

The Watauga Democrat

The RIVERS PRINTING COMPANY

Established in 1888 and Published for 45 Years by the late Robert C. Rivers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year \$1.50
Six Months .75
Four Months .50
(Payable in Advance)

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the Postoffice at Boone, N. C. As Second Class Matter.

Thursday, February 23th, 1935

THOUGHTS

Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.—Jeremiah viii, 23.

As surely as God is good, so surely there is no such thing as necessary evil.—Southey.

Sin has many tools, but a lie is the handle that fits them all.—Oliver Wendell Holmes.

But if ye shall still do wickedly ye shall be consumed, both ye and your kind.—I Samuel, xii, 25.

For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.—St. Matthew, xxiv, 7.

LAMBASTING MR. HILL

Senator John Sprunt Hill, whose wisdom in introducing a liquor control bill is to be brought into question, is receiving a flood of letters from over the State, and the quality of some of these is best explained by the Senator himself:

"About two hundred of them are from persons who profess themselves to be deeply religious. But they contradict their profession of faith by calling me all sorts of names, many of them barred by the postal authorities. Some tell me they are praying that some calamity overtake me, that I shall be stricken dead, that my family will perish in some horrible fashion, that I'll lose my money and my friends. They put curses, spells and such things on me. The letters are sacrilegious in that they ask God to wreak some terrible vengeance on me or my family." Mr. Hill's removal from a high church board is also demanded.

Thus these members of the vast prohibition majority in attacking a man of Senator Hill's character unwittingly lend aid to the enemy. If North Carolina should depart from its bone dry status, it will not be the fault of the wets but of the dries, who can easily allow themselves to be drawn into a state of political frenzy. "Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad." And some folks are showing signs of losing their temper.

THE SWIFT MEASURE

The Watauga Democrat in its consistent backing of the Watauga Building and Loan Association is merely keeping within its conviction of the past fifteen years, that the institution has done more to provide homes and to generally improve the financial status of the people of this section than any other enterprise with which we have been acquainted. It is quite in keeping with these convictions that we express at this time an unqualified opposition to Representative Swift's bill, designed to tax paid-up building and loan stock—a piece of legislation which we believe, if enacted, would strike a fell blow at the only institution which has been able to weather all financial storms, and to continue to function in a perfectly normal fashion.

While not disparaging Mr. Swift's motive in offering the bill, and while agreeing with him and all others that some money is placed in Building and Loans in order to escape taxes, we can't exactly understand why the finger should be pointed at one enterprise, while there is no way to require the listing of bank deposits, while municipal, county and State bonds go untaxed, and while the Federal Government is anxious to take money for its securities on which no tax collector can lift a penny. We'll agree that there should be some way to tax liquid values, but there isn't—if such val-

ues want to escape—but pray let's do not strike at the one institution that is really creating taxable values, and at the same time enabling the people to own their homes, thereby creating a better citizenship.

The Watauga Building and Loan Association has constructed or helped to construct more than half the homes in Boone and practically all business establishments. It has financed more than one hundred homes in the county, and has increased the tax book value of the county close to a third of a million dollars. It has paid \$4,800 in taxes in the past fourteen months. We're for it, tooth and toe-nail, it should be encouraged in every possible way. The Democrat has yet to find a man, out of the numbers interviewed, who favors the Swift bill. In expressing this opposition The Democrat would state that no member of the newspaper organization has one thin dime in the Building and Loan which would be affected by the enactment of the legislation. We are simply speaking for what we conscientiously believe is the best interests of the county.

THE PASSING OF MORRISON

Committee hearings on the Hill liquor control bill held a spotlight position on the legislative stage last week, and as had been envisioned all along, former Governor-Senator Cameron Morrison emerged with the publicity, not because of his espousal of the dry cause, which is just and proper, but because he took advantage of the situation to verbally trounce Senator Reynolds, and to take a nasty swat at fifty thousand voters who have banded themselves into what is known as the Young Democratic Club.

"North Carolina has about the finest young men I have ever known," quoth Cameron, "but devilish few of them are included in this organization," and then the one-time mighty Morrison proceeded to lay the plat to Senator Robert R. Reynolds, in a fashion that would indicate he hasn't the stuff to take a licking, the like of which came with the genial smile and rickety car which characterized the spectacular campaign of his Buncombe County adversary.

Morrison was doing fine on his prohibition argument, but he sized up the crowd wrong when he shut down on the youthful politicians and their friend Bob Reynolds. Like all men who have worn the vestments of executive power, he took in too much territory just this one time, and it took something like log-rolling to get the House of Representatives to concur in a Senate resolution to invite him to speak at a joint session. There was bitter opposition and the matter was referred to a committee, an unprecedented action, when the matter of inviting a statesman to speak was involved.

Morrison is growing old, but is bearing his honored years with a lack of grace all too noticeable. He's a dead gladiator in the political arena, and he seems to be the only one unmindful of his status. It is safe to say that if and when Mr. Morrison offers himself to the people again, the young Democrats whom he seems to think constitute the ragtag element of Democracy, will be there with bells on at his undoing. The attacks on them and on Reynolds constitute twin-shanked coffin nails, which will finally obscure the man who has been able to wear the millstone of the Frank McNinch appointment as a necklace through the sheer force of his personality.

The Family Doctor

By DR. JOHN JOSEPH GAINES

YOUR COMPLEXION

Your complexion is your banner—the flag under which you sail. It announces to all observers the state of health beneath it. A rotten complexion is the herald of some mighty bad blood on the underside of the skin. Were I to search for a penful of perfect complexions, I would go out and visit a country school house with its two acres of play ground, and would watch the youngsters racing in the pure air at playtime; I would see every cheek growing in perfect health—no prettier picture on earth. I stood not long ago at a busy street corner in a crowded city; hundreds of people passed me as I studied their faces; I was thinking of complexions. Some were drab, some sooty, some blazing with chemical tints; all were extremely abnormal.

The BEST remedy for the complexion is DEEP BREATHING. Country people, as a rule, breathe better than their city kinspeople. If you live in the city stop going to bed at midnight and rising at late hours; the fellow that gets up at 8 o'clock and begins the day with no breakfast will soon have as bad a complexion as the cartoonist could desire for him.

The city girl should rise at six or seven a. m. and drink a glass of pure water; then she should seek the window that admits the purest air; she should raise this window and take twelve deep breaths, expanding the lungs to their limit; she may hold the inhaled air until she has counted ten, with the elbows held at the level of the shoulders. Notice the difference in the complexion. Eat regularly—sensibly.

THE BOOK

... the first line of which reads "The Holy Bible," and which contains Four Great Treasures ...

By BRUCE BARTON

DAVID

As long as the nature of boys remains what it always has been David will have a fresh army of admirers with each new generation, for he is the original of all Jack-the-giant-killer stories and has been the hero of boyhood for three thousand years.

With the exception of St. Paul no human character occupies so large a place in the Bible; of none are we given so vivid and compelling a picture. The most minute traits and characteristics are set forth in such a way as to make certain that the portrait was drawn from life. What a portrait and what a life! A red-headed shepherd boy, tending his flocks and playing his tunes in the lonesome fields, he is sent up to the army at the critical moment when his forces are paralyzed by the menace of the giant Goliath. What the swords of the stoutest warriors have been powerless to accomplish, he achieves by a well-directed shot from his shepherd's sling and becomes immediately a national idol. Triumphant he is carried to the court while the bands play and the pretty girls sing and dance.

And the women answered one another as they played and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands.

Small wonder that Michael, the king's daughter, loved him and became his wife; small wonder that Jonathan, the king's son, formed a friendship with him which is one of the most beautiful in all history. Small wonder either that the king himself was jealous and resentful.

And Saul was very wrath and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands; and what can he have more but the kingdom?

The jealous eyes of Saul, who was in place too big for him and finally went mad trying to fill it, drove David out of the court and into the wilderness where soldiers of fortune rallied to him from various motives, and built up a lusty young army which, to his credit, he kept well disciplined and free from the grosser crimes of guerrilla warfare. Neither the king's forces nor his plots could prevail against the young man's destiny.

In a previous chapter we have referred to his conquests, his qualities as an administrator, the sin which forms the one black spot upon his reputation, a sin, by the way, which was not so extraordinary in a king of that period and would perhaps have been forgotten but for the magnificent humility of his repentance, and the Psalms that are his eternal claim to remembrance.

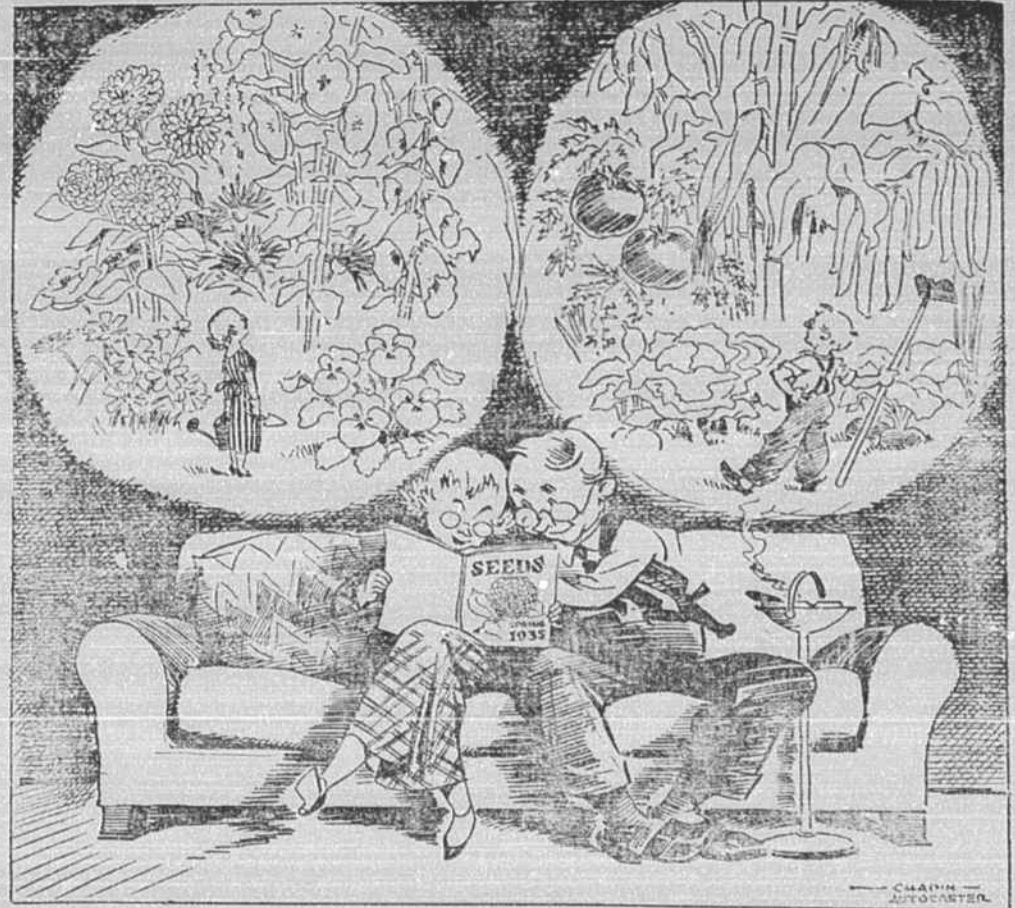
Next Week: "The Heart of David."

Wilkes County orchardists report that prospects are good for an excellent apple bloom this spring. The crop of 1934 has been sold at satisfactory prices.

NOTICE OF SUMMONS

North Carolina, Watauga County, in the Superior Court before the Clerk, Howard Edmiston and Mae Edmiston vs. Walter Gwyn, heir at law of Hedgpeith, Deceased. That whereas on this the 26th day of February, 1935, the plaintiffs (Petitioners in this cause) filed a petition praying for the sale of certain lands described in said petition for partition, and that a Summons was issued in this cause by the Clerk of the Superior Court of Watauga County requiring the Defendant to appear and answer or demur to the prayer of said petition, and the Sheriff having returned said summons "after diligent search the Defendant not to be found in Watauga County or in the State of North Carolina," the Defendant, Walter Gwyn, will take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the Superior Court on or before the 28th day of March, 1935, and answer said petition or the relief demanded in said petition will be granted. This the 23th day of February, 1935. A. E. SOUTH, Clerk of Superior Court.

The Royal Road To Romance — by A. B. Chapin



TODAY and TOMORROW by FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

STATESMAN . . . Elihu Root

Elihu Root was 90 years old on February 15th. I cannot help thinking of him as the "Grand Old Man" of America. Seven Presidents have looked to Mr. Root for advice and counsel. Not once has his influence been cast in any direction except for the lasting welfare of his country. I think of few other living men anywhere in the world who can so truly be called statesmen.

It was Elihu Root who, as chairman of the New York Constitutional Convention of 1915, first directed public attention to a young delegate named Alfred E. Smith. Although of opposite political parties, Mr. Root took occasion to say publicly that Mr. Smith understood the principles of government and that of New York particularly, better than any other man in the convention.

Mr. Root distrusts people who are in a hurry. They usually go in the wrong direction, he thinks. "Foot over foot, the dog went to Dover," is one of his familiar proverbs.

I hope Mr. Root lives to advise his country for many years to come.

HEAVEN . . . and back

Not only those of simple faith in the hereafter promised to good men and women in the Bible, but almost everybody who has ever given serious thought to the hope of a life beyond the grave, has read or listened to the tale told by John Puckering, the English gardener who came back to life from death. His heart had stopped beating for five minutes or more, after an operation. Skillful surgical massage started it going again; but for those five minutes Puckering was actually dead, to all intents and purposes.

He is sorry, he says, that they called him back from the beautiful world in which he saw his dead wife and many old friends, all looking supremely happy. Once he feared death; now it has no terrors for him.

The world will talk about Puckering and his experience for a long time. If the net result is to lift the fear of death from human hearts, he will have accomplished a great mission.

I do not know the answer to the question of what comes after this life, but I do believe that none who has done his best to help others and injure nobody in this world needs to have any apprehension about the next world.

REWARD . . . for honesty

I don't recall a newspaper story in a long time that struck me as containing such pleasing elements as that of Frank Greges, who found a wallet full of securities in the snow in Wall Street, turned the treasure-trove over to the police and went back to his dollar-a-day job as "sandwich man," carrying a sign through the financial district. Now this man of 67, who came to America from Lithuania 47 years ago, has cash in the bank, a new suit of clothes and a steady job as a reward for his honesty.

The "Cinderella" theme is always appealing. Everybody likes to hear of somebody rising from poverty to sudden riches. But to me the most ap-

pealing part of this story was Frank Greges' remark that "there's always work in America for any man who isn't particular about what he does."

That is everlastingly true. I believe that it is true today, even in the face of all the talk of unemployment. The greatest handicap any man can put on himself is the burden of pride, of unwillingness to work at something which he regards as degrading.

MAGIC . . . of surgery

What medical science has learned about the mechanics of the human body in the past 25 years or so, is far more than was learned in all the time past. Few knew anything about the ductless glands; now every physician knows that they control growth, emotions, mental development and many other bodily functions.

The nearest approach to magic that I have heard about lately is the result obtained by a Russian surgeon in grafting the pituitary gland of a young man who had been killed in an automobile accident into the body of a girl midget. At fifteen the girl was only three feet tall. Within six months after the operation she had grown three inches. Then another opportunity came to obtain a fresh pituitary gland from the brain cavity of a girl who had just died. This also was grafted into the midget, who has grown another 2 1/2 inches and is still growing.

I haven't the slightest doubt that in another half-century, or even sooner, it will be common practice to interchange human glands by grafting, and so bring back to normal thousands who would otherwise live abnormal lives.

RELIGION . . . and Hitler

I do not believe the Hitler government in Germany is going to get very far in trying to set up a Nazi religion. The Roman Catholic Church and the Protestant churches of Germany—most of them of one denomination—have started a vigorous warfare upon the "new Paganism" as they term it.

The only large-scale attempt to

change a people's religion that I recall in history was that of the Emperor Constantine in the fourth century. Constantine, a convert to Christianity, tried to make it the state religion of the Roman Empire. He found the opposition of the pagans of Rome too powerful in their resistance, and abandoned Rome to its fate, building a new capital for the empire at Constantinople.

It took nearly a thousand years to bring the whole Holy Roman Empire under the domination of Christianity. I don't believe Hitler will change a religion which has held so many millions of German people for so many hundreds of years, over night.

HANDY SIZE COMIC WEEKLY

The new Comic Weekly with more than fifty different comics each Sunday has made a distinct hit with the readers of the BALTIMORE SUNDAY AMERICAN. This Comic Weekly, printed in handy, convenient size, carries all of the funnies that are favorites in most homes. Get your comic weekly each Sunday with the Baltimore Sunday American, the newspaper printed for the people of the South.

RADIO SERVICE THAT COUNTS

Quick, reliable and expert radio repairing . . . Complete line standard replacement parts . . . Batteries and tubes at all times . . . Tubes tested free on latest testing equipment . . . Come in and get acquainted with your "Radio Doctor."

K. I. DACUS

Radio Engineer New River Light & Power Company Main Street Boone, N. C. TELEPHONE 60

Progress

OUR LADIES' READY-TO-WEAR DEPARTMENT HAS GROWN SO RAPIDLY WE HAVE BEEN COMPELLED TO GREATLY ENLARGE THAT DEPARTMENT.

We are better prepared than ever before to meet the requirements of our customers. New Spring merchandise is arriving and we extend a hearty invitation to include our store in your shopping tour.

The Five-to-Five Store (Underpriced Merchandise)