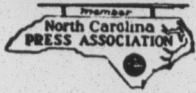


PERSON COUNTY TIMES



A PAPER FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

J. S. MERRITT, EDITOR — M. C. CLAYTON, MANAGER
THOMAS J. SHAW, JR., City Editor.

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1943

The One Absolute.....

Public reaction to the "vague McNutt directive" delivered Sunday in an order indicating Selective Service reclassification of all men over 38, is naturally a troubled reaction, although there is evidence that the reclassification, effective as of May 1, is intended to be of help in bolstering up a dislocated farm production program.

Appended to the Sunday statement are what appear to be specific orders to Selective Service boards relative to farm worker deferments. These orders, because of the predominately agricultural character of Person County, are of more than common interest here and as positive orders stand out in the midst of much vagueness.

Farm workers are needed, we will grant that, and if men in older brackets, as well as some younger ones not now in service, can be induced to take up the hoe instead of the gun, and to follow the plow instead of the siren of the shipyards, we must, we think, feel more comfortable about the logic of planning back of the War Manpower Commission. But we cannot get over another feeling, too. Unless citizens, Selective Service Boards and Gov. Broughton's new farm Labor Commission, are honest with themselves there are going to be many greenhorn farmers in the fields this year, and many of them will use a law of good intentions for per- rather than national benefit.

Back to the original directive for a new com- of "H" classifications, it appears that great- use for public complaint against the directive is- ness. Under this order men over 38, who had- usly been told that they would not be called to- ary service, that, as a matter of fact the Army- not want them, now face induction "if and when- the armed forces determine they can be used in the military establishment." Note, please, that this qu- tation does not say that such men will be put directly into the front lines and the foxholes. Literally, it does not define duties.

And for majority of the men and women and families concerned, the pain of the promised reclassification lies most of all in this (really wise) lack of definition. Americans must awake to the realization that there is today no certainty, no absolute, except war. We can quarrel, if we please, over what our own, particular and little role in war is to be, but we cannot escape the one and only absolute of the day.

Except in matters spiritual, the war has to be dominant and we must readjust ourselves to that view — if winning is to be more important than losing. We may and do disagree many times over about the interlocking patterns of war effort, particularly with regard to the number and the proportion of men and women to be engaged in industry, in farming and in military and naval units, but we cannot and must not forget the absolute and the dim but real vision of freedom that rises above it.

The Blotting Pad Girl.....

Republished in the Times today is a letter written by Miss Helen Felder, Red Cross worker in Australia, to her parents in Greensboro. The letter tells the story behind the story of America's fighting men and women, and tells it better than any dispatch we have yet seen.

The sheer grit and sand and courage and glory in the Felder narrative, of course, comes out more clearly to those who have known the two Helens. She was a school friend of ours, all the way up through the public system and on into college. Not different from other girls of her day and generation, she went to parties, took an interest in affairs properly and purely feminine, added a more than common appreciation of music, taught school a while and thought of marriage.

That was one Helen, the girl we knew. The other Helen, a new one, with the same name, writes from Australia. She speaks of the new language, a different English, born of pain and suffering that is being spoken in the "Land Down Under". She says, with truth, that the boys who go forth to battle do get the jitters. She

passes off this feeling with a careless reference to their appreciation of her as a blotting pad, a woman who can listen and console, and if need be weep and laugh, and keep the tears and the laughter and the courage that she sees and hears.

To the new Helen this keeping is a sacred trust. We are glad to meet her and to shake hands across the years and the oceans. She speaks with eloquence and truth the gospel of the Red Cross, and it is for her and for others like her, and the boys, too, that we must press forward with Red Cross War Fund drive here. We can't afford to let such courage down.

To Please Nobody.....

The 1943 General Assembly is history now, and its members, coming back home to their small businesses can and will be telling us, the voters, what a time they had getting across a program pleasing to most citizens and at one and the same time acceptable as good politics.

The State's War Powers measure, designed to help Gov. Broughton over the hurdles of war administration and control, got by. The nine month school term and its appendages will be law. The Wine bill went down and out, leaving a bad situation worse. The consolidated board for State correctional institutions passed. The much talked of School Commission was named and will serve, as is, until a rather weak-tailed Amendment to an Amendment can be voted on in the next General Election. The lawyers pushed through the establishment of a commission to study and to report upon improvements in the courts and the judicial system. Etc, etc.

The legislators managed, as always, to say some nice things about each other. Some of them were "matchless" in their praising. Others had eyes on the political weather-cock. Of the better sort, and more kindly and genuine, if we can trust our grapevine, was the praise accorded to Lieut. Gov. R. L. Harris, who, nevertheless, has not yet said he will have more of it.

Good legislators can please nobody, least of all themselves, all of the time, but it now seems that in addition to having been a body with some speed and grace, the 1943 General Assembly pretty well kept its eye on the ball. Some have thought it had too free a hand with spending money, but even that can be better appreciated than niggardliness.

WITH OTHER EDITORS

Delayed Honor.....

News And Observer

I
A century and a score and fifteen years have passed since in the humble cottage in the rear of Casso's Tavern on Fayetteville street pretty Peggy Casso left the ball going on in the inn to lend a hand when Andrew Johnson was born in Raleigh. "What are you going to name the boy?" she asked as she bent over the mother. Without a moment's hesitation Mrs. Jacob Johnson replied "Andrew Jackson Johnson." The humble father was "the best loved person in town," and the mother, Mary McDonough, a "God-blessed Mac" who made the cuisine at the Casso Tavern famous. It is a century and a score of years since the bound boy, apprenticed to a tailor, left Raleigh — a runaway. He returned in 1867 as Chief Executive of the greatest republic in the world.

II
It was more than a century before Raleigh marked the site where Johnson was born and preserved the little house from whose narrow windows he first saw the rising sun.

He lived in a difficult age and was a stormy petrel, often hated and often abused. But he came to the defense of a defenseless South and sought to prevent the horrors of Reconstruction. For that he will always be honored, even by those who assailed his earlier course.

And it remained, on March 6, 1943, for the State of North Carolina to set in motion a movement to enclose the birthplace and to insure its lasting preservation. The woden shop of A. Johnson, Tailor, is enclosed in a fitting brick structure which protects it from the ravages of the weather. It is proposed that the house in which Andrew Johnson was born in Raleigh be likewise preserved.

III
The homes of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe are preserved in Virginia and the republic makes the home of Washington a national shrine. It is good to know that North Carolina is to do honor to its son — the brave man who dared invite impeachment to uphold the Constitution and restore the dismembered Union.

It is well to recall this incident from Winston's Life of Andrew Johnson:

I cannot forget the solemn words President Andrew Johnson spoke when he visited Raleigh in June 1867, and the ludicrous turn an old woman in the crowd, who had known Andy in his tailor shop days, gave one of the President's figures of speech: "I have no other ambition in life," President Johnson declared, "but to mend and repair the breaches in the torn and tattered Constitution of my country." The old lady said, "Andy's coming back home and open up his tailor shop again."

At last we are to preserve the house in which he was born, and near which he made breeches, to prevent any breaches in its wooden walls or shingle roof.

Open Forum

THE COORDINATOR SAYS:

First practice blackout using the new Air Raid Warning signals were held in the State last month for all except the Asheville district, comprising far-western counties coming under the Charleston Air Warning Region.

The practice blackout for the district of the Wilmington Region was held on the night of February 23 and the blackout for the districts of the Norfolk Region on the night of Feb. 25. Both were semi-surprise in nature, the time having been announced only as between the dates of Feb. 22 and 26.

As expected, performance was not perfect. The tests revealed that the public and the Defense corps to some extent were not fully familiar with the new signals, and the State Office decided immediately that another practice should be held as soon as possible with the time an-

nounced in advance. With the benefit of the experience in the first tests and additional instruction material which has been published and broadcast, it is expected that a much better showing will be made, and that with possibly one more practice drill, the entire state will be in readiness for otal surprise drills called by the Army. The schedule for the next practice blackouts is as follows: March 17, Asheville Warning District only; March 18, All Districts of Wilmington Warning Region; March 19, All Districts of the Norfolk Warning Region.

The time for the practice blackouts will be uniform in all the districts and will be as fol-

lows:
Yellow, 8:35 P. M.; blue, 8:50 P. M.; red, 9:00 P. M.; blue, 9:10 P. M. and white 9:22 P. M.
In order to help the civilian population to become familiar with the new signals, which in reality greatly simplify things by providing a period of blackout during which traffic may (turn to page three, please)

HEADACHE from Anxiety

After hours of anxiety, a headache is the last straw. But it quickly yields to Capudine, which also soothes nerves upset by the pain. Capudine is liquid. No waiting for it to dissolve before or after taking. So it's really quick. Use only as directed. 10c, 30c, 50c.

CAPUDINE

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| Army Work Pants | \$2.59 |
| Army Work Shirts | \$1.98 |
| Socks | 18c Pair |

ECONOMY AUTO SUPPLY

Executor's Notice

Having qualified as Executor of the estate of Mrs. Lucy B. Long, deceased, late of Person County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 4th day of March, 1943, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment.

T. Aubrey Long, Executor of the estate of Mrs. Lucy B. Long.
This the 4th day of March, 1943.
Mar. 4-11-18-25- Apr. 1-8

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SERVICE DRY CLEANERS

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Make yourself at home and be perfectly at ease.

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Bowling Center Sandwich Shop
Jesse Rogers, Mgr.

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... You can spot it every time

ALL America values the extra service that the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps brings to the war effort. And Americans, too, set store by the simple things that help build morale.

Ice-cold Coca-Cola, for example, does a special job in refreshing folks. You know from experience that its taste is deliciously different. And Coca-Cola does more than quench thirst. It brings a delightful after-sense of refreshment that never fails to please. Choicest ingredients and 57 years of experience have helped make it the best-liked soft drink on earth.

An original creation to begin with, the taste, refreshment and quality of Coca-Cola set it apart. So make sure you get the real thing. There's no comparison.

* * *

It's natural for popular names to acquire friendly abbreviations. That's why you hear Coca-Cola called Coke. Both mean the same thing... "coming from a single source, and well known to the community".

Army needs come first. That's why you see plenty of Coke at Post Exchanges. In civil life, Coca-Cola being first choice sells out first, now that there's less of it in wartime.

Coca-Cola 5¢

The best is always the better buy!

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