

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MAR. 14, 1940

Girl Scouting

The Girl Scouts of the United States are celebrating the movement's twenty-eighth birthday this week. Some of the girls who are celebrating are poor, some are rich, most are somewhat in between. Some are black, some are white. Some live in cities, some on farms. Sixty-five of them, typical of more than half a million throughout the United States, live in North Wilkesboro.

Every one of them is a part of a Girl Scout democracy in which each troop elects its own officers and trains its members in delegating and accepting responsibility. Their leaders help each girl to see that difference in environment or background need not make a girl feel left out. On the contrary, she can feel needed and important because she has something all her own to contribute.

America was built out of the welding of many different peoples and ideas. Democracy depends on that welding, and more of our children must learn the art before it is too late.

There is no question about their willingness to learn. The Girl Scout Council of North Wilkesboro, like other Girl Scout groups, has a waiting list of girls who are eager to live by the standards of Girl Scouting. But if the work is to expand, committees, to share their hobbies with girls, to act as leaders, or to give financial help. We want the kind of world that Girl Scouts are trying to build. The place to begin is North Wilkesboro. The time to begin is now.

Individual Opportunity

Thomas Jefferson, referred to by some historians as "the father of the patent system," was in fact the first patent examiner. When the patent question first came up, Jefferson was opposed to granting patents for they hinted at monopoly; but when he saw how the government, by giving patent rights, stimulated invention, he became an immediate advocate. Since 1900, it has been estimated that 100,000 new products have been placed on the market as the result of American ingenuity inspired by the patent system.

You grow with the times. Your community is constantly progressing. The reason is that the American people are an enterprising people and want to go ahead; not because they are a selfish people, but because they are proud of their freedom and the right to receive rewards for their own endeavors as individuals living in a free country. This was reasoned out in the days of the molding of our present United States and by great men who were responsible for the evolution of this country from a wilderness to the world's leading industrial and scientific nation. They knew that as long as there was sound government to regulate industry, monopoly could not exist and therefore there was no reason for government to compete with its own citizens in business and thereby destroy individual opportunity for reward.

Crossing Deaths

After a steady three-year decline, railroad crossing accidents are threatening to kill a record number of persons in North Carolina during 1940, according to Ronald Hocutt, Director of the Highway Safety Division.

Six crossing fatalities in January and five in February combined to make a two-months total of more than half the number of fatal accidents at railroad crossings in the state during the entire twelve months of 1939. There were 19 crossing fatalities in North Carolina last year, compared with 22 in 1938, 23 in 1937 and 30 in 1936.

"Just as we were congratulating ourselves on the fact that railroad crossing accidents were on the decline in North Carolina, we learn that motorists in this State have started out the new year with a total of eleven crossing fatalities in two months," Hocutt said. "This type is distressing, especially when we consider how easily this type of accident might be avoided. Every railroad crossing is either guarded or marked, and in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the motorist who runs into the side of a train or into the path of one is guilty of inattention and negligence.

"With the exception of 'I love you' the best known three-word utterance in the English language is 'Stop! Look! Listen!'

yet only a minute fraction of the drivers who see these three words on a sign near a railroad crossing pay the slightest attention to them.

"It's so easy to stop, look and listen upon approaching a crossing, and failure to do so can prove so costly. A railroad crossing is one of the places where every man controls his own safety. The train will never hit your car unless it is there to be hit. Stop, look, listen and live.

Enjoy Your Work

While written primarily for farm boys, the following advice is worth the attention of boys in town and city also—not to mention the girls. We quote from the current issue of The Progressive Farmer:

"The first thing is to respect your job on the farm. It may be just a little farm and at times it may get pretty monotonous. But it's important that you do the job well. Little jobs, done well, open up into bigger opportunities surprisingly often. Jesus once told a parable about it. The fellow who had done a little job well heard somebody say: 'Thou hast been faithful over a few things; I will make thee ruler over many things.' That wasn't just a parable, either. Everybody who holds a big job had a little one first, and learned to do it well.

"Hold your shoulders up, and keep your chin up, too. Personal appearance is not just a matter of having shoes that are shined. Your posture, the tilt of your chin, eyes that look interested in people and in farming, the way you walk about, your general demeanor—all combined to show the public whether you take pride in yourself and your farm. It makes a great deal of difference to you, too. No matter what your farming job is, don't look as though you feel apologetic about it. Look as though you are saying to yourself: "Farming is my work. I do it well."

Borrowed Comment

A RARE ACHIEVEMENT

The power of the press and the dependency of Democracy upon a free press were clearly demonstrated recently in Louisiana when the United States' first dictatorship was completely smashed.

"Sam Jones gets the governorship of Louisiana, but he must share with Uncle Sam and a free and thundering press the credit for smashing a dictatorship," writes Charles Nutter.

"The trinity for reform, actually was paced all the way by the press, the uprooting of the firmly-entrenched, seemingly invincible Huey P. Long dynasty will stand as one of the outstanding journalistic achievements in decades.

"Using only publicity and other instruments of democracy the loose-knit opposition forces finally broke the back of the twelve-year-old Long Machine and are now planning to finish the job."

The Louisiana newspapers didn't stop with an editorial crusade. Their persistent and thorough investigations turned up many tips leading to subsequent grand jury indictments, federal trials and convictions.

The papers were fighting for honest, decent government and although the Long machine had become allpowerful before they realized its crookedness in the legislature, the courts and schools, nevertheless they waged a battle of "giving the people light so that the people may find the way."

Thomas Jefferson knew what he was talking about when he said, "If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."

As long as America has freedom of the press, it will have a democratic system of government. The first thing a dictator does is to get control of the newspapers.

AVERAGE AMERICAN

Did the depression of the Thirties harm the American spirit? Did it cause home to lose faith in what we call the American dream? Did it lessen self-reliance and stimulate class hatreds?

A lot of people have feared that it did. Read, then, what the American people think of themselves today, as mirrored in a new Fortune poll:

Eighty per cent of Americans, from farm hands and factory workers to prosperous executives, regard themselves as members of the middle class.

Most Americans—including three out of five married men with families to support, and more than half of the unemployed—would rather have a good job, with an even chance of getting promoted or fired, than a secure job at just enough wages to get by.

A majority think that they are better prepared to succeed than their parents were, that their chances of success are better, and that their sons' chances will be still better.

Seventy per cent feel that they have an obligation to pass on to the next generation: better living and social conditions, a higher standard of citizenship, more education, better health. Only ten per cent feel that bequeathing material wealth to their sons is important.

Self-confident, proud, believers in opportunity, builders of a better world—that's us: average Americans! Those qualities and ideals have made America's middle class the highest common denominator of citizenship in the world, a class in which the all-American headline still is: Local Boy Makes Good.

Mind Your Mind

WATSON, M. D.
(Division of Mental Hygiene, State Welfare Department)

Editor's Note: This is the first of a series of articles on mental health which will be a weekly feature of The Journal-Patriot each week. All inquiries relating to mental problems may be addressed to Dr. Watson in care of this paper.

"It makes much difference whose child it is." This observation was made during a discussion following an address in which I had stated that one out of every 22 boys and girls now in our public schools will spend some part of his or her life in a mental hospital.

That means that a million or more children now in school will some day be declared insane. "Yet," says Dr. Hincks of the National Committee for Mental Hygiene, "at least one-half of all mental illness could be prevented if we acted in time.

Mentality is the highest attainment of the race. Using the word "mind" in its broadest sense, it is with the mind we love, think, know, appreciate beauty, enjoy life, worship God. To lose one's mind is life's greatest tragedy!

The one child out of 22 who is going to do this may be your child, your grandchild, or your neighbor's child. Authorities say that at least one-half of the million could be saved from this tragedy. Few people seem inclined, however, to do much about it.

There Is Control For Sweet Potato Diseases

There is little excuse for damage from the four major sweet potato diseases—stem rot or wilt, scurf, black rot, and root knot or big root—says Dr. Luther Shaw, Extension plant pathologist of State College. Practical, economical, and effective control measures have been developed for all four diseases, and not even the home gardener should suffer, Dr. Shaw declared.

The first and most important control measure is to select healthy potatoes for bedding. Then, all seed potatoes should be treated by soaking for 15 minutes in a mercuric chloride solution prepared in the proportion of one ounce of mercuric chloride to eight gallons of water. The water should be heated to around 100 degrees Fahrenheit, and the potatoes should be allowed to dry and should be bedded without washing.

If potato slips are to be transplanted on land known to harbor the wilt or stem rot fungus, the root ends of the slips should be immersed in a Bordeaux mixture, prepared by mixing 1 pound of copper sulphate (blue stone) and 1 pound of lime with 2 1-2 gallons of water.

Where the scurf disease is present in the soil, the roots of the slips should be dipped into a bag of sulphur and transplanted immediately. When both wilt and scurf are present, Dr. Shaw advises the use of Semesan Bel.

There are resistant varieties to control the black rot and root knot diseases.

The Extension specialist offered to supply complete information to any grower who writes him at State College, Raleigh.

Hitler May Make Early Peace Bid

London.—With the Finnish war ended, British and neutral sources here said Wednesday night that they expect Germany and Russia—possibly with the assistance of Italy and the United States—to launch an immediate peace offensive.

It seems certain, however, that Britain firmly will resist peace attempts and continue its effort to crush Hitlerism—timed to reach a climax in 1941.

Other developments as result of the Russo-Finnish peace may be expected to include:

1. Germany to regain the initiative in the European war because the threat has been removed from her northern flank.

2. The Allies to conduct a concentrated drive to knit closer their ties in the Balkans and the Near East, where vigilance will be sharpened against the possibility of a German or Russian thrust in this direction.

British politicians candidly say they do not like the look of things, especially in Scandinavia after Finland's acceptance of Russia's severe conditions. They expect Scandinavia to be subjected to increasing Russian-German pressure.

They see a ray of hope, however, in Russia's vast loss of munitions and gasoline in the Finnish campaign. They hope this will give the Allies a breathing spell in which to complete preparations to resist any further Russian-German expansionist moves.

Cycle News Items

Rev. J. M. Binkley, of Harmony, filled his regular appointment at Union Saturday and Sunday and preached excellent sermons as usual.

Friends are glad to learn that Fannie Welborn is improving after five weeks illness.

Rev. and Mrs. P. C. Parks and Mrs. Pearl Shore, spent Tuesday visiting the sick. They were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Foster, of Wilkesboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Parks and Mrs. Joan Parks, of Winston-Salem, were visitors in the Cycle community, Sunday.

Friends are glad to learn that Mrs. Elsie Shore is improving from a long illness.

Friends gathered at the home of Rev. P. C. Parks, Sunday, March 10th, celebrating his 41st birthday. All churches of which he is pastor were represented except one. The following named churches represented: Fishing Creek Arbor, New Light, Mount Zion and New Hope. All friends and relatives reported a nice time.

Friends are sorry to hear of the illness of Mrs. A. C. Roberts. Friends regret to learn that Mr. John Brewer's son is a patient in the Wilkes hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lackey and children, of Boonville, were visitors in the Cycle Community, Sunday.

Misses Ruby and Helen Pinnix, Mr. Jess Pardue and Mr. Paul Pinnix, of Brooks Cross Roads, attended the birthday dinner at Rev. P. C. Parks, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Parks and son, of Wilkesboro, were visitors in the Cycle community, Sunday.

Mr. Bill Somers was a visitor at the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem last week.

P. C. Parks, Jr., spent Tuesday in Elkin.

State College Answers Timely Farm Question

Question: What are the best planting dates for cotton?

Answer: The time of planting varies from late March in the extreme southern part of the State to May 5 in the upper Piedmont. The best planting dates for the Coastal Plain area are from April 10 to 30, depending on the locality, soil, and seasonal conditions. For the Piedmont, the best planting dates are April 20 to 30, an up to May 5 in the western portion and along the northern edge of the cotton belt.

Movie Writer Hangs Himself In Florida

Fort Myers, Fla.—The body of John Mook Saunders, newspaper reporter and writer of short stories and moving picture scenarios, Monday was found hanging by a rope in the clothes closet of his beach cottage. He was 42 years old.

Coroner R. G. Lamberton of Lee county said the Hollywood, Calif., writer committed suicide late Sunday or early Monday.

Saunders had been in ill health for several months. Before coming here a month ago, he was a patient in Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore. A nurse attended Saunders during his stay at the cottage 15 miles south of here on the Gulf Beach until last

Friday, when she returned to Johns Hopkins. The author left no note or message.

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Merle and her Johnny
Ran off for a journey in June;
They laughed at conventions
And wedding intentions,
And their hearts jumped
OVER THE MOON.

Merle LOOKS AT LOVE FROM A NEW ANGLE AND TURNS TRADITION UPSIDE DOWN!

The lovely star of "Wuthering Heights" in a gay comedy written especially for her by America's foremost playwright.



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MERLE OBERON.
Robert E. Sherwood's New Comedy
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IN TECHNICOLOR

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You'll Roar At This New Screw-Ball Comedy
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Analysis tells no more about fertilizer than the number of furrows tells about a plow. To buy fertilizer wisely you must judge QUALITY, just as you do with plows. Consider the yield increase one brand gives over another. How much does it improve your crop? What effect will it have on your land?

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