LICENSE PLATES BECOME SAFETY DEVICES

It is interesting to note that people who live in Deleware, Maine, Louisiana, Minnesota and South Dakota receive reflective license plates, which are widely recognized as an important safety device, in fact one of the best to be developed during the past decade.

Most of the plates can be seen from 2000 feet away at night. They were first issued in Maine in 1949. Other states have since recognized their value and their use has grown. Since almost two thirds of all accidents occur at night, safety experts deem this a practical way to reduce accidents after dark. year py

One of the important features of reflective plates, experts say, is that they are probably the only safety advance that could be put on all automobiles — old and new ones alike—within a relatively shor: time. Within a few months after individual state legislatures approve reflectorization of its state's plates, they can be made in their own correctional institutions and issued. Once these plates are on, cars equipped with them are much safer at night. Unlike lights, these plates are not hampered by mechanical failures or adjustments. They are made of a light-reflecting sheeting applied on a metal base.

These plates cost motorists only 25 to 50 cents a year. Some states have even made reflective plates cheaper than the non-reflective kind, according to a recent report in Public Safety magazine, the national Safety Council publication.

South Dakota's secretary of state, after extensive tests by South Dakota law enforcement officials said recently "The reflective license plate exceeded expectations in all cases. The conclusion of the viewers was unanimous — that reflective plates would add immeasurable safety to the highway by making vehicles visible at greater distances, thus providing greater reaction and braking time to approaching motorists."

This advance in our desperate need for safety on the highways will be universal in time. Let us hope all states adopt them soon.

Words Of Life

By W. F. Elliott

Methodist Minister

Murphy, N. C.

LIFE OR DEATH, WHICH?

Is the church an asset or a liability? May we give this question some serious consideration. The decision we make here affects our eternal destiny. In the opinion of this writer the church is an asset, but judging from the conduct of many people whom I know they surely consider it a liability. Too many folk seem to look upon the church as just an institution which may take away from their pleasures and draw too heavily upon their time and money. Hence, they leave it pretty much alone till they find themselves in distress and then they call for a minister.

Let us see what The Bible says about it. "Though the wicked sprout like grass and all evil doers flourish, they are doomed to destruction forever." Psalm 92:7. In the same Psalm, verses 12 and 13, we read these words: "The righteous flourish like the palm tree and glow lake a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the Lord, they flourish in the courts of our God." (RSV) Here is a striking contrast. Evil doers are doomed to etenal destuction but the righteous flourish in the house of the Lord. It is a matter of choice: come into the church and live or stay out of it and perish. There is no alternative.

Why are so many hearts closed against Jesus Christ and his Church when it offers life and all the blessings that heaven may bestow? I can see no reason for this sort of thing except that they are taken by the wiles of the evil one.

There is no excuse for this. The sinner must appear at the judgment bar of God with nothing to plead in his favor. He will have to admit that his sentence is just. But whoever comes into the chruch through sincere motives is placing himself in position to receive every blessing that is secured by the blood of Christ. One is serving his own best interests when he comes into the church. Nothing else can do what the church seeks to do for mankind. It seeks only our welfare It never asks us to do that which would bring us harm. What it does for us is good and only good. "What a Friend we have in Jesus."

Why can we make such claims for the church? Because it is the church of Jesus Christ and is indwelt by his Holy Spirit. This gives it great value. Without his indwelling Spirit it is only a human organization. But it is objected that i is imperfect. Yes, it is made up of imperfect human beings who are in the process of being made perfect. It is the best church that God has, but he is constantly at work in it to make it better. We can help God make it a better church if we will, but we cannot help it by staying away from it. He who stands off and finds fault with the church is doing both himself and the church an injury. Unfriendly criticism never does any one any good. Please remember that the church is our friend. It has no ulterior motive.. It exists for our good and is seeking our best interests always. Jesus is the Friend of all mankind. He never did any on any harm.

The church makes demands of us but they are never unreasonable What the church asks of us is always less than the blessings it bestows upon us. It is impossible for any one ever to put into the church more than he gets out of it. Since it is such a friend of ours it deserves all that we can do for it. The profit is all on our side. To spurn the offers of such a friend is nothing short of base ingratitude. So what will you do with thi. friend of yours? Will you neglect it, forsake it, leave it out in the cold? Will you spurn it offers of salvation? Or will you draw it close to your heart and love and cherish it

Come into it and make it you spiritual home. You will find peace and joy there and protection. Come into it and be with God's people. By so doing you will lose nothing, but you will gain everything and heaven in the end.

Backward Glance

10 YEARS AGO
Thursday, January 30, 1947

Earl Orr, Conductor on the Southern, Asheville, worked in this area last week.

Mrs. Pearl Reagan is visiting her sister, Mrs. Donald Ryder in Savannah, Ga.

Mack Womack who is employed in Asheville spent the week-end here with his wife and son, Mrs. Womack and Joe.

Mrs. Louise Rogers spent a few days last week with her brother and sister-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Ben Grant Jr. in Franklin.

John Ellis, soft of Mr. and Mrs. Luke Ellis, left last Sunday to attend Davidson College, Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Higdon, spent Thursday of last week in Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Olson spent last week-end with friends in Franklin.

20 YEARS AGO
Friday, January 28, 1937

Miss Ruth Morgan, Miss Dair McCracken, Miss Elizabeth Gray, Miss Martha Brumby and Mrs. Estelle Banner attended the ball game at Blairsville Tuesday night.

Mrs. Margaret LeMay Mauney and Mrs. Dot Cooper spent a few days in Raleigh this week on business.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Bishop spent Friday and Saturday in Knoxville.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Lay spent Sunday in Athens, Tennessee.

Mr. Frank Taylor spent the week end in Topton visiting his sister.

Mrs. B. E. Singleton, has arrived from St. Petersburg, Fla., to join her husband, who is with the TVA. They are at Regal.

30 YEARS AGO
Friday, January 28, 1927

Mr. E. C. Moore is erecting a garage on his property on Tennessee Street.

Mrs. Porter Meroney and infan daughter left Monday to join Mr. Meroney in Knoxville, where he has a position with Kulhman Drug Co.

Mrs. Howard Moody is the house guest of Col. and Mrs. J. N. Moody.

P. B. Ferebee was a business visitor in Robbinsville on Monday of this week.

Messrs. S. E. Cover, G. W. Cover, P. B. Ferebee and Arthur Bristol were in Bryson City on Tuesday of this week.

Mrs. Fisher Hubbel is the guest in Asheville of Col. and Mrs. J. N. Moody.

Hatchery Report For December

Commercial hatcheries in North Carolina produced 7,508,000 chicks during December 1956, according to the North Carolina Crop Reporting Service.

This was 1.4 percent above the output in December 1955 and 78 percent more than the 5-year 1950-54 average.

The number produced during January through December 1956 totaled 109,731,000 compared with 91,748,000 during the same months last year—an increase of 20 percent.

Broiler chick production in December, by commercial hatcheries amounted to 6,977,000 and no-broiler chics totaled 531,000 head. broiler chicks totaled 531,000 head through December amounted to 97,105,000 compared with 82,056,000 during the same months last year — an increase of 18 percent.

Let's talk about apples and request your neighborly help. Every one is familiar with the common apple varieties such as Delicious, Stayman, Rome Beauty and others. Then there are crab apples which are grown for making jelly and also for their ornamental beauty. Another kind of apple may not be so familiar and this is the one we will discuss. We will call it the Cedar Apple.

The Cedar Apple, as the name applies, is borne on the red cedar tree and it is a bad actor. Why? Because it is responsible for a disease which attacks apple trees and is known as cedar rust. This rust, which is a fungus, attacks both the leaves and fruit of the apple tree, and, in severe cases, will cause the leaves to turn yellow, stop manufacturing food and may drop.

This disease is commonly known as an alternate host problem because it spends the winter stage on the cedar and the summer stage on the apple tree. If one of the hosts is destroyed, the disease will disappear, and this is the best way to control it. On the cedar the little brown apple, or ball, can be easily identified at this season of the year. When warm weather and rains come in the spring, these apples swell. become jelly-like and put out horns or spore bodies. These spores are discharged and carried by the wind to apple trees which may be as much as a mile or more away. On the apple leaf the disease first appears as a small orange spot on the top of the leaf. On the underside of the leaf the tissues swell, and more spore bodies are formed. After spending the summer stage on the apple leaf the spores are discharged again and go back to the cedar tree for the winter. This is an interesting cycle but a vicious one.

In the beginning I spoke of neighborly help, because this disease is of serious concern to commercial apple growers as well as to those who have home orchards. If you have apple trees of your own or if you live within a mile of a commercial orchard, you can help by doing one of three things: do not plant red cedar trees; remove those that you have and replace with another evergreen, or, examine your cedar trees and remove and destroy all Cedar Apples that you find.

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