

Virginia White Treasurer
Editor
Court House Square
HERTFORD, N. C.
Entered as second class matter
November 15th, 1934, at Post
Office in Hertford, North Carolina
27944.

Advertising Rates Furnished By
Request

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year.....\$3.64
(In Perquimans County)
Elsewhere.....\$4.68

Easter Sunday

It is time to color those Easter eggs again. The new Spring season will usher in Easter Sunday on April 2 this year. Once again, Christians will commemorate the resurrection of Christ. In the muted festival atmosphere, Easter parades and Easter bonnets will lend their enchantment to the occasion. In all but the frigid regions, nature will also add her magic touch of springtime flowers and fair breezes.

The freshness and fragrance of the new season somehow symbolize the bright hope and faith that came into being with the birth of Christianity. Oddly, or perhaps not so oddly, the sounds of Spring on Easter Sunday are accentuated. The birds sing a little more pleasantly—or so it seems. And in between those April showers, the sun has a special warmth. What it all adds up to is that Easter is an exceptionally good day which is meant to celebrate the coming of new hope and salvation to all mankind. Let it be so this year.

Every generation, if wise, learns from those who follow as well as those who went ahead.



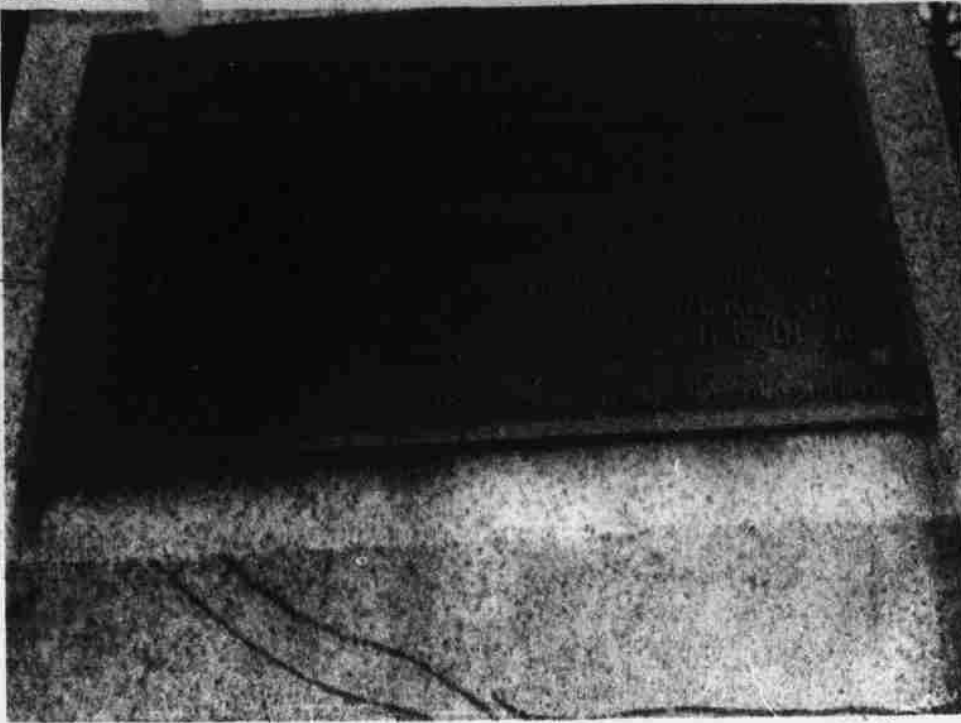
By MARION SWINDELL

We have all heard of the wonderful way Luther Burbank, the California botanist, succeeded in freeing flowers and fruits from their original bad qualities. He grew a walnut without tannin, and freed it from its disagreeable taste, developed a dahlia with a pleasant instead of a disagreeable odor; produced plums and apricots without stones; and evolved thornless cacti.

Can man be freed of all his faults of constitution, habit and training? They do it every day.

These changes are brought on without the skillfulness and knowledge of men like Burbank. It is the result of the individual efforts and the search for strength to overcome! How? By earnestly and honestly seeking—this strange and wonderful strength can always be found.

OUR THOUGHT TO REMEMBER: "God helps those who help themselves." SWINDELL FUNERAL HOME, HERTFORD, N.C. PHONE 426-7314



This marker represents the site of the first church service held in the state, and of the forthcoming 300th celebration.

300th Anniversary Of Organized Religion In North Carolina

This year marks the 300th anniversary of organized religion in North Carolina, the first service held at Phelps Point in May, 1672 by George Fox, a Quaker.

To commemorate this important event, the Perquimans County Chamber of Commerce is holding a county-wide church service on Sunday, May 7 at 11:30 p.m.

Invitations have been sent out to all area churches asking their participation and the response, so far, has been encouraging.

The services will be attended by members of the Hertford Baptist Church, First Methodist Church, Church of the Holy Trinity, Parkville Holiness Church, Up River Friends Meeting and Piney Woods Friends Meeting. (Church of the Holy Trinity will also conduct a tour of the Newbold-White House, oldest in the state).

The Chamber of Commerce is asking that other churches in the county which received letters of invitation, reply and let them know if they, too, will participate in the event which we hope will be an inspiration to everyone.

Music will be provided by a combined mens choir representing the two Quaker institutions in the county. Also in attendance will be about 300 women representing Quaker meeting houses throughout North Carolina.

Two outstanding speakers will be on hand for the important occasion. One is Rev. Pat Robertson, well-known in this area as the religious director of Channel 27 and WKXI Christian FM-radio. He is seen and heard regularly on both mediums.

The other speaker will be Dr. Grimsley Hobbs, president of Guilford College in Greensboro, one of the country's largest Quaker institutions.

Invitations have been extended to our representatives in Washington, D. C. and Raleigh. At this point it is too early to ascertain how many can accept, but one has already been received.

1st District Rep. Walter B. Jones will be on hand for the occasion.

If your church has not yet

replied to the invitations sent to it, please see that it does. The services will be held at Phelps Point (downtown Hertford) and we need to know approximately how many will be attending. Contact the Chamber office

by mail or telephone. "Right now," Marion Swindell, chairman of the event said, "it looks like it is going to be an important, well-attended event."

many opportunities to develop in these areas. Adults often speak of the conduct of youth today in a negative sense, that they are bad. However, the writer feels that youth is looking for relevance in and a sense of belonging to our democratic way of life, and that there will be little acceptable improvement in youth behavior without the understanding and aid of more dedicated leaders.

G. W. Cooper, Local Scout Leader

A Letter To The Editor

Our society today is faced with many problems such as youth unrest, drug abuse, muggings, school drop-outs, lack of sufficient job opportunities for youth, need for more youth recreational facilities, and many others. Dedicated youth leaders could help eliminate many of these problems.

Communities need true leaders, but in reality they are hard to find. The question arises; "What is the function of a leader?" A leader is a person who can inspire others to become leaders. The writer is speaking of a person who has been inspired by God—not false leadership. He should look on the positive side of life and view the present situation in his community with a mind set to improve that situation. Walking, not riding through the community, will enable interested, would-be leaders, to get a better view of the conditions of the community.

A youth leader should inspire those in his charge to have the right concept of law and justice, to practice good health rules, to develop ingenuity in solving daily personal problems, and to make their own decisions. He should provide his charges with

many opportunities to develop in these areas.

Adults often speak of the conduct of youth today in a negative sense, that they are bad. However, the writer feels that youth is looking for relevance in and a sense of belonging to our democratic way of life, and that there will be little acceptable improvement in youth behavior without the understanding and aid of more dedicated leaders.

G. W. Cooper, Local Scout Leader

Hertford Baptist Church Presents Easter Music

The combined choirs of the Hertford Baptist Church will present their "Message of Easter" through music on Sunday Morning at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

The choir will sing the following: "Once There Was A Garden Fair," "We Welcome Glad Easter," "One Day," "God So Loved the World," "Were You There?" "Why Did He Stand One Day At Calvary?" and "The Fount of Joy and Peace."

The church extends a cordial invitation to all to come and hear the message of Easter in music with us.

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Let's Go To Church Sunday Make Church Going A Habit

THESE RELIGIOUS MESSAGES ARE MADE POSSIBLE BY THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS FIRMS...



"What is Easter, Mommy?"

"Is it the time when bunnies get born?" I looked at my little daughter, appalled.

Did she really think of Easter in terms of sugared eggs, fluffy bunnies and pretty candies? Had I given her the impression that for grownups Easter is a time for new clothes, flowered hats and fragrant corsages? Surely, at some time, I must have told her the real story of Easter. Or had I?

I was really flabbergasted at my negligence—it took my little daughter to make me realize it. I dismissed my house chores and sat down right then to tell her the glorious Easter story of the Resurrection. I told her what hope this event brought for all of mankind—with its promise of eternal life.

I might add that the next week I enrolled my daughter in church school. And my husband and I started attending church again. We haven't missed a Sunday since.

Sunday
11 Timothy 4:1-8
Monday
Genesis 8:15-22
Tuesday
Genesis 12:1-8
Wednesday
Genesis 28:10-17
Thursday
Exodus 6:1-8
Friday
Isaiah 40:1-8
Saturday
Isaiah 40:9-17



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Scriptures selected by the American Bible Society

THE CHURCH PROCLAIMS THE RISEN LORD
International Sunday School Lesson for April 2, 1972
LESSON TEXT: 1 Corinthians 15.

The aim of this Lesson is to help persons give full recognition to the importance of Christ's resurrection, both as it affects the gospel and our personal faith.

This Easter Lesson appropriately deals with the resurrection of the crucified Christ, and its importance to the basic precepts of Christianity, as reflected in the existence of the Church as a Body, and to the spiritual well-being of the individual Christian cannot be overemphasized.

Paul, the sinner, the erstwhile persecutor of the Christian movement, was gloriously reformed in Christ. But he never lost sight of the fact that he had come from darkness into the light by the grace of God and the advent of Christ, the Son of God. He humbly rejoiced that he was the most often commissioned of the twelve to do God's work. And do it effectively he did, answering in his testimony and his personal commitment.

In our lesson today we see that Paul—in the word of an old popular song—believed in "accentuating the positive".

Throughout the ages the Church has been the chosen receptacle of certain truths in so far as acceptance and proclamation of the Christian faith is concerned. This trust is monumental for these truths are essential to the salvation of sinning man. Paul was ever conscious of this fact...hence his preoccupation with guiding the various churches which were offsprings of his ministry in the ways of the Lord. The Heart of Paul's gospel today, however, deals primarily with the death, the burial, and the glorious resurrection of Christ, in that order.

The importance of this sequence of events was stressed by Paul time and time again; if Christians could not accept these facts and the supporting witnessing to Christ's resurrection on the part of many, then the glory of Christianity was, indeed, nullified. If life after death was not an acceptable tenet, then man was, indeed, without hope!

"For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins". (1 Corinthians 15; verses 16 and 17).

The Christian doctrine cannot survive if it is regarded as a series of unrelated advents. Rather, it must be viewed as a continuous "event" each sequence following logically upon another, in accordance with God's infinite plan for mankind. The resurrection of the believer and the resurrection of Christ cannot be separated...dare not be separated...for, in acceptance of His resurrection lies the only hope for man!

Christ, restores, spoke to the world through the mouths of His disciples. He still speaks to the world through His servants in His church. How effectively He does so, rests in our awareness of our responsibilities to Him, and to the Father.

Christ's message of hope is the premise upon which the foundation of Christianity is laid. To deny it or question it would leave us as helpless in life (and in death) as a rudderless ship at sea! It is therefore essential for our survival that we cling to our beliefs tenaciously; that we foster them with all that is within us! In this matter-of-fact, "show me" world in which we have our being, the faith of the Christian believer meets, perhaps, its greatest challenge! For we were not present at the events related in the Bible—we have no "factual" proof! We have only our faith...but what a glorious faith it is! From it we begin to comprehend the meaning of our being! Through it we have hope...for ourselves, for the world...and for the future of both!

Christ lived as a man, He died as a man...He rose as a man. In Him, and through Him, we identify with God! (These comments are based on outlines of the International Sunday School Lessons, copyrighted by the International Council of Religious Education, and used by permission.)

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