

The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, JULY 20, 1933

Congratulations To Roaring River

The Journal-Patriot congratulates the school-minded folks of Roaring River and the faculty of the high school there upon the accredited rating which has been given the school.

Schools do not raise their standard by mere chance. Behind the scenes there must be hard work, sacrifices and a spirit of progress. The willingness of Roaring River citizens to give of their best toward building a better school and through the school the building of a better citizenship is recognized.

As in the case of every other standard high school, the new rating is conditional upon compliance with the requirements. One condition, the state department of education specifies, must be met. That is the matter of adequate building facilities. Roaring River should make every effort to meet this requirement even if it must be a community project.

Roaring River has steadily moved forward and we congratulate those responsible for this progress.

In Good Condition

It is not necessary that one be familiar with the banking business to recognize the fact that the quarterly reports of North Wilkesboro's two banks are among the best they have ever issued.

Total resources of the two banks amount to approximately \$1,400,000.00. That amount is only slightly less than the January statements showed and it is realized that many depositors have been forced to use part of their "rainy day money" for ordinary living expenses.

Not in recent years have the banks shown a smaller total in the amount of rediscounts and bills payable. Items listed as assets, such as banking houses, furniture and fixtures and real estate, are given at far below their actual value.

The Deposit and Savings Bank and the Bank of North Wilkesboro are safer and sounder than ever before and their reports are convincing evidence of wise management and intelligent banking service.

Getting Out of Debt

We have seen a statement recently, prepared by men who have made a deep study of the subject, that the United States and its inhabitants are in debt to the tune of one hundred and thirty-four thousand million dollars. That includes all governmental debts, Federal, state and local, the debts of the railroads, public utilities and industries, mortgage debts and financial bond issues.

There is no manner of doubt that in the great boom era credit was far too easy, men and institutions went into debt recklessly, and that the great problem of the hour is how debtors can be enabled to pay their debts without at the same time ruining their creditors. Short of universal bankruptcy—for the rest of the world is much in the same boat—the path back to solvency is bound to be a slow and painful one. We are not at all sure that all of the plans proposed at Washington to lighten the burdens of individual and corporate debtors will work as planned, but they are at least a long step toward pulling us out of the hole.

The problem of the debtor who can't pay is as old as humanity. In the 15th chapter of Deuteronomy we find the way in which the ancient Israelites solved it: "At the end of every seven years thou shalt make a release. And this is the manner of the release: Every creditor that lendeth ought unto his neighbor shall release it; he shall not exact it of his neighbor or of his brother, because it is called the Lord's release. Of a foreigner thou mayest exact it again; but that which is thine with thy brother thy hand shall release."

Forgiveness of debts was one of the tenets of the early Christians, and the plea comes down to us in the Lord's Prayer.

Perhaps too many debtors of our day expect to be released without any payment whatever. We would not go so far as to advocate the Chinese system, under which for thousands of years every Chinese had to settle all his debts every New Year's Day, with the alternative, if he failed, of committing suicide or entering into slavery to his creditors. But we do believe that most of us would be better off if we never had been able to borrow on long terms, but only for short periods, and then only as much as we could satisfy a reasonable creditor we could pay when due.

Four Weeks of Court

Beginning Monday, Wilkes is to have four weeks of court, the longest period court has ever been in session in the county so far as anyone recalls at the moment.

Inquiring persons may ask the reason for this long court. There could be only two answers. Either we have had an insufficient number of courts, considering the population and the normal crime expectancy, or the criminal element is gaining too much headway. That Wilkes is not the most criminally minded county in the state is shown by the figures gathered by the statisticians and published in the News Letter, published by the University of North Carolina. Several other counties have a greater crime ratio than Wilkes, the News Letter shows.

Looking at the calendar, we are convinced that the number of murders during the past several months has been all out of proportion. The citizenship of the county is more concerned with finding and in removing the cause of this homicidal wave than in trying the 22 defendants involved in the 15 murder cases. That is the problem that cries out for solution at the moment.

However, despite the editorial comment to the contrary, Wilkes has a long way to go before it reaches the depths that Chicago, New York and other metropolitan centers have reached. Wilkes murders are crimes of passion. They are committed by men in the heat of passion or under the influence of intoxicants, not by men who are hired to kill someone they do not know and who use machine guns to annihilate an enemy gang.

Elimination of the need for extra courts is an end worth striving for, but we do not believe that Wilkes is going to the bow-wows just because crime has forced a special term of court.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

ISAIAH DENOUNCES SIN

Lesson for July 23rd—Isaiah 5:1-30. Golden Text: Proverbs 14:34

Our lesson text is a flaming passage from Isaiah in which the prophet hurls thunderbolts of defiance at Judah for her manifold sins. There are six counts in his indictment.

First he denounces the greed for land. Wealth was becoming the possession of the few through the seizure of small properties by powerful landowners. Cruel evictions, by which the peasants lost both homes and citizenship, were common.

A similar situation exists today. There has been an immense concentration of business wealth into the hands of two hundred corporations managed by a relatively small group. The rank and file are deprived of their rightful share of this enormous capital. Millions are jobless, and at least one-third of our population is inadequately housed.

The prophet then grapples with the perennial liquor problem, pronouncing woe upon all who stain their souls by indulgence in riotous debauchery. There is a timely warning here for America in this hour when she is abandoning the experiment of prohibition. Can we, with our flare for excitement, exercise moderation in the handling of intoxicants?

The third woe is directed against hardened rascals who mock and chuckle with apparent impunity. We see them, following Moffatt's vivid translation, drawing "guilt on themselves by stout ungodliness, as with a rope." "harnessing themselves" to sin, and sneering at God with a blustering challenge, "Pray let us see what he will do!" Our modern world can boast of many such!

The fourth woe is cast at those who deny the clear distinctions of the moral law, who "call evil good, and good evil." In our own confused era, how many there are who so blur the differences between right and wrong that black seems white and white black!

What a timely, practical lesson! America, in her emergency, needs, primarily, old-fashioned integrity of character. Isaiah's clarion call to righteousness sounds a note we do well to hear.

In Tribute To a Friend—

(Written by editor The Journal-Patriot on the day of Joseph A. Roland's funeral)

There is rest for him.

It was fitting that he bear the name of Israel's noble son, for in the bondage of disease, he fed the soul of friend and foe alike. If we believe in Holy Writ, from dust we came and to dust returneth. In this finely molded clay, now on its way to Mother Earth again, there lived a soul without a peer.

I have seen a soul and found it pure and clean. I have looked into a heart and watched it throb with noble manhood's best. I have gazed into the eyes that were jeweled with the joy of love and life. This was the privilege of one who knew him well.

Yesterday a "cradle asked its whence"; today, a "grave its whither." We cannot peer beyond the scene of birth, nor see beyond the twilight of this hour. But hope, the star that shines in every night, is light to all those left behind. It gleams from his every act and deed and penetrates the gloom of doubt and fear.

A life is judged in this world by what is seen and known, though God records its every thought and deed. He left for us a record that was spotless and clean. Today, as earth reclaims its own, we can believe that the soul of him who bade farewell to sin and pain, lives on in deathless peace.

And I who took his friendship as the twilight stole across the horizon of his life, and grief and tears the master of the hour.

CHECKING UP ON SPORTS

By JACK ADAMS

By defeating H. Ellsworth Vines, Jr., American champion, Jack Crawford, of Australia, won the men's singles tennis title at Wimbledon, England. Mrs. Helen Wills Moody, of Berkeley, Cal., triumphed over Miss Dorothy Round, of England, to win the women's singles title. The men's doubles title went to Jean Borotra and Jacques Brugnon, of France. The women's doubles title was won by Miss Elizabeth Ryan, of California, and Mme. Rene Mathieu, of France. The mixed doubles title was carried off by Baron Gottfried von Cramm and Fraulein Hilda Krahwinkel, of Germany.

It was back in 1923 that an Englishman last won the British open golf championship. The title was won this year by Denimore Shute, 28-year-old resident of Philadelphia. His opponent in a thirty-six hole playoff was Craig Wood, well known American player.

Oarsmen wearing the colors of the University of Washington, Seattle, won the national intercollegiate rowing championship at Long Beach, Cal., defeating Yale, which came in second, Cornell, third and Harvard fourth. Washington for years has occupied a position in rowing which compares with the football supremacy of

New York have been hoping for what they call a "five-cent world's series," a series between the New York Giants of the National League and the New York Yankees of the American League, two teams whose parks can be reached by taking a five-cent subway ride.

In a track and field meet in which representatives of Yale and Harvard were pitted against athletes of Oxford and Cambridge from overseas, in the Harvard Stadium, the other day, the Americans won.

Donald H. G. Macdonald, young archery champion of Greenwich, Conn., is about to try his aim in international competition at Oxford, England.

They held a ski tournament at Brighton, Mich., the other day. Straw was used instead of snow.

Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati have been admitted to the National Professional Football League. The Staten Island (N. Y.) Stapes have withdrawn.

Multiplication
"Say, mister," said the little fellow to a next door neighbor, "are you the man who gave my brother a dog last week?"
"Yes."
"Well, my ma says to come and take them all back."

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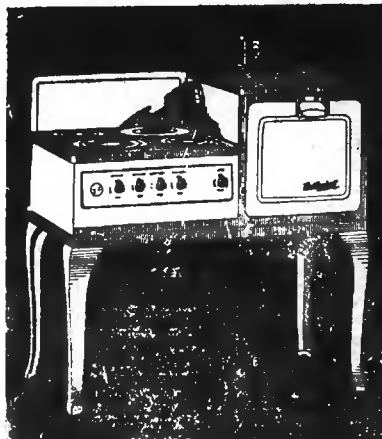


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