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"Political Questions Are Mainly Moral Questions."

Very Able Paper by Prof. F. S. Long of Parksville High School.

(Read Before Parksville B. Y. P. U.)

On first thought this subject may not seem to bear directly upon the main theme under consideration, viz: "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." But with closer study, we can see that it is very closely related to the main topic.

By "Political Questions," we mean not only the great political issue, and the contentions of different political parties but also those things which pertain to moral and social conditions of men, especially the laws by which men are governed.

The laws of our country are a code of morals, a set of rules, to regulate the acts of men. The chief aim of law is the preservation of order and the promotion among men of a true conception of what things are right and what things are wrong. It impresses the necessity of right doing. It impresses the obligation to respect the rights of other men. It teaches men to know the right and, knowing, to do the right.

The fundamental principles of all law are taken from the Bible. The underlying principles are to be found in the Decalogue. All other laws are merely differentiations of these same principles, so as to apply to certain particular conditions and classes of conduct.

Every law is made or should be made with the aim of establishing justice, and also the conditions favorable to the growth of the moral nature of man. We cannot make laws which force upon him the Christian life. That is a personal matter to be solved individually by each man. But we can have and do have laws which throw around him influences and restraints which tend toward the uplifting of humanity and make for the establishment of principles to which all should conform.

If all men were by nature disposed to right actions, then many of the laws and political questions would be useless. But alas! it is not so; and it is for the protection of the weaker brother that laws are necessary. The good must be protected, the evil restrained. This thought is beautifully embodied in the divine injunction, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Whether legislation be in regard to the relation to man, capital to labor, to the protection of the weak, the manufacture and sale of spirituous liquors, or the solution of some economic problem, it has a direct or indirect relation to moral conditions. These questions should be solved always with the moral end in view.

For meeting these our government to-day has perhaps the highest efficiency of any in history. Yet ours is not the best that could be developed. It is a sad fact that many

of our law makers and officers high in authority are not always chosen according to true moral worth, but are voted in or out according to their ability to bring about conditions favorable to material growth. Our country cannot grow to a realization of its greatest possibilities until men as a mass have grown morally large enough to look above the sordid treasures of earth and can take their religious convictions with them to the ballot box to put men in office who will stand for the right; men who will wield the greatest influence for shaping conditions conducive to moral growth.

This money-getting spirit is seizing upon us as a nation. The tide of gross commercialism has so permeated our whole system that it has swept throughout well-nigh every auxiliary channel of our government, bearing upon its foul bosom the blighted characters of many prominent men.

As civilization advances and commercial progress is made, there are ever arising new conditions and new questions to be solved. If we consider these new questions as not being the proper place for Christian work then we are disloyal to the cause of Christ. I think of them as under the curse of God to be delivered over to the dominion of Satan.

There are many Christian men to-day who say they will take no part in the political issues of the state as there is so much corruption in politics. Others say they cannot for it would take their time and thereby cause a financial sacrifice. To such men who are unwilling to do their duty to their state and their fellow man we would point them to the parable of the trees which went forth to elect a king over them. They could find no tree to be their king except the humble, which was otherwise useless and had nothing else to do.

We have yet to develop a higher standard of citizenship. We should not sit complacently idle, satisfied with what our fathers and forefathers have done and truly they built well—but we should press onward and upward to a higher goal. It is the duty and privilege of the church, the Sunday schools, the B. Y. P. U., and kindred organizations of other churches to give to the state men of high, holy, and noble aim; who are filled with the desire to render their best service for God and for their fellow man.

If political questions are mainly moral questions, then those who handle those questions should be men of irreproachable character and highest moral character.

Burke has said, "Law is beneficence acting by rules." Then those who make the rules and execute them, should themselves be capable of beneficence.

Mrs. Pike—Well, did you vote yesterday?

Mrs. Peck—No, I did not. You see, my hairdresser was late in coming to the house; then, my maid didn't have my clothes ready on time; I couldn't get my hat on to suit me, and by the time I got down town the mean old polls were closed!—Yonkers Statesman.

"What sort of an after dinner speaker is Bliggins?"

"One of the kind that start in by saying they didn't expect to be called on and then proceed to demonstrate that they can't be called off."—Ex.

Enter the corn growers' contest

JOHNSTON ECHOES.

Revival Closed, U. D. C. to Manage Lyceum, Mercantile Change, Much Activity Among Clubs.

Miss Lois Perry is at Saluda visiting relatives and friends. Mrs. Kneese, of Batesburg, arrived on Saturday for a week's visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Clark.

Mesdames Willie Tompkins and F. S. Jefferson spent last week at Meeting Street with relatives.

Mrs. H. A. Clark, of Aiken, spent the latter part of the week here at the home of her father, Mr. Sawyer.

Miss Angelle Andrews, the popular music teacher of Ridge Spring High School, spent Saturday and Sunday with her aunt, Mrs. J. H. White.

Mrs. Cullum, of Batesburg, was the guest of her sister, Mrs. A. P. Lewis, recently.

Mr. Willing and family are domiciled in the residence of the late Mr. Willie Cogburn.

The literary meeting for the month of April, of D. of C., was held on Thursday evening last with Eleanor Ivey. The subject for the evening was "Sam Davis," and the Historian, Miss Harriet Toney, arranged a very interesting program.

Mr. Lee Price has begun the erection of his home on the lot in the Eidson park, which he recently drew.

The firm of White, Derrick & Co., have sold out their stock of merchandise to Mr. J. Neal Lott, who assumed charge on Saturday.

Mrs. A. P. Lewis, will at an early date re-build on her lot on Main street, which was destroyed by fire recently. A more modern and commodious brick building will stand in place of the old one, and contractor M. T. Turner will have charge of the work. When finished the building will be occupied by Drs. G. D. Walker and P. N. Keese.

The revival services which were held last week at the Baptist church closed on Wednesday evening last. Rev. Mr. Christy, of Valdosta, Ga., assisted pastor L. M. Lawson, and at every evening service the church was filled to overflowing. He charmed his hearers, and inspired all to nobler and better things. There were several additions to the church, and the members were all brought into closer touch with the Lord. As a thank offering for blessings received, a well filled purse was presented him by the church, upon his departure.

A unique entertainment and, one which proved most charming, was the box party given by the members of the Century Club on last Friday evening at the home of Miss Dossia Wertz. Each young lady that came was to bring a box of lunch which was to be sold to the highest bidder. A program of music, vocal and instrumental, interspersed with readings was very much enjoyed.

After this came the selling of the boxes and much fun was had by the bidding of some of the young men for some of the boxes. After all had been sold a genuine picnic and feast was had. A nice sum was realized for the benefit of the club.

Mrs. Bettie Cogburn has rented her residence and will make her home with her daughter, Mrs. P. B. Waters, Jr., who lives near town.

A fancy work club has been organized by some of the young ladies of the town, and every Wednesday afternoon finds the merry party gathered at the home of one of the members enjoying each others society while their fingers are busy with dainty work. Miss Harriet Toney entertained the club on last Wednesday afternoon, serving delicious refreshments at the close of the meeting.

At the last meeting of the new Century Club, Mesdames Ivey and Lott were elected delegates to attend the State Federation of women's club in Sumter.

The local D. of C. have arranged to take charge of the Lyceum courses for the fall months, and some splendid attractions will be had.

Mr. Pink Wood, of Augusta, delighted his friends here with a visit on Sunday.

Mr. Claud Denny, of Jacksonville, Fla., is visiting his father, Mr. T. R. Denny.

Miss Rosa LaGrone has gone to Edgefield to visit relatives.

Next Sunday will be Y. M. C. A. day in Johnston. At the morning services, addresses will be made in the Methodist and Lutheran churches by men noted in the work, and splendid speakers, and in the afternoon there will be a service for men. At the Baptist church in the evening, a union service will be held.

Mr. W. R. Hoyt has gone to Asheville to visit his little daughter, Katherine.

Mr. Leon Stansell was in town on Sunday visiting friends.

Dr. T. H. Williams, of Sumter, made a pleasure trip here this week.

Mr. T. S. Hill, of Baltimore, is spending a few days in town.

Miss Elise Crouch, of Columbia College, spent Easter here.

MODOC LETTER.

School Improvement Association at Work, Twin City Power Company Active.

The members of the "Improvement Club" are planning a public barbecue to be held May the eight on the grounds of the Modoc public school. A special invitation is cordially extended to neighboring places. All are invited! State Superintendent of Education Swearingin will be present to speak on local tax. The intellectual feast is free, but taking advantage of man's love of good things these things are to be provided for him only after he has provided a nice little fifty cents. The women to be treated equally as well for twenty-five cents.

Spring is everywhere in all her daintiness. At no other time is she so exquisitely delicate. The farmers have got busy and all of their work is progressing except on a few special days when it is either too wet or too dry for anything except a fish. And who can blame them when they have once tasted a cat fish stew, chowder or fry? Not your correspondent.

Mrs. Gordon Boswell is at present very ill. Her physician, Dr. Blackwell, is doing all that skill can suggest and her friends hope very much she will soon be better.

Miss Lillie Mae Bussey of the S. C. C. I. and many other members of the family have been called to her bedside.

Mrs. J. H. Marshall has been on a short visit to her mother Mrs. Walter Cheatham, near McCormick.

Miss Annie Mae Shelton will leave Friday for Spartanburg, where she will spend some time with Mrs. Mann Nash.

Mr. and Mrs. D. W. Sharpton, Mr. Will Sharpton, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bunch, of Clark's Hill, and Mr. Charlie and Miss Holmes spent Sunday with Mrs. O. Marshall.

The Twin City Power company is having ties gotten for a spur track from this place to the river. Men come every day, or two, seeking jobs or looking for building sites, though as yet no permanent work is being done.

SOJOURNER.

Gumption on the Farm.

If your neighbor has a good man who is satisfied with his place, don't try to entice him away. That's where the golden rule comes in.

Because hard work made them so, don't be ashamed of bent shoulders. It is better to be bent in the back than broke in the pocket.

Get out of the notion of making "beds" in your garden. Long rows are best. Then the horse can do most of the work.—From the April Farm Journal.

Mailed Letters.

Many persons are under the impression that a letter once mailed is no longer the property of the sender but belongs to the person to whom it is addressed; this is an error. Under the postal regulations of the United States and the rulings of the higher courts in the land, a letter does not belong to the addressee until it is delivered to him.

The writer has a right to reclaim and regain possession of it provided he can prove to the satisfaction of the postmaster at the office from which it was sent that he was the writer of it.

Even after the letter has arrived at the office which is its destination and before it has been delivered to the addressee it may be recalled by the writer by telegraph through the mailing office.

The regulations of the postoffice department require, of course, that utmost care shall be taken by the postmaster at the office which desires to withdraw, as the sender is really the one who is entitled to do so and the postmaster is responsible for his error if he delivers the letter to an impostor or to an unauthorized person.

The vital principle in our political system lies at the bottom of this matter. In this country the state is the servant or agent of the citizen, not his master. It remains merely his agent throughout the transmission of a letter. The state may prescribe regulations under which its servants may carry a message for the citizen, but it cannot shirk its responsibility to him.—Washington Star.

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TWIN CITY POWER CO.

This Mammoth Company Moving Forward, Easter Exercises at Parksville, Mr. Burckhalter Hurt.

Yesterday was observed by our Sunday school with Easter exercises. After the regular Sunday school lesson a nice program, consisting of recitations and songs, commemorating the risen Lord, was rendered by the children of the community. Prof. Long, Misses Martha Dorn, Belle Sanders, Mr. J. C. Morgan and Judge Blackwell as the committee of arrangements, deserved and received the thanks of the School by a rising vote. The children were in Easter attire, the women with Easter bonnets on, and all together made an attractive spectacle, but best of all above all the glories of the risen Lord were portrayed, and solemnly portrayed, by song and speech. The quartette consisting of Prof. Long, Mrs. J. J. Gilmer, Miss Martha Dorn and D. A. J. Bell rendered entertaining music, which was quite well received and commented upon.

The big Twin City Power Company is beginning to show signs of vigorous activity. Mr. Porter of the C. & W. C. railroad has laid off the spur track from Modoc to the river. Cross ties for the same are being rapidly gotten out and other plans are maturing. To give an idea of the immensity of the enterprise I am told that it will take two years to complete the big dam, with four hundred to eight hundred hands per day, and that the machinery to be used in its construction is valued at \$75,000. The entire cost of a 60 foot dam is estimated with transmission lines at \$3,000,000.

If this estimate and figures are true, one can see that an enterprise of large dimensions is in progress in Western Edgefield, possibly larger than most persons had conceived. Mr. L. F. Dorn, "the man on the spot," is busy with surveyors, cross-tie getters etc., and the atmosphere is laden with hustle in the neighborhood of the Twin City Power works.

I am sorry to state that our large-hearted and esteemed friend Mr. Cook Burckhalter got a serious hurt by a fall upon some timber Saturday evening. One eye is said to be badly hurt but we hope the sight is not permanently injured.

A sad death took place at Modoc Sunday morning, in the person of Mrs. Carrie Boswell, formerly Miss Carrie Bussey, a daughter of Mr. Vess Bussey and a grand-daughter of Dr. Thos. E. Jennings. Miss Carrie will be remembered by the people of Edgefield as a student at S. C. C. I., but now in her young womanhood has gone to her eternal reward. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the husband and bereaved relatives.

L. R. Jim Turner, of Blythe, Ga., but an old Edgefield man, formerly of the Old-Well's-Curryton community, spent several days in Parksville last week for repairs. Mr. Turner has gone to Georgia and gotten rich, has a nice home, has raised thirteen children and is beyond doubt one of the best farmers in Richmond or Burke. He and old Dr. Josh Beall form a part of Edgefield's contribution to the wealth of the Empire State of the South.

Dr. James A. Dobe and wife worshipped with us yesterday at the Baptist church. Mrs. Dobe will spend some time at the home of her parents. It was mean in Jim to take her away, and we are glad to have her back, if for only a few days.

The exercises of the B. Y. P. U. were turned over to Rev. L. B. White last night who gave an account of the State Convention last week in Florence. By the way Mr. White was the only representative from the Western part of the state, except the Baptist pastor at Greenwood, therefore we feel especially proud that our pastor, who is always to the front in every good and noble work which has for its end and aim the furtherance of the principles of the Gospel of peace on earth and good will to men.

Mrs. D. M. Caldwell, of Columbia is visiting her sister, Mrs. L. B. White. More Anon. DON QUIXOTE.

Innocent Boy "Walloped."

A school teacher after having a medical examination in her room, wrote the following note to the parents of a certain little boy: "Your little boy Charles, shows signs of astigmatism. Will you please investigate and take steps to correct it?" To which she received a note in reply, saying: "I don't understand exactly what Charles has been doing but I have walloped him tonight, and you wallop him tomorrow, and that ought to help some."

Enter the Corn Growers' Contest.

Timely Address by President of Farmers Union.

Urges Reduction of Cotton Acreage and Diversification of Crops.

"Again I want your attention, farmers. Now is the time to fix price on the 1909 cotton crop. Will you make it 8 or 15 cents? It is in your power to make it either.

"I want to, if I can, impress upon you that diversification of your crops is the keynote of the situation. I want to urge every Southern farmer to plant at least 35 per cent. of his cotton land in food crops, so as to make home self-sustaining. Now, let's see if it will pay us as farmers to diversify our crops. To my knowledge, the farmer who has not been making home self-supporting has been swapping \$1 for 50 cents. Now let's see if this assertion is true. The farmer who bought corn last year paid \$1.10 cash for it. If he borrowed the money to buy with it, cost him \$1.25 as he paid interest on the money. If he hauled it home ten miles it cost him ten cents. It is worth 10 cents per bushel to haul corn ten miles. His corn cost him \$1.35. Now any good progressive farmer can make all the corn he will need on his farm for 35 cents per bushel. You see he gave a dollar for what he could have raised for 35 cents per bushel. Are any of the Southern farmers guilty of the above? If so go and sin no more. Did you buy any bacon? It is selling now for 12½ cents cash. Still swapping \$1 for 50 cents. Any good farmer can raise enough for his family use for 3 cents per pounds. Did you buy any hay? If you did you are still at the same old way of exchanging. If you bought a horse or a mule you paid from \$200 to \$250. You can raise one just as good for less than \$100. Now, brother farmers, do not say that you can not raise corn for 35 cents. Try to do it. I have met more than 50 farmers this year that raised it for less than 35 cents per bushel, and as many as 15 who raised it for less than 20 cents. The farmer who is raising corn for 30 cents, bacon for 3 cents, raising his own horses and making home self-supporting has quit swapping \$1 for 50 cents. The farmer who is buying is still at his old job. While the farmer who is buying on a lien and mortgage on his crop is just swapping \$1 for 25 cents, for the cash buyer is swapping \$1 for 50 cents. He can raise it for half he pays for it when he buys it. Brother farmer, if you are guilty of the above sin I say to you, sin no more. Now what price will you have for the 1909 crop? Will you have 8 or 15 cents? Remember it is all in your hands, and you will get whatever price you make it. To get 15 cent you will have to diversify your crops and stop exchanging \$1 for 50 cents or you will never be able to get a remunerative price. Now, what is the use of the farmers of the South to raise 13,000,000 bales of cotton and not get for it any more than they can for a 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 bale crop? Think of

the enormous expense of raising the extra 5,000,000 bales to bear the market down. And who does this? It is the farmer. Think and consider for a moment what you are doing and you will quit it. Do you think for a moment that the manufacturer would do any such ruinous business as this? No, he would stop one-half of his machinery at once and curtail his output one-half and make the same profit. Now, brother farmers, use a little good business judgment and common good horse sense. I hear some farmer say Mr. Jones is going to cut his cotton acreage and I will just increase mine. Sad, but this is too true to make a joke of. This is just what the speculative world says you will do. The most essential thing for the farmers to do this year is to plant 35 per cent of cotton and in food crops and live at home.

"I took dinner the other day with a man who lives in the country. I can not say that he was a farmer, for his dinner did not satisfy me in calling him a farmer, for everything he had on his table was bought. Out of curiosity I asked him how he cured his bacon. He said Mr. Armour cured it for him. I asked him what tomato he found was best for canning. He told me his were canned in Baltimore. I asked him what kind of turnips he sowed for making salad. He told me he bought that also. Then I wanted to know what kind of cotton seed he planted, and he quickly answered: I plant Toole's and Cook's. So you can readily see that he was a planter and not a real farmer. This is the kind of farming that causes 8 cent cotton. I was in a grocery store the other day and one of these planters came in to buy some corn flour, bacon and hay. He asked the price of corn \$1.10, four \$7. per barrel; bacon, 12½ per pound, and hay, \$23 per ton. He said to the merchant, 'Are you going to rob me?' The merchant told him he had robbed himself. You did it by planting all the cotton you could last year.

"Now, brother farmers, let's look at things square in the face and see that October cotton is being sold about 9 cents on the New York exchange. Now, are you going to plant another big crop when you know that 9 cents is about the cost of production? Surely not. There is just one thing that will keep you from delivering your cotton crop of 1909 for 9 cents, and that is organize into the Farmer's Educational and Cooperative Union of America. Plant 35 per cent. of your cotton crop into food crops and you will get as much money for an 8,500,000 bale crop as you will for a 13,000,000 bale crop.

B. Harris,

"President S. C. State Farmers' Union."

Is June the favorite month for marriages out here, too?" asked the New York lady.

"I don't think so," replied the Chicago woman. "I've been married six times in other months, and only twice in June."—Yonkers Statesman.

He overheard a conversation between two youngsters who were selling newspapers. "Say, Harry, wad's de best way to teach a girl how to swim?" asked the youngest one. "Dat's a cinch. Fust you puts your left arm under her waist and you gently takes her left hand.—" "Come off; she's me sister." "Aw, push her off de dock."

Bradley's Quality.

The farmer who buys BRADLEY'S FERTILIZERS purchases and receives with every pound of every brand something, the value of which cannot be reckoned in dollars and cents, viz.: the direct application in the manufacture of the Bradley Brands of all the best knowledge possessed by mankind on the subject of practical fertilization.

Whatever the Crop or the conditions under which it is raised, we can furnish Best Fertilizer for it. In buying our products you gain all the benefit of our experiments in practical agriculture, covering more than the third of a century and checked by the experience of hundreds of thousands of farmers who have used

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Fertilizers with unvarying satisfaction upon all kinds of crops and under all the varying conditions of soil and climate. B. D. Sea Fowl Guano. Bradley's Superpotash Acid Phosphate. Bradley's XX Ammoniated Dissolved Bone. Bradley's Potash C'm'p'd. Bradley's Cotton Fertilizer. Bradley's Dissolved Phosphate. Bradley's High Grade Guano. Bradley's High Grade Acid Phosphate. Bradley's X. X. X. Acid Phosphate.

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The Best Fertilizers for Corn

That the yield of corn from the average farm can be greatly increased by intelligent and liberal fertilization has been repeatedly demonstrated. Large crops of good corn result from preparing the land well, using the right kind and quantity of fertilizer, good seed and proper cultivation.

Virginia-Carolina Fertilizers

will greatly "increase your yield per acre" of corn or any other crop. In some cases remarkable results have been obtained. Mr. C. W. Caruthers of Sumpter County, Fla., writes: "Words cannot express the value of your fertilizer. It is really so far ahead of other companies' goods, that it would not pay anyone to use other brands, were they given free and put in the field. I can prove what I say to be a fact. I made a test on five acres. I used on one half the land your fertilizer and on the other half another company's fertilizer, same grade; the land received the same cultivation every time. I kept a correct account of the amount of money I got off each half and I got \$300 more from the land on which I used Virginia-Carolina Fertilizer than I did off the other half. I used four times as much corn from the land on which I used your fertilizer."

Write today to nearest office of the Virginia-Carolina Chemical Company for a free copy of the new 1909 Farmers' Year-Book or Almanac, full of the most valuable and unprejudiced information for planters and farmers; or ask your fertilizer dealer for a copy.

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