The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1934

Schools For Illiterates

Every person unable to read and write, who resides within convenient distance from one of the schools for the illiterate which are to be operated in the county, should take advantage of the opportunity that is offered.

These schools should go far toward lowering the illiteracy rate in Wilkes county. The rate is alarmingly high.

We take pleasure in giving our endorsement to this worthy enterprise. Government money could not be spent in a more worthy cause.

A Suggestion

Some civic organization of the city has an opportunity to render Wilkes county a service by looking into the matter of getting an official weather observer for this vicinity. Why other nearby cities have been given a man to record high and low temperatures and other valuable data and Wilkes passed by is not known. It is a fact, however, that the government has failed to provide official thermometers for use in this immediate territory.

The cost would be small to the government. We do not know the exact figures, but the amount paid for this service is small. At the present time Sam Craven is keeping the rainfall records without pay and certainly temperature records are just as easily kept.

The fact that there is no official weather observer in the county was brought to our attention again only the past week when we attempted to obtain some definite and accurate idea of the high and low temperatures during the cold wave which swept this section. Ordinary thermometers registered varying degrees and whether it was seven below or zero or four above, no one knew officially.

This suggestion is passed along for the attention of our enterprising civic organizations which can, we are confident, obtain action from the government weather bureau.

Hunting And Fishing

There has been a great revival of interest in hunting and fishing and outdoor life and sports generally in the past few years. The movement for the protection of wild game, by limiting the hunting season and extending the cover of forest and brake in which they live and breed, has received a great deal of encouragement from President Roosevelt's reforestation program. There seems little doubt that the Civilian Conservation Camp movement will result in developing in many thousands of young men not only a taste for outdoor life which they will strive hereafter to gratify, but an intimate knowledge of woodcraft and the ways of the furred and feathered denizens of the woods.

It is the dream of those who are most active in promoting the idea that some day all the poor farm land in the nation will again become a cover for game, or at least so much of it as is not turned into lumber-producing forest. Probably that dream will never be fully realized; dreams seldom are. But it is certainly true that a high percentage of so-called agricultural land is fit for nothing but a refuge for wild animals and birds. Nor is it necessarily unprofitable to let the brambles and brush overrun such unproductive land. In many parts of the country farmers are getting a revenue from the sale of shooting permits over their land, and that idea is receiving a great deal of impetus and encouragement.

The American Game Association estimates that approximately 7,000,000 men take out hunting licenses in the various states every year, while more than ten million are interested in fishing. If the New Deal produces the larger leisure for every man which it promises, together with a surplus income with which to enjoy that leisure, the number of hunters and fishermen will be greatly increased. That will make the movement for the conservation and protection of wild life even more important.

He Can Take It

After almost a year of unceasing war against the forces which weighted down the depression upon the backs of a discontented people, President Franklin D. Roosevelt characterizes his 52nd birthday as "happiest of my life."

That statement demonstrates anew the type of man the American people have at the head of their government. Time and time again, the Chief Executive has shown that he can take it. Striking with a boldness that had the nation gasping and wondering what manner of man had been called to lead the battle against economic chaos, Mr. Roosevelt first declared a banking holiday. Then with characteristic courage, he set about eliminating extravagance in the veterans administration. And then came the NRA, the PWA and the CWA, all of them leading the nation into new paths.

Criticisms, Mr. Roosevelt has declared, are welcomed by the administration. He can take that, too.

Any man who can term a birthday which comes in the midst of a ceaseless and tiresome battle such as Mr. Roosevelt is experiencing, possesses a characteristic of immense value. Such a President will not be embittered by criticisms or be turned aside from the path of duty by trivial partisan politics.

A Business Census

The impression is left by the district supervisor, H. J. Thurman, that the government considers the business census now being made of great importance. If the data gathered will aid the government in any way—officials assure us of its value—then it is the duty of every business man to cooperate to the fullest extent.

The point that all information furnished the census takers is held confidential is stressed. No one should hesitate to furnish the requested information for fear that private affairs will be made public. Not even the tax collector has access to the census files.

Mr. Thurman requests that we state this fact for the information of those who will be interviewed by the census takers in Wilkes.

THE BOOK

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

By BRUCE BARTON

SAMUEL, SAUL AND DAVID

Finally there was Samuel, stern, uncompromising, incorruptible. He was not a particularly lovable character, and his powerful one-man rule does not seem to have left a place for any associates. At least the people saw no one capable of carrying on in his place, and reminded him brutally that his own sons were failures.

Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways; now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.

Angrily, Samuel agreed, but not without a warning. The king would be tyrannical, he told them; they would repent their demand. None the less he acceded to it, and searching through the tribes he found a clean-cut young man named Saul who stood head and shoulders above all the rest. Him he selected an anointed as Israel's first king.

"God save the king," shouted the people happily—the first time in history that the cry had been raised—and indeed it looked as though their happiness were justified. They had a brave and handsome monarch whose modesty was as striking as his courage. What now could stop them from complete success? But Saul's career is one of the great tragedies. He might have been the George Washington of his people, but he could not stand prosperity, and so little permanent imprint did he leave that the writer of Hebrews, in enumerating the great characters of the nation, does not even mention his name. He was modest and likable, but he was a prey to sullen moods and the slave of jealousy.

He was jealous of Jonathan, his son, and would have slain him but for the determined protest of the people. Most of all was he jealous of David, who, when the armies of Israel were standing in helpless terror before the giant leader of the Philistines, Goliath, took his shepherd's sling, picked up a smooth stone from the brook and planted it squarely in the giant's forehead. For this victory, and the acclaim that followed it, Saul never forgave him.

Saul was not without military genius. He led his people more than once to victory. Throughout his career fighting was constant, with the Amalekites, the Philistines and other hostile tribes, and sometimes one side won and sometimes the other. But much of the energy and time that ought to have gone into the nation's battles was spent in the vain effort to destroy David; and the net result of Saul's reign was little. "Tomorrow," said the ghost of Samuel, appearing grimly before him, "tomorrow shalt thou and thy sons be with me." Saul marched into battle on the morrow knowing that his fate was sealed; and when the final moment of defeat arrived he called upon his sword bearer to run him through.

If you are thrilled by Napoleon, the penniless young lieutenant leaping to the throne of an empire; if your imagination is warmed by the rise of the gaunt, homely, country boy Lincoln to the White House, then there is a real treat for you in David.

This And That

Some days ago a Nebraska man concerned himself with the feminine dress fashions and wrote Dr. S. Parks Cadman and asked why ministers don't have more to say about women's fashions in dress. Dr. Cadman's reply is a classic. He says all there is to say—or about all—and you'll agree:

"Because it would be love's labor lost. Skirts that look like sleeves and sleeves that look like skirts, collars so high and stiff that they nearly strangled, diminutive hats perched jauntily on high mounds of hair, and the pinched-in waists of the female form divine now belong to forgotten follies of yesteryear. When three or four men have luncheon together in Paris and decide on the foregoing or any other fashions, not even the Pope can arrest the hosts of women who fall in line at the word of command. Skirts end above, at or below the knee or trail in the dust exactly as these male despots of style decree.

"No matter what the pulpit says, coats will have sleeves that droop or no sleeves at all. The real cause of these fleeting changes, even to painting the toenails of female feet already crucified in high-heeled shoes, or sticking on artificial eyelashes and plucking the natural ones out, is something too deep for me. Surely women would never submit to appearing as frightful as these and other cosmetics practices make them if there were not some profound mystery in the whirl of fashion which I for one do not profess to understand. Moreover, if I did understand it, what difference would that make?"

Three of One Name

Former Mayor W. A. Bullis suggests that the Carter-Hubbard Publishing company has seemingly indicated a preference for men whose first name is Willard. And the suggestion was passed along that there ought to be a "write-up" about it. We agreed and decided to put it in this column where few people will see it. There is Willard Beach, our efficient composing room man and linotype operator, as one of the three. Then there is Willard Taylor, in charge of the circulation department, who, is he hasn't already seen you, will call around for your renewal when your subscription expires. And finally there is your humble editor with the same name. However, no two have the same so-called middle name. Mr. Beach has Marion as a prefix ti the Willard. Mr. Taylor's middle name is Seymour and your scribe has Glover (it used to be Mallallieu until it didn't suit us). And the name of Willard hasn't been given to many in this section, either. Perhaps that's why Mr. Bullis thinks it unusual that three of the same name are employed by this publishing company.

Also Unusual

While talking with Mr. Bullis two sisters, or in other words there are three girls in the family. Each of the three sisters is the mother of three children, two girls and one boy. And in every case, the youngest of the three children is a boy. If that isn't a little unusual, some reader of this column ought to give us a more unusual case.

All Names Begin With the Same Letter

Speaking of names, there is an unusual family over in Ashe county. The name of every member of the family, including the father and mother and six children, begins with the letter "C". Here's the list: Claude (the father), Clyde (the mother), Connie, Carrie, Carol, Cone, Claris and Corinne. If there is a similar family in Wilkes, we'd like to hear about it.

About a Sign

Now that the new bridge across the Yadkin has been completed, Kiwanians should move their welcome sign to a point nearer the new highway. Perhaps the matter has been overlooked. Anyway, it's a suggestion.

Baby Is Burned To Death In Crib In Wake County

Raleigh, Feb. 1.—It was cold today so when Mrs. O. C. Council left her home in Wake county for a few minutes she pushed the crib in which her eight-months-old baby, Joan Elizabeth, was asleep close to a roaring fire.

When she returned she found her home filled with smoke, and a charred, lifeless little body in a burning crib. A spark evidently had popped into the crib and ignited the soft baby clothing.

Proposes National Park

Washington, Feb. 1.—A national park commemorating the Battle of Atlanta, sanguine conflict in the War Between the States, was proposed in a bill introduced today by Representative Ramspeck, of Georgia.

NOTICE OF SEIZURE

Charlotte, N. C.

Whereas, on September 24, 1932, Ford Roadster, Model A 1929, Motor No. A2590406, was seized by Federal Officers, in Wilkes County, N. C., while being used by unknown parties in the unlawful removal and concealment of untaxpaid spirits; now therefore, notice is hereby given to all persons owning or claiming right, title or interest in said automobile to present certified claim thereto on or before February 21, 1934, in default of which the same will be advertised and sold at public auction, as provided by law. J. A. Clifton, Jr., Acting Investigator in Charge, Alcoholic Beverage Unit. 22-29-5

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