North and South America. If this does happen our responsibilities will be much greater than they have ever been, and as a preparation for difficult days ahead, when peace comes, we would advise all literate Americans to review the lessons of history once touched upon in classroom discussions.

In the constantly repeated narrative of the rise and fall of civilization, from the dawn of history to June 9, 1940, there is more than enough material for sermons usually delivered in churches.

Relief Fund Opportunities . . .

At the present time there is being conducted in this area a campaign for Red Cross War Relief funds to aid suffers in stricen countries in Europe. As Mayor S. F. Nicks, Jr., chairman of the campaign has said, it is to be hoped that more than sufficient contributions to meet the local quota of \$600 will be given voluntarily and that there will be no necessity for a formal and organized drive.

With the opinion of Mr. Nicks we are in entire agreement. An appeal for money to relieve distresses of war should not need any undue pressure, since there is precious little that can be done under any circumstances. Too, in the midst of all our preparations to help the Allied cause with guns and planes we should not forget that there are many, many innocent sufferers from the conflict, not a few of whom are in German territory.

We mention Germans because we could wish War Relief to be extended to all people, regardless of where they live, although the funds collected during the present campaign are apparently to be used only for benefit of Allied citizens. In a day when confusion upon confusion is rampant, an appeal for war relief funds is about

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