

The Cherokee Scout

Official Organ of Murphy and Cherokee County, North Carolina

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All communications must be signed by the writer, otherwise they will not be accepted for publication. Name of the writer will not be published unless agreeable, but we must have name of author as evidence of good faith and responsibility.

Murphy, North Carolina, Friday, August 17, 1934.

SPIRITUAL AID FOR THE PRISONER

Captain Dan McDonald, prison evangelist, was in Murphy for a few days the past week to interview some of the local prisoners, and in public announcement brings the situation and attitude of the prisoner and the law to light.

"Ninety percent of our prisoners are coming out of jail some day to make citizens", he says, "and unless they have a moral touch while in prison, which the state does not now afford, they will come out no better than when they went in"

Mr. McDonald, for years, has been travelling all over the South primarily, and other parts of the country, visiting jails and talking to prison officials. His years of study of the spiritual reaction of the prisoner gives the general public a view of the arrested man's character that is often misunderstood.

After all the prisoner is human. Often long sentences, backed by the cry of "punish him", merely swings the attitude of the prisoner to one of revenge rather than correction.

Such a case was exemplified in career of crime of John Dillinger, who instead of receiving corrective punishment in his early arrests, took a sour view of life that launched him into crime bent on "revenge". Revenge for we know not what. Neither did Dillinger know, but he left a path of destruction that the final taking of his life can not justify. Too many have been left homeless and parentless, and too many want to be like Dillinger.

Captain McDonald says the criminal comes from the slums and that is where the Churches and temperance organizations should direct their work. Pick up the waifs of the street and teach them, show them the light, and the country's first step against crime is taken.

We were much interested in his answer to our question, "What is the attitude of the condemned man in the death house?" Contrary to public belief, condemned men do not fear the Lord as much as they do death "All they want is somebody to do something for them", he said.

With an attitude like that, the whole purpose of the electric chair is mistaken. Fear of the chair should be an example to other potential criminals, but our crime waves increase rather than diminish.

Captain McDonald's idea that prisoners in jail should receive spiritual guidance, is one that should not be slighted. Make the prisoner see where he has done wrong and have him try to correct his faults and the purpose of jail has been served; let him believe that he is being dealt with harshly and he will take up the sullen, sulky, "revengeful" mood that so often spells disaster when he gets out.

Captain McDonald is against capital punishment and long sentences meted out according to the law books. He believes it is better to deal sentences according to the lawbreaker's attitude. An indefinite sentence, he believes, is better than definite sentences.

Years of travelling and talking among the country's criminals have given Captain McDonald a wealth of interesting views on the life of the criminal.

He has learned to understand their position and their thoughts. He can tell by their attitude, what kind of a citizen they will make when they get out.

The work that he is doing should be aided as much as possible that our country might be safer to live in when the criminals gets free.

OUR NEW TARIFF POLICY

A clear outline of how the American government will go about creating new tariff policies under the act of congress placing the tariff making power entirely in the hands of the executive branch of the government, is contained in the recent address of Claudius T. Murchison, director of the bureau of foreign and domestic affairs of the department of commerce.

THE BRIDGE OPENING

Tuesday an elaborate celebration was held here celebrating the opening of the new bridge over the Valley river.

The new structure was built at an estimated cost of \$16,000, and serves to eliminate the narrow, worn out structure that has been there heretofore.

With a walkway on one side, the new bridge is one of the most attractive in Western North Carolina, and will provide a great deal of relief for those who have had to detour around through Factorytown and Booger Hollow.

In inviting highway and state officials here for the opening celebration, it is hoped that favorable sentiment will be created among that body to show them the town and county is ready to cooperate with them in any way they can and at any opportunity.

The local Lions club should be commended for the interest they took in making the celebration possible and the sending of the invitations. The Town council and the County Commissioners have helped a great deal along this line.

SNAKEBITES AND FAITH

Everyone has been particularly interested during the past week in the condition of the Holiness preacher of near Sylva, who allowed a rattle snake to bite him in the hand and then refused all medical aid to prove his belief that God can cure ills if He sees fit.

Naturally such a view is indirect contrast with the whole of social structure. If such be the case there is no use, then, to have any medical profession or sources of cure in any form.

While arguing the more physical point of view there are several angles to the situation that have a great deal of significance. Is the fact that he has improved due to his heartiness as an out-of-doors mountaineer and has become immune to the bite of snakes, or is it really faith?

It has been argued that the captured snake struck at all kinds of objects and had probably spent its poisonous venom before striking the preacher.

We are not prone to look so lightly on the science of medicine. The medical profession is one of the oldest professions in the world. It has been practiced for years and years.

Although all operations and relief administered through medicine, may have been predetermined by the Holy Powers, we believe a sick person would really do well to go to the doctor.

Belief and Faith are wonderful virtues, and in instances have been known to save the lives of people. But such thoughts should not be allowed to take the place of common sense.

Throughout the Bible we have instances where healing and soothing medicines were administered the sick. Apparently during the present day the medical profession has held on to lives that otherwise may have been lost.

It is the same old argument of the real and the spiritual. No one knows for sure.

But we should look the medical profession as a means of curing in connection with faith than to disregard it altogether.

Heretofore the tariff has been much of a political football, with all rates being set by congress generally after long weeks of heated debate. When the republicans have been in power, the tariff wall has gone up; when the democrats controlled congress, the trend has been downward. As a result our foreign trade has been handicapped by a damaging condition of uncertainty.

The new reciprocal trade agreements act takes tariff-making out of the hands of congress and thus permits the president, with the aid of the various executive departments, to develop a tariff policy that will not only be free from partisan interference but will be based upon a scientific analysis of economic facts.

The act marks still another important phase in the relation of the American government to foreign trade in that it specifically recognizes that such trade must be a two-way process in order to be fundamentally sound. Director Murchison points out that while "in all foreign-trade transactions at least two countries are involved, the exports of one becoming the imports of the other, we have hitherto proceeded on the bland assumption that the promotion of export trade was a matter entirely independent of all considerations of our import trade".

In order to assure the non-partisan nature of the new tariff policies, they will be subjected to supervision by many government agencies. The president will have the final say, and next to him will be a group known as the executive commercial policy committee, which will be headed by the assistant secretary of state and be made up of representatives of the department of state, commerce, agriculture, the treasury, the AAA, the NRA, the tariff commission.

LET'S TURN BACK HISTORY'S PAGES...

40 YEARS AGO
In The Cherokee Scout)
Mrs. J. S. Meroney and her daughter Miss Maud, are visiting friends at Ogeeta.

Arthur Gurley, of Gaddistown, Ga., is now visiting his uncles, Gurley Bros., in their store.

Harvery and Samuel Hughes, of Atlanta, Ga., are spending several weeks in town with their mother.

Mrs. F. J. Axley and little, boy after spending several weeks with her parents, left Friday morning for her home at Statesville.

C. W. Candler, after spending a week with relatives, returned Friday morning to resume his duties as postal clerk between Atlanta and Charlotte.

Mrs. V. H. Olmsted, Mis Myrtle and Master Carlton, who have been spending a fortnight here visiting relatives, left this morning for the sea shore, where they will be joined by Mr. Olmsted.

30 YEARS AGO
In The Cherokee Scout)
Mrs. Gusie Dickey, of Ranger, spent Friday in town.

Dr. F. A. Stiles, of Unaka, was a pleasant caller at our office the past week.

Miss Maggie Hackney returned yesterday to Blue Ridge, after a short visit to the editor's family.

W. L. Fain, of Atlanta, accompanied his little daughter, Dorothy and little grandson, Edgar Dunlap, arrived Thursday night to spend awhile with relatives.

Quite a party of Murphy people left last Tuesday for the St. Louis Exposition and are now having a good time. In the party were: Q. J. Gurley, A. A. Apple, C. D. Mayfield, Dr. J. F. Abernathy, and son, Boyd, Mrs. J. H. Dillard, Miss Margaret Bell, Miss Bertha Mayfield, Mrs. W. H. Woodbury, Misses Stella and Grace Woodbury.

20 YEARS AGO
In The Cherokee Scout)
Rev and Mrs. C. H. Yearby visited Blue Ridge, Ga., Tuesday.

W. H. Woodbury, of Asheville, was a business visitor here Wednesday.

E. B. King of Robbinsville, was a pleasant caller at this office Wednesday.

T. D. Bryson, of Bryson City, was here the first of the week attending court.

G. W. Akin, of Ranger, and J. J. Burrell, of Marble, were agreeable callers at this office Saturday.

Mrs. P. A. Reid, of Marion, is the guest of her father, Col. L. L. Wither- spoon, at his home in this city.

J. M. Martin and David Kidd, of the Ogeeta section, were pleasant callers at this office Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Spivey, of Youngsville, are the guests of the former's sister, Mrs. Frank A. Clark.

Mrs. John Clark and daughter, of Asheville, are the guests of the former's mother Mrs. Nettie Dickey.

Miss Lizzie Johnson, of High Point, spent a night last week with Miss Emily Nelson, being enroute to Ducktown to visit relatives.

Mrs. Alfred Morgan left Monday for Atlanta where she will spend a month with her parents.

R. R. Gibson, wife and son, left Tuesday morning for a visit to Hendersonville, Carlestown, S. C., and other points in the south.

10 YEAR AGO
In The Cherokee Scout)
Mr. J. F. Palmer and family, of Franklin, are visiting Mr. Palmer's brother of this place this week.

Mr. T. J. Hill, of Greensboro, has been in Murphy the past several days.

Mr. J. T. L. Hartness, of Mineral Bluff, Ga., spent several days here the first of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Cooper and daughter, of Miami, Fla., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brendle.

Mrs. Harry McBrayer and children, of Anderson, S. C. are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Candler.

Mr. Edgar Harshaw returned to Newport New, Va., Thursday after spending several days here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. McD. Harshaw.

Mrs. S. S. Williams returned to her home in Asheville Sunday after having spent several days with her parents Mr. and Mrs. A. McD. Harshaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman May and friend, Mr. Frank McDonald, of Knoxville, Tenn., returned to their home Monday after having spent several days here with Mrs. May's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Richardson.

Mr. Henry Harshaw returned Sunday to Atlanta, Ga.,

Mrs. Ocie Zimmerman and little son, Charles, are visiting relatives and friends here.

Misses Mary and Wilma Allison, of Sylva, who were the guests of Miss Carrie Ferguson, returned home on Monday.

Mrs. Lillian Bryant, of Dalton, Ga., returned home Tuesday after spending several months in Murphy with her sister, Mrs. Grace P. Cooper.

Miss Martha Candler left Monday for Asheville where she will be the house guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Beechboard.

Mr. A. D. Stoner, of Asheville, spent several days here with his brother, Mr. J. M. Stoner.

Mrs. J. W. Thompson and daughter, Mary Lou, and Mr. Bob Barclay motored to Atlanta Thursday for the week end.

Dr. J. O. Nichols and family of Etowah, Tenn., are here several days this week visiting friends and relatives.

BRIEF NEWS ITEMS

The Graham brothers, prominent Meeklenburg dairymen, report highly gratifying results with alfalfa as a dairy feed.

More legumes are being grown this year than ever before. Extension Service leaders recommend legumes for acres retired from cotton, tobacco, wheat or corn production.

The entire State is becoming "rural electrification conscious." Groups of farmers from numerous communities are communicating with D. S. Weaver at State College in regard to electrifying their homes.

Club Women Stage Home Garden Contest

A fall and winter garden contest, with cash prizes to the winners, will be conducted this season by the State College Extension Service to stimulate more interest in farm home gardens.

Any farm home garden in North Carolina will be eligible to compete for a prize. The enrollment of contestants, to be made by the garden leaders of local home demonstration clubs, should be completed by October 1, as no entries will be accepted after that time.

Women wishing to enter the contest must begin their planting in August, said Miss Ruth Current, district home demonstrator agent at State College. The contest will start October 1 and continue until next March 31.

In each county the contest will be under the sponsorship of the county council of home demonstration clubs and the garden leader of each local club.

The gardens will be graded on their efficiency, as indicated by monthly records, and on a short article written by the contestants regarding the gardens. Pictures may be included with the stories. The efficiency will count 75 per cent and the article 25 per cent in scoring points.

The highest score in the State will merit a \$20 prize, with \$12.50 and \$7.50 for second and third prizes respectively. In each county, the first prize will be \$5 and the second prize \$2.50.

Prizes of \$20, \$12.50, \$7.50 and \$5 will go to the county councils with the largest number of members completing the contest.