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MEYER LESHINE
Publisher
ALICE T. PETERSON
Editor, Branford Review
PAUL H. STEVENS
Editor, East Haven News
Telephone Branford 400
East Haven 4-2007

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HANDS ACROSS THE SEA

It was an interesting surprise and pleasure to receive last week a copy of Chronicle and Echo published in Northampton, England and forwarded by its editor, W. Cowper Barrons, because it contained news of interest to Branford.

After a day's work there was time to look the publication over carefully. War has brought us a stone's throw from the British Isles and the contents of Chronicle and Echo was much the same as we might expect to find in United States evening papers.

A few phrases however caught our eye as being typical of England or quite different from our style of ordinary news.

Every once in a while the American press runs into the pros and cons of carrying advertising on page one. Chronicle and Echo not only used its first page but carried in its "ears" a Johnnie Walker and Koray pain killer ad. In a wee corner spot was an item on U. S. Baseball where the headlines read—Bombs May Interrupt Speer.

One item was about the scarcity of victory flags which was something we knew nothing about. A connecting link between the two countries was an item asking Boy Scouts to fight fires and to use their influence against unnecessary forest and farm land fires.

A headline was devoted to the straits weather, another to Lady's will, and for those interested in finance the news that savings bank deposits take a big leap. As for the war—Romanian front folding up.

So that evening, after work we had a glimpse of how the rest of the world lives and found it much the same as ours.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK

The President has proclaimed October 8-14 as Fire Prevention Week. Once again the signal has been given for a renewed offensive against our remorseless enemy, uncontrolled fire. Despite the ceaseless efforts of fire prevention authorities, fire losses have doubled in nine years, reaching a total for the past year of more than \$400,000,000.

In an appeal to the American people in commemoration of Fire Prevention Week, W. E. Mallahan, General Manager of the National Board of Fire Underwriters, says:

"If America's wartime fire waste is to be reduced it will be necessary for every interested person to cooperate in a campaign to spread information about fire dangers. Fire losses increase because most people are not sufficiently interested, and they are not interested because they have not been informed adequately as to the seriousness of losses and hazards. Citizens who do appreciate, can perform a patriotic job by transmitting information to

others and convincing them of the need for special efforts to reduce fire waste. To be specific, begin in your own home by locating all fire dangers there and eliminating them. Branching out from there, tell your neighbors about fire safety and get them to clear all fire dangers from their premises. Then contact fire prevention headquarters in your community and offer your services. Finally, make an effort to promote fire safety in your business. If nothing is being done there, be the one to initiate a safety campaign, for it is patriotic to save materials."

Let's all include fire prevention with our daily work, not just for a week or a month, but throughout the year—and let's start now.

From Our Readers

Branford, Conn.
September 22, 1944

Dear Editor:

With the town being solicited for donations to the Recreational Fund I think this is a pretty good time to bring before the public the sincere thoughts of one taxpayer and parent. Don't know what the "powers that be" have in mind to do with the money obtained. Maybe they don't yet know themselves just what CAN be done with it. But here are my ideas on the subject.

How about using it to make available the kind of recreation that our "teen-agers" and specially those difficult juveniles, need so badly in these rather hectic times. With winter coming on there is no longer bathing and boating, and the general summer amusements. All that Branford has for them is the movies. We have a fine theater and Mr. Jacobs certainly does a good job of providing good pictures. But that is not enough. It is all very well for us adults to bemoan the restlessness and dissatisfaction of our youth. But it is there, and what are we going to do about it? Some of our young people are content to go along in a more or less methodical way. Most are not.

Of the latter class some rebel openly; others do so more or less under cover. The youngster from 16 up that has a car at his disposal can "load up" with friends, vanish temporarily, and come back from a wonderful evening. But what doing? And where? Those without that privilege just chump at the bit a little more. We hear adults say that the language of the groups of boys they pass is dreadful. Which is an understatement. And the girls could improve theirs too. Wonder if anyone ever stopped to think that in each case it might be caused from sheer boredom from lack of something interesting to do, and therefore in an effort to appear smart? Not every boy or every girl that is obstreperous is "bad". Why can't Branford do something, as so many other communities throughout the nation are doing at this time to correct this? Remember we "didn't need an ambulance"? Well, I'd say that the use it has been put to since we have had it has proved that we did need it and that is has more than justified its purchase. Well, can't we tackle this problem now?

My ideas? Oh, yes, I did say I had some didn't I? O.K. Here they are. We have a Community House. We use it, sure. But we could use it more. The main floor makes a pretty satisfactory place to dance. Only when there is a dance the youngsters can't afford the stiff price, and don't want to crash in with the older ones any more than the older ones want them too. Now why could not the Community House be built on to in back, where there is now space for parking, and a floor as large or larger be built for roller skating. A radio, victrola or juke box could be installed in the center between these two floors and the same music would do for the hep-cats as for the skaters. Downstairs under these floors why couldn't bowling alleys be built in? There never yet was a youngster that didn't like to bowl. Yet the parents don't want them hanging around where the men are bowling at night, and the men wouldn't bowl log if the "kids" were underfoot. There are still some youngsters that like to be where things are going on and yet like more quiet things. Why couldn't there be a second floor over the new part and tables be there for those who might like to play cards or other games, or just read. Read in all that noise? Sure. If you have children of your own you know perfectly well that before they settle themselves with a book they always turn the radio up an extra

notch or two. Don't forget, too, that these same kids like to eat out. Some go for ice cream, some for sodas, some for sandwiches, sandy, etc. Why couldn't the feasible things be on sale at the "Clubbery"?

Do I hear a number of you say "why it would cost a small fortune? Well, maybe it would. But it would cost more to pay for the evils that the lack of these amusements lead to. And to make it a bit on the self supporting side, and keep the youngsters from under valuing it all, why not make a nominal charge? Say an admission charge of 16 cents, and admit to the whole building. That would certainly pay for lights, etc. And why not an annual drive for the upkeep of it?

Do I hear others say that it is too much for one man to take care of? Certainly it is. But aren't there enough public spirited people in our town that would be willing to give say one or two nights a month, in turn, to help? A bunch of happy contented youngsters need very little supervision. Don't you think some of the mothers would be willing to do their bit? Make sandwiches, be on hand to sew up rips, or just sit quietly and unobtrusively where she could cast an eye over proceedings and yet not be persona non grata.

Did you spend a night or two down at Mansfields this summer and watch the kids at the skating rink? And those not so kiddish in actual years? I did. I didn't see any trouble there, but I saw a lot of darned happy faces. And some completely tired out tarzans and tarzettes that were contented to go home and to bed.

Perhaps this isn't practical. But if not I've got to be shown why not even though I'm not from Missouri. At least it seems to me it is a good subject to think seriously about and will bear plenty of discussion. Just what better use could the dollars acquired through the Minstrel Show and those donated in

CHURCH NOTES

TABOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
9:30 Church School.
10:30 Morning Service
On the last Sunday of the month the services are held in Swedish.

SONGREGATIONAL
Rev. Matthew Madden
The Manse, Rogers St.
9:30 Church School
10:45 Morning Worship
7:00 Christian Fellowship
World Wide Communion services

FIRST BAPTIST.
Rev. A. W. Jones, Pastor
Rogers Street
Church School 10 a. m.
Morning Service 11 a.m.

TRINITY
Rev. Frederic R. Murray, rector
Montrose Street
8:45 Holy Communion
9:30 Opening Church School
10:45 Holy Communion
Special observance of World Wide Communion Sunday.

ST MARY'S
Masses on Sunday will be at 7:30 a and 10:30 o'clock.

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Stony Creek
Rev. Joseph White
7:30 P. M. Pilgrim Fellowship
11:00 Morning Worship

This present drive be put to than this? Wouldn't some of our local carpenters, etc., donate at least some of their time to the building of this?

Wish I had a million. I'd donate it, free, gratis. As I haven't, all I can offer is the suggestion for what it may be worth.
Edith Y. Ballou.

ST. STEPHENS A.M.E. ZION
Rogers Street
Rev. Sykes
Church School.....10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship.....11:00 A. M.
Junior Church.....12:30 P. M.
Christian Endeavor.....8:30 P. M.
Evening Worship.....8:00 P. M.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SERVICES
"Unreality" will be the subject of the Lesson-Sermon for Sunday, October 1.

The Golden Text is from II Corinthians 4:18. "The things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal."
Selections from the Bible include the following: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. (Isaiah 55:8)

Correlative passages from the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" by Mary Baker Eddy, include the following: (p. 286): "God's thoughts are perfect and eternal, are substance and Life. Material and temporal thoughts are human, involving error, and since God, Spirit, is the only cause, they lack a divine cause. The temporal and material are not then creations of Spirit. They are but counterfeits of the spiritual and eternal."

Coxswain and Mrs. Charles Morawski (Mary Seseke) are parents of a son, Charles Michael, born September 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Milton P. Bradley Branford Point, were in Rye, N.Y., yesterday attending a conference sponsored by the Morris Plan Bankers Association.

Caroline Cavallaro remains very ill in the hospital.

Judge Edwin R. Kelsey received flowers for his birthday this week from the town hall staff.

Rollin H. Paine has returned to Washington, D.C. after visiting friends and relatives on East Main Street and Stony Creek.

G. A. R. Hamre expects to be home from Grace Hospital Friday to celebrate his 88th birthday.

OUR SINCERE THANKS

to you the people of southern New England for your understanding, patience, and cooperation during the trying days just past, when our schedules were disrupted by the devastating effects of flood and hurricane.

Although the dollar damage was not nearly as great as in the hurricane of 1938, nevertheless embankments were washed away... tracks were left hanging hundreds of feet in the air... power lines were damaged... signals and switches put out of commission... and long lengths of track covered with debris or submerged under water.

Through putting into practice lessons learned in 1938, many inconveniences were avoided. Diners and station restaurants were well stocked. In many cases buses were made available for transfer around flooded areas. And finally, through the tireless efforts of our officers and employees, service was restored in record time throughout our territory.

THE NEW HAVEN R.R.
SERVING NEW YORK AND THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL STATES OF MASSACHUSETTS, RHODE ISLAND AND CONNECTICUT

SPIRES OF FREEDOM

THE white churches standing in serene beauty on the quiet greens of Connecticut's villages and towns are symbols of those cherished freedoms for which Americans live and die. They are monuments to the men and women who won for all Americans the rights to worship as they see fit and to live in dignity as free individuals.

America was built by people who believed in freedom of enterprise—the right of every American to enter a business or profession of his own choosing. The right to work, produce and benefit by his own skill and initiative.

Freedom of enterprise, for example, has helped your light and power company to meet every war demand for electric power—stepping production steadily up while holding prices firmly down. Today The Connecticut Light and Power Company is furnishing electric power to more than 400 factories and war plants and, at the same time, is supplying you and 170,000 other residential customers with all the electricity you need at an all-time-low price.

That's the way our American system works. Call it by any name you like, but without it, there is no incentive to invent, discover or develop. Though some may strive to change our way of life by substituting regimentation for freedom—we can resolve that they won't succeed. We can preserve our way of living as free men and women to build a greater, stronger America in the peacetime days to come.

The Connecticut Light and Power Company