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"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them."—Thomas Jefferson.

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MAY 23, 1963

Good Luck, Graduates

It is always a pleasant thing for us to take notice of those who have finished their work in any branch of our educational system and who are reaching out for more educational opportunities or starting upon their careers in their chosen professions.

In the high schools, and in the elementary grades a great many youngsters are getting their diplomas currently, and it is to be hoped that they may, in large numbers, decide to pursue their academic work into the college area, not alone for the increased amount of money which it is shown they may earn, but for the tone and culture which higher education enhances.

At any rate it is commencement time again, and we are still of the notion, that in spite of the tidal waves of juvenile delinquency, at the

same time we have the best set of boys and girls the country has ever produced. Those who have pursued their educational work with diligence will reap the just rewards of good citizenship, and of added fiscal opportunity.

We commend all the fine boys and girls who've managed the elementary grades, those who have finished their high school courses, and of course the many who are getting degrees at Appalachian State Teachers College. From the ranks of these students will come those who will be the leaders in every avenue of activity in the days ahead. We shall wish them the very best all the days of their lives in this challenging time of widened vistas of opportunity and of a world beset by mountainous problems and by unparalleled dangers.

Insecticides Threaten Gardeners

Pesticides and insecticides are poisons. And what's poison to insects can be an irritant or worse to people, according to Changing Times, the Kiplinger Magazine.

In the current issue of the magazine, the editors list the following basic rules for home gardeners:

—If using a spray: Don't breathe the vapors. Don't smoke when spraying. After spraying and before eating or smoking wash hands and face thoroughly.

—If using a liquid or powder: Wear gloves to keep the poisons off hands. Should poison accidentally spill on unprotected skin, wash immediately. Always wash hands and

face after using.
—Read the label carefully before opening the package. Failure to do so may result in misuse or injury to the person handling the poison.

—Never store the contents in anything but the original container with the label intact. When the container is empty, get rid of it. Even a small residue of the poison might be disastrous if young children find it.

—Don't store the container on the same shelves with household cleaners or food packages. Pesticides should be kept in a separate area, out of reach of children and pets and, as a double precaution, with a warning POISON sign prominently displayed in the area.

Speed Leads As Gory Killer

Motorists in 1962 raced down the nation's highways on their way to a new — and tragic — death record which for the first time exceeded 40,000 fatalities, according to a report released by The Travelers Insurance Companies.

The number of people injured in traffic accidents also took a sharp turn upward.

The authoritative report, first issued in 1931, is prepared annually by The Travelers and is based on information provided by state motor vehicle departments. More than 3,300,000 copies are distributed every year.

U. S. highway deaths in 1962 totaled 40,500, a seven per cent increase over 1961. Not since 1941, when 39,969 persons lost their lives, has the traffic fatality record been

so high.
The report also reveals a nine per cent jump in the number of injured in 1962 compared with 1961. In all, 3,345,000 men, women and children were hurt in auto accidents last year.

"As it stands, last year's record is truly tragic," a Travelers spokesman commented. "But what makes it even more disheartening is that it comes on the heels of what we had hoped was a downward trend beginning in 1961."

Excessive speed again led the way as the primary cause of accidents. Nearly 13,000 people were killed, and more than 1,145,000 were injured as a direct result of speeding violations. Other major causes of accidents included driving on the wrong side of the road and reckless driving.

An Order Is An Order

(The Lexington Leader)

We understand that textbook authors are omitting sturdy American statements such as "I haven't begun to fight," and "Don't give up the ship" from history texts. This is to be deplored.

One of the problems inherent in "permissive" child rearing and in adult attitudes toward laws and regulations is the tendency to regard an order as a suggestion or a low-grade request.

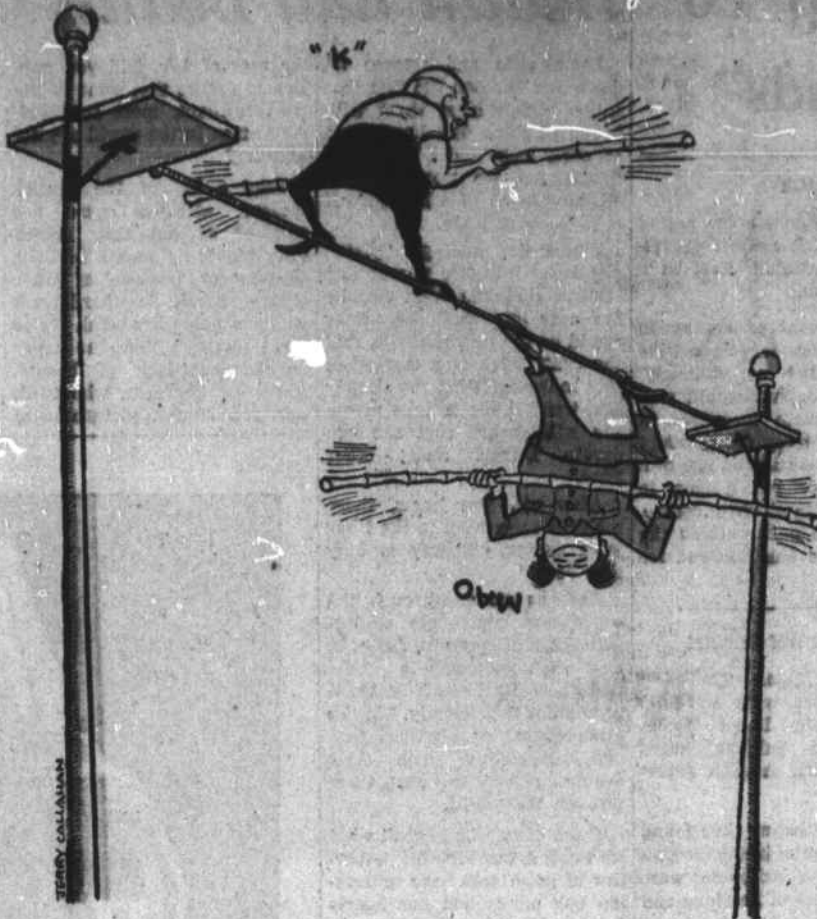
At breakfast father says to the nearest boy, "Mow the lawn today." That night he finds the lawn unmowed because: "The mower wouldn't start," "I had to run an errand for Mother," or "Joe came by."

When Perry left his flagship to continue the battle from another vessel, he did not say, "Don't give up hope." He didn't mean that the sinking flagship's captain could strike his colors because he found water in the powder magazine, or because half the ship's guns wouldn't fire, nor that at his discretion the ship could sit quietly at the edge of the action and hope it would go away.

Perry's order told the captain to keep his powder dry and fight his ship as long as a gun would fire.

And that's what "Mow the lawn today" should mean. Repair the mower, rent or borrow one, tell Mother that errand must wait.

'Let's Get This Act Straightened Out'



From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago

May 21, 1903

Hot a plenty for the last few days.

Friend Richard M. Greene is thickly broken out with measles.

Prof. D. D. Dougherty is often heard to remark rather involuntarily: "It's another girl."

Mrs. Shull, of Butler, Tenn. is spending a while with her daughter, Mrs. D. D. Dougherty in Boone.

It seems now that we will have an empty jail for court, which will be the first time in many years.

Mrs. B. F. Hargett, who has been on a visit of several days to her parents near Davidson College, is expected home today.

Mrs. Alice Council, who has been for some weeks in Statesville and Salisbury with her daughter, Mrs. Boyden, has returned as far as Blowing Rock and brings encouraging news as to the condition of Mrs. Boyden's health. She says that she is now able to go at will over the building and is now on the right road to permanent recovery.

On last Saturday two pieces of real estate changed hands in Boone, and other trades are being considered. Prof. Francum bought the home of O. J. Hawkins and Mr. Hawkins purchased the old Academy building and grounds. The house will be thoroughly repaired, painted etc., and converted, we under-

stand, into a boarding house for the benefit of our school.

The Summer School at Watauga Academy opened on last Monday with more than 40 pupils in attendance, the most of whom are boarding students. Only intimate that a school is to open in Boone and a crowd is sure to be in attendance.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

May 22, 1924.

Mr. McKinley Ayers is visiting relatives at Greenville, Tenn.

Mrs. Frank Moore returned Sunday from a visit to her childhood home at Hiddenite, Alexander county.

Mr. and Mrs. Estes Hartley and family of Lovell were over last week doing some work on the family burying ground near Boone. This is an annual event with the children of the late Mr. Azor Hartley.

Mr. A. C. Farthing of Lenoir, accompanied by his wife, children and Mrs. Grover Triplett, passed through Monday on his return from a visit to his sick father Rev. Harrison Farthing on Beaver Dam.

Mrs. Carol Adams of Silverstone, who accompanied by her daughter Mrs. Josie McGulre of Boone, spent several days in Johns Hopkins Hospital for treatment returned Sunday. She it is hoped is somewhat improved, but is still far from being well.

The grading for the Daniel Boone Hotel will be completed

this week and sealed bids for the erection of the building will be opened by the building committee on Saturday May 24. The building when completed will be rushed to completion just as soon as good work will permit.

Mr. John A. Gragg, aged and respected citizen of Hodges Gap, died at his home Saturday after several days illness with pneumonia, interment being in the Gragg graveyard Sunday. Mr. Gragg was always a quiet and unassuming citizen and had many friends who will learn of his death with real sorrow. All the children were present at the funeral.

Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Younce have been visiting Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Hodges of Boone.

Messrs. John R. Horton of Vilas and Spencer Campbell of Mt. Airy returned from Cleveland on Saturday.

Fifteen Years Ago

May 20, 1948.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hunt and family left Sunday to spend about a week in New York City.

Mr. Jack Hodges expects to enter Veterans' Hospital, Mountain Home, Tennessee May 24th, for an operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady Tugman spent Monday and Tuesday in Asheville, attending a convention of the State Merchant's Association.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Teague on May the eighth, a son, who has been named Stacy Albert Teague.

Mr. N. C. Hammock and family of Shelby will arrive today to occupy their cottage on Winkler's Creek, recently purchased from Mr. H. W. Horton, local realtor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Storie and son, Ronnie, of Lexington visited with Mrs. Storie's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Vannoy of Todd.

Dr. H. B. Perry, Sr. left Wednesday for Raleigh to attend the State Democratic convention, and visit several places around Raleigh.

Mrs. W. E. Moore and daughter, Carolyn, of Sylva spent a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Council last week. Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Council are sisters.

Dr. Lee Reynolds expects to leave Saturday for Atlanta, Ga. for a two weeks cruise, as a member of the Naval Reserve. Mrs. Reynolds, Bobby and Marjorie, will spend about three weeks with relatives in Indiana.

Seaman John S. Aldridge, of U. S. Navy, son of Mrs. John S. Aldridge, Boone, is serving with Subordinate Group One of the Norfolk group, Atlantic Reserve Fleet, billeted aboard the repair ship USS Xanthus.

Mr. and Mrs. James G. Allen, of Kingsport, Tenn., announce the birth of a daughter, Barbara Sue, at the Holston Valley community hospital, on April 22nd. Mrs. Allen is the former Miss Anna Lee Hanson of Vilas, N. C.

Mrs. Grace Council, Mrs. W. M. Matheson, Mrs. James H. Council and Miss Martha Council, left Sunday for San Diego, Calif. to visit Ensign and Mrs. E. M. Atkinson. They will visit Mr. and Mrs. Harry LeMay in Chicago on their return to Boone. They expect to be away for a month.

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

Arnold Coffey, a good friend of ours from his earliest days, who has been away from his native town of Blowing Rock for a great many years, writes us from Greensboro, and sends us a commission which makes us a Colonel of sorts, and we enjoyed hearing from him. . . . His appreciated letter says:

"I WAS DELIGHTED to see and read the article about you in the Winston-Salem Journal. It was a nice story and I am very proud of you and the old Watauga Democrat.

"Back when I was a teenager going to school at Blowing Rock I was the local correspondent for the Watauga Democrat. I did a news column entitled 'Blowing Rock Breezes.' This led to newspaper work on a number of out of State weeklies, free lance writer for state papers, etc. I also brought the first rodeo to Boone and repeated it for three years. You did an editorial on it about how clean and wholesome and what a good show it was.

"I am enclosing a Colonel's commission in our famed Friendly Fusiliers. I might add that Ed Sullivan, Harry Truman, President Kennedy, General MacArthur and several other national figures also hold this commission. . . . Some day wipe the ink off your fingers, crank up the jalopy and come down for a visit at fabulous Friendly Center. Kindest regards and best wishes always, Arnold J. Coffey."

AND THE "COLONEL" salutes the commanding officer of the Johnny Reb Brigade, and as prescribed in the commission will continue to praise the glories of the South, always pay homage to the lovely southern belle, never forget how to give a rebel yell, and always stir to the strains of 'Dixie'. . . . And we are obliged for the added rank. . . . Judge George Holt of Miami and Blowing Rock, had dubbed us "Governor" some years ago, we like that all right and some others of our friends address us that way. . . . But if you find it harder, we also answer to Colonel.

Always . . . A Blue Note

The caller said as how there had never been such a boom as is coming up in the Holiday Highlands. . . . Folks will pay just any sort of a price for a good building site, the smartest appraisers are hard put to tell what really will bring, and contractors have quit bidding on building, leaving a lot of folks with plans on the board, deferring building projects. . . . "And," said the man, "the thing will probably wind up in a bust that will make the Florida thing a few years ago sound like the ecstatic hand clap of a bitzy baby when pop comes home for the night." . . . Which could be, but those of us who've spent long years prodding the local economy, are liking what we see, and are willing to chance a dark rising to the gold-tinted economic cloud.

Lip Of Cup . . . It Don't Count

Sort of thought that some of the boys with whom we spend such happy Saturday afternoons, duffing around Boone's beautiful golf course, might like the following which we "hogged" from the Asheville Citizen some time ago: "THERE ARE APOLOGISTS for guys who murder their mothers, especially if the act was done in a moment of unusual anger. Sympathetic people everywhere spring to the defense of parents who drown their underfed children in their nearest creek.

"But there is no consolation anywhere for the once-a-week golfer who three-putts the eighteenth hole from nine feet out, thereby costing his team two dollars. Such a man might as well clean out his locker and move to Selma; he is marked for life. People who once sought him out as a golfing partner avoid him like a plague. Caddies who once vied for his bag seem strangely stricken with leg-cramp whenever he seeks their services.

"All of them forget his birdie-birdie start of two years ago, and his birdie-birdie finish of last summer. All they remember is that he lagged up a putt on eighteen and then, with two feet to go, played a break that was non-existent.

No matter that the green was soggy, that the wind was howling, that worms had made bumps in the grass, that a bee buzzed his ball on the backswing. . . . He missed a crucial putt.

"He might as well donate his sweater to the locker-room boys, offer his clubs at auction and make a quiet exit. The crushing part of it is, the darned thing should have dropped."

Our Treasury . . . Of Readers

Mrs. Rebecca Shoemaker, a life-long friend of ours, renews her Democrat the fifty-fourth time, and says she wouldn't do without it. . . . A daughter of the late Robert Andrews and Mrs. Andrews of Blowing Rock, she said the paper was in the household where she also read it as a child. Mrs. Shoemaker has resided in Boone 35 years, where she is held in the highest regard. . . . Our best wishes to a good friend.

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

My cousin Hiram mailed me a clipping last week explaining all about the new Kennedy budget that the Congress is debating. This piece tells everything in detail, four-square, and gospel clear, it's the first time I've known for certain what was heads and what was tails in this matter.

Hiram is a backwoods Republican, but the man doing the explaining in this piece is a White House expert named Walter Heller and I feel pritty shore he is a Harvard Democrat, so this balances off the piece and makes it non-partisan and a authority on the subject.

He says our 8 billion dollar debt in 1962 was bad, in fact it was so bad he calls it a "deficit of weakness." And the reason he says it was bad is on account of it was a mistake, that the Government planned a surplus in 1962 and anything the Government didn't plan is bad. But he explains that by increasing the debt in 1963 what we got is a "deficit of strength" on account of hiking spending and cutting taxes and the Government planning it that way. He says anything the Government plans is good. Furthermore, he explains that with a 8 billion dollar deficit many factories and workmen is idle, but with a "deficit of strength" they would be put to work.

I was explaining these matters to the fellows at the country store Saturday night and Ed Doolittle allowed as how everything was now crystal clear to him. Ed said we couldn't git this country moving ahead by just beerowering the same amount ever year, if we borrowed 8 billion last year, 10 billion sounded like a pritty reasonable figger to him for 1963. Ed is all fer progress, Mister Editor.

Zeke Grubb reported he ain't got around to working on the Kennedy budget yet, said all his time has been took up lately trying to figger out a item in one of his pamphlets from the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Zeke had the item in his pocket and he got it out and read it to the fellers.

The Department of Agriculture is advising how four can live cheaper than one. They got it figgered, according to this item, that if a family buys in big amounts, a man and his old lady and two youngsters can eat for 5 per cent less than three, 10 per cent less than two, and a full 20 per cent cheaper than one.

These experts claim a small family can't take advantage of big quantity prices on account of they git caught with too much spoilage and left-overs.

Yours truly,
UNCLE PINKNEY
(MacKnight Syndicate)