

RURAL TRENDS

ROGER M. KYES
Director, National Farm Youth Foundation

DEMOCRACY

Democracy, which we have taken for granted and have been neglecting, has suddenly grown very dear to us. As a united nation we are most concerned about the survival of our democratic institutions.



Kyes

Many of us do not know exactly what we are trying to save. There have been many hazy notions and warped explanations of democracy. It is not a complex thing that requires the learned philosophy of a renowned professor. Democracy is a simple process which draws its strength from the fact that it is easy to understand and reasonable.

Democracy, in the American sense of the word, is simply that the individual decides of his own free will to join with his fellows in a collective effort. While taking part in this effort, it is understood that every individual reserves the right to withdraw from this collective endeavor if he so chooses. In other words, democracy is based upon individualism, successfully blended through common consent of individuals to accept a combined point of view for the benefit of a whole nation.

Our people have decided that democracy is worth defending, so we must consider the task. The most apparent fact is that we must accept a lower standard of living as a part of our defense obligation. We must submit to heavy taxation. Many things must be foregone. In spite of government efforts at control, prices will rise. The result will be that many will not be able to afford things to which they are now accustomed. Income will lag behind prices, making the lot of all of us more difficult.

Much can be done through our own efforts to help ourselves. Food is the main essential which we all need. Unless we do something about growing more food we will find ourselves in a difficult position. The hungry people of other nations look to the United States for food.

The world demand upon this country for foods of high nutrition will be greater than any of us dream. This demand will cause a shortage in the supply of many foods. The price will jump, making it more difficult for people of low income to secure the foods they need to maintain adequate diets. Soon the health of the nation will be at stake. No greater permanent damage can be done to democracy than sacrificing the health of the democratic people as a result of inadequate preparation to insure an abundant and lasting supply of foodstuffs.

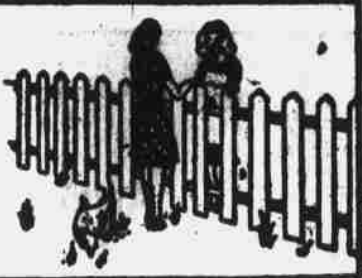
The maintenance of democracy requires strong men and women. A coward can rule with gun and sword, but it takes courage housed in a healthy body to be a worthwhile citizen of democracy.

To safeguard democracy we must turn to America's greatest democratic institution—the family farm. Here vegetables, poultry, fruit, livestock and dairy products are best produced. Best of all, we can rebuild democracy while we are fighting for it. Commercial agriculture has ruthlessly destroyed the happiness of many farm families, but its day has passed; its surpluses are of little value. All America is returning to the realization that the strength of this country lies in those small plots of land upon which the family toils, sharing joys and sorrows but, more than that, sharing the knowledge that the land will return all you put into it. Such families made America and such families are now necessary to safeguard our people.

No defense effort can pay greater return than the efforts we make to re-establish the rural families of America on farms which they can call their own. Children born to these families will be the dividends of democracy.

THIS BUSINESS OF Living

BY SUSAN THAYER



SUPPOSE YOU DO DISAGREE

The argument between the ladies of the Garden Club had been heated. So heated, in fact, that when Mrs. Jones got home she was still hot and bothered.

"The very ideal!" she sputtered to her husband whom she found smoking a pipe peacefully on the porch behind the wild cucumber vines. "To say things like that when things are in the state they are today!" and then, "I tell you, Henry, there ought to be a law against people talking like that..."

"Now, now, Martha," her husband said gently. "You sit right down there and relax, while I bring you a nice drink of cold water..."

She fanned herself with the brim of her hat and was able to smile as she reached for the water her husband brought her a moment later.

"How would you like it if there were a law that kept you from having your say?" he asked her.

"But what I say makes sense! It needs to be said," she announced.

"I wonder if Mrs. Brown would agree with you about that?"

"Of course not, Henry! She thinks she's right and I'm wrong. But of course..."

"Of course you both have a right to your own opinions and what's more you have a right to express them, even if it does get you all riled up. This is a Democracy, my dear,

and in a Democracy the citizens have the privilege of saying what they think about everything under the sun. Usually we don't think much about this right, but at a time like this when emotions run high and people disagree violently we begin to wonder if the other fellow should have the right to express his opinions. We begin to suggest that perhaps certain meetings be prohibited..."

"And shouldn't they? Didn't it make you fighting mad to hear the things they said at the Municipal Building the other night?"

"Of course it did. But not so much I couldn't remember that the kind of liberty we have in this country couldn't exist if it weren't for free speech. The citizens of the United States have said what they thought about things from Colonial days on down. And out of discussion, disagreement and more discussion has come the whole fabric of our representative democracy."

"We're building a great army and producing quantities of armaments in order to defend what we call The American Way of Life. Wouldn't it be plain silly to go to all this effort and sacrifice and then lose our essential liberty by throwing away one of our most important heritages—the right to say what we think when and where and to whom we please?"

Miss Louise Bush has returned home after a short visit with friends in Kinston.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott spent Sunday with Mrs. Elliott's mother, Mrs. Fannie B. Knight, in Tarboro.

Mrs. George Asbell, of Sunbury, spent Monday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Hollowell, Sr.

Mrs. A. S. Bush and Miss Louise Bush visited Mrs. Norman Hollowell Monday afternoon.

Mrs. W. H. Winborne attended commencement exercises at W. C. U. N. C., Greensboro. Her daughter, Miss Sarah Winborne, was one of the graduates.

Mrs. Jonas Futrell and son, of Hertford, and Mrs. M. S. Elliott, of Edenton, visited Mrs. E. N. Elliott and Mrs. W. D. Welch, Sr., Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Drew Welch and son, Billy, spent Monday with her mother, Mrs. R. C. Bunch.

Conwell and Porter Byrum, students at Wake Forest College, are with their parents, Rev. and Mrs. J. T. Byrum.

Miss Esther Elliott and Mrs. E. N. Elliott visited Mrs. W. D. Welch, Sr., Monday afternoon.

Mrs. George Asbell, of Sunbury, visited Mrs. Lindsay Evans Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Drew Welch and son, Mrs. Carl Baber and children and W. D. Welch, Sr., visited Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Welch, Jr., in Washington, N. C., Thursday afternoon.

Miss Margaret White Byrum, who attended Louisburg College, is at home with her mother, Mrs. J. C. Byrum, for the summer.

Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Elliott, Miss Esther Elliott, Mrs. Lindsay Evans, and Mrs. J. G. Perry, of Rocky Hock, spent Thursday in Norfolk, Va.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hollowell and daughter, Anne, have moved in with Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Hollowell for the summer.

HONORED AT SHOWER

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Winslow, who were recently married, were guests of honor at a miscellaneous shower on Friday evening when Mrs. Merrill Winslow entertained at the home of the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winslow, at Whiteston.

Games provided much merriment throughout the evening with Thurman White and Miss Myrtle Winslow winning prizes, which they presented to the bride.

Ice cream was served by the hostesses.

Those present and those remembering the honorees with gifts included Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Winslow, Mrs. Carey Quincey, Mr. and Mrs. Arba Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Sammie Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Riddick, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hendren, Mr. and Mrs. Luther Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Winslow, Mrs. Claude Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie T. Winslow, Will Chappell, Mrs. Jesse Osborne, Mrs. Elizabeth White, Mrs. W. T. Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Elsie Stallings, Mr. and Mrs. Lucius Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Carroll Williams, Mrs. A. N. Winslow, Mrs. Tom Riddick, Mrs. Charlie White, Mr. and Mrs. DeWitt Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. John Lassiter, Miss Mavis Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Elwood White, Miss Edith White, Miss Evelyn White, Mrs. R. R. White, Miss Annie Winslow, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas R. Winslow, Mrs. Elmer Winslow, Mrs. Bernard Winslow, Mary Love, Lela and Carl Winslow, Johnnie White, Burwell and Joanne Winslow, Marjorie F. White, Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Winslow, Miss Pearl

Mrs. Wendell Matthews spent the week-end with her mother, Mrs. Ed Matthews.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Fletcher, of Washington, D. C., visited Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Basnight during the week-end. They were accompanied home by their little son, Jimmie, who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Basnight

It's Possible To Save Home Grown Seed

Quite a few of the garden crops that are grown in North Carolina produce seed that can be saved if precautions are taken to prevent diseases from carrying over from year-to-year, says L. P. Watson, Extension horticulturist of N. C. State College.

"By saving your own seed, you have an opportunity to select those plants which seem to do particularly well under local conditions," Watson said to farmers. "However, many diseases of vegetable crops are seed-borne," he added.

Beans and peas are among the best crops from which to save seed. Seed can be obtained by marking a few of the finest plants with a bit of cloth at the beginning of the harvesting season. When ripened until the pods are dry, these plants should be pulled in the early morning to avoid shattering. They should then be hung or spread in any airy, dry place until the seed harden. Then the seed should be shelled and spread out, not more than two or three grains deep, and when dry, stored for the winter in a cool, dry place.

The best sweet corn seed can be obtained by allowing it to ripen on the plant. Select the best and earliest ears by stripping down the husks to examine the grain and to remove any worms that may be found. Then carefully fold the husks back and hold them in place by an elastic band or a string. A convenient way to store sweet corn is by the ear. A single ear will plant a small

garden. The same general practices are used in saving other seed, Watson said. Full information on seed-saving may be obtained by writing to the Department of Horticulture, State College Station, Raleigh.

OAK GROVE SOCIETY MEETS

The Woman's Society of Christian Service of Oak Grove Methodist Church met on May 21, at the home of Mrs. W. H. Overman. The meeting was opened by the president, Mrs. George Jackson, and "Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me" was sung. Misses Alice, Gracie and Addie Mae Ferrell took part on the devotional program. The lesson, "Investing Our Heritage for Christian Education" was given by Mrs. George Jackson and Mrs. W. W. Lewis conducted the Spiritual Life Service.

After the business session, the hostess served delicious lemonade and cake to the following: Mesdames Addie Bright, Daisy Perry, J. W. Ferrell, C. P. Quincey, George W. Jackson, P. L. Griffin, Anthony Elliott, W. W. Lewis, Tillie Russell, Oscar Bundy, Fletcher Bundy, Emmett Stallings, Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Cranford, Misses Alice, Gracie and Addie Mae Ferrell and Helen Lane, and J. V. Cranford.

BIBLE CLASS MEETS

The Susanna Wesley Bible Class of New Hope Sunday School met Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Mattie

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CROSS ROADS NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hollowell have returned from their wedding trip and are making their home with the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Hollowell.

Miss Dorothy Bragg joined the Baptist Church at Center Hill Sunday afternoon.

Bertram Hollowell and Melvin Evans went to Wake Forest Sunday to bring Weldon Hollowell home from Wake Forest College.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Hollowell and son spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. Leary, Sr., in Rocky Hock.

Mrs. J. T. Byrum was brought home from the Baptist Hospital, at Winston-Salem Saturday.

John Ward Byrum, of Charlotte, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Byrum.

Mrs. Lindsay Evans and Mrs. E. N. Elliott visited Mrs. J. G. Perry, in Rocky Hock, Saturday evening.