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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1941



Little Matter Important

We call attention this time to a little matter here which we consider important.

North Wilkesboro needs to pay more attention to its proximity to the Blue Ridge Parkway and Bluff Park, now that the park areas are really being used.

We need bigger and more attractive signs at intersections here directing the travelers to the Parkway and telling the distance.

No other city has three good highways leading directly into the Parkway. This is the logical gateway from the south and part of the communities down east to the Parkway and we should make the most of that fact.

We can direct travelers in three directions to the parkway, all within 25 miles. Our proximity to the great scenic boulevard is an asset which we are not using to proper advantage.

Probably some good signs could be erected in sight of the parkway giving directions to North Wilkesboro. The signs there say Wilkesboro, so many miles, but the cross country traveler gains little knowledge from that.

If we could tell the tourists that North Wilkesboro is a good town with good hotels, etc., we would be getting somewhere.

Of course we know that commercial signs on the Parkway are forbidden. We would be the last to advocate cluttering it up with commercial signs. But we do believe that on intersecting highways which lead to this city some kind of signs in sight of the parkway could tell just a little more about North Wilkesboro than the number of miles distance from the parkway.

Appeasers?

Described as a move to prevent subversive teaching, trustees of the University of North Carolina, at their meeting last Saturday, provided that members of the faculty should take an oath to support the Federal Constitution.

A member of the board declared in the meeting that there was "considerable unrest" in the state about the activities of "not more than 10 or 12 professors," and declared that the taking of an oath to support the Constitution of the United States would quiet that unrest.

There could be no objection to having members of the faculty of any state-supported educational institution take an oath to support the Federal Constitution, but it is preposterous to expect, or even to believe, that the taking of such an oath would change the color or conviction of any teacher. To an honest man, sincere in his patriotism, an oath is a bond; but to one of subversive purpose, an oath to support the Federal Constitution is nothing more than a veil behind which he might conceal his true intentions.

If there are subversive influences at the University, let's forget them out, put them in the open and determine, if possible, their purpose, and then give them the feel of an "educated toe."

From the manner in which the trustees approached and disposed of the question of radicalism at the University, we would judge that each member of the board must have carried a copy of the Chamberlain umbrella.—Oxford Ledger.

Our idea of a national defender would be somebody who could discover that it's contrary to national defense to blow automobile horns needlessly.—Norfolk Virginia-Pilot.

Now that Charlotte has revealed its blue laws, the other side sees only red.—Greensboro Daily News.

Add metal shortage: Iron in the nation's craw.—Greensboro Daily News.

Borrowed Comment

ROOSEVELT WILL NOT BE THE FIRST TO CRACK

(Kernersville Review)

It has been said the outcome of the present war may turn on the wits, courage and physical stamina of three key figures—Adolf Hitler, Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt. About the physical condition of Hitler and Churchill we know little, but that about the third of these men of incalculable energy there is authoritative knowledge which should dispel any idea that he will be the first to crack.

President Roosevelt, despite the strain to which he has been subjected, is as healthy today as any man of 59 can be. This is the reassuring word of Admiral Ross T. McIntyre, the President's personal physician, has passed on to the people of the nation. Close to ideal for a man of Mr. Roosevelt's years are his blood pressure, heart action and metabolism, his organic condition generally, says Admiral McIntyre. In the eight years he has been in the White House the President has never required a sedative to sleep. His only illness has been slight colds and a touch of flu a year ago.

Mr. Roosevelt's weight has not fluctuated more than nine pounds since 1933, Dr. McIntyre adds. At this heaviest he weighed 191 pounds and at his lightest 182 1-2 pounds. Ordinarily the President can eat what he likes and as much as he pleases. However, Dr. McIntyre strives to keep his patient's weight around 185, and when it goes too much beyond that he puts a ban on second helpings and orders a stepping up on the President's program.

Exercise is gained chiefly by the President in swimming in the White House pool, now reduced to three times a week instead of daily, and in daily stretching exercises followed with a massage. Lack of sunshine is the one serious deficiency in the President's health-guarding program.

Dr. McIntyre used to overcome this by sending his charge off on a sea voyage or to Hyde Park occasionally, but the press of defense problems has curtailed the opportunities for these beneficial outings. So far, however, the President is standing up well under this deficiency and also under his greatly lengthened routine, according to Dr. McIntyre.

THE DEMANDING SPIRIT

(Statesville Record)

Pétain, thinly-incarnate ghost of the France that held the line before Verdun, speaks to Frenchmen these days as a saddened father might speak to an erring child.

"We are arranging everything with the Great White Father in Berlin. Don't worry. Don't think. Papa Pétain will tell you what Hitler wants, and arrange to do it. Just stop thinking—obey!"

That is the tenor of Pétain's little homilies, verbal soothing-syrup for the most part, to keep France from rattling her prison door. But the other day a phrase of Pétain clanged like the closing of an iron gate. A committee of "workers, employers and technicians" was thus instructed:

"Your task is to put an end to the demanding spirit . . ."

To do this aging symbol justice, what he meant was the sort of uncompromising, zealous struggle in the social and political fields which helped tear France into ribbons; zealots of the extreme right and extreme left, each with a grin, intransigent spirit that "if it cannot be exactly as I wish it, then let it perish."

How this demand for the end of the demanding spirit will set with Frenchmen who once demanded an end of autocratic monarchy, and got it, we do not know. But Heaven help the world when the demanding spirit is itself extinguished. It is only because our forefathers demanded liberty and then demanded that it be respected, that we have it today.

Right now the nation is doing some demanding also. An overwhelming majority of its people demand that military strength be built; that a swelling and uninterrupted stream of military supplies and equipment be created.

No. We do not want to extinguish the demanding spirit. Every good thing (along with a lot of bad things) which man has achieved on earth is due to the demanding spirit.

Now is the time, however, when lesser, personal, individual demands of organized labor or those of management.

Above the bickering of these individuals, groups, classes, rises the united demand of the whole American people that the job we have set ourselves must be triumphantly accomplished.

Abnormal Absurdities

By DWIGHT NICHOLS, et al.

LIGHTER READING

The student who was so far behind in his studies said that he was in a better position to pursue them.

Mountain Guide: "Be careful not to fall here. It is dangerous. But if you do fall, remember to look to the left, as you get a most wonderful view."

The reason some people are unemployed is because they have never found a job suitable. There was the fellow who wanted to be chief linesman for the wireless telephone service and there has always been the one looking for a job where he could go to work at 12 noon, quit at one p. m., and have one hour for lunch with two good looking helpers.

The student who was asked to give sentences containing four words—defeat, deduct, defense and detail, gave the following: "De feet of de duck goes over de fence before de tail." (That one is so old that Mark Anthony only grinned when it was told him by Cleopatra but he hope you enjoyed it anyway.)

The young man about town goes steady with a certain girl and when asked why he did not occasionally date others he gave a good reason—said no other girl would date him.

Some young brides treat their husbands like Grecian Gods. They place burnt offerings before them three times a day.

That comment about reading across the two parallel signs and making a sentence of "Go to church and dance" was of course incidental. But at a religious service in a little church not so many miles from North Wilkesboro we once saw a teen age girl dance for 30 minutes. Part of her dancing had rhythm.

Hell is so hot, said the proverbial colored preacher, that they use molten metal out of furnaces for ice cream.

It is now estimated that the world cotton crop for the 1940-41 season will be approximately 29,700,000 bales produced on 75,500,000 acres.

Market supplies of truck crops available and in prospect for early summer continue smaller than a year earlier, but supplies of new potatoes are larger, says the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Auto Manufacturers Asked To Withdraw Recent Price Raises

Washington.—Five automobile manufacturers who recently raised prices \$10 to \$33 on various models were asked yesterday by Leon Henderson, price administrator, to withdraw the increases immediately to aid in reducing inflation.

Henderson announced also that his office would watch used car prices closely next season when the "pressure comes from the curtailment of new models." Manufacturers have agreed to cut production of next season's models by 20 per cent.

"Recent price advances are inconsistent with favorable earnings position of the industry as a whole during recent periods," Henderson said in a telegram to the manufacturers.

He added that "maintenance of stable prices and prevention of inflationary price tendencies make imperative sound leadership by the automobile industry at this time."

Henderson told the companies that in "event of specific hardship prompt adjustment of this request will be made."

The request was sent to the Ford Motor Company, the Chrysler Corporation, the Nash-Kelvinator Corporation, the Studebaker Corporation and the Hudson

Motor Car Company. Meanwhile, two administration officials asked the public to put into effect self-imposed restrictions on purchases. Interior Secretary Ickes, who also is petroleum co-ordinator, proposed this slogan for the Atlantic coast: "Don't waste oil and gasoline."

Vice-President Wallace, in an address to the national committee on the housing emergency, urged that every citizen figure out for himself "a personal standard of priorities."

By cutting down on purchases of things "we can do without," he said, "we shall be able to out-produce the aggressor nations and take the heart out of the dictators."

REVISED

The U. S. Department of Agriculture now recommends a spray containing only half as much tar tar emetic and one-fourth as much brown sugar as previously recommended for thrips injury to gladiolus blooms.

Ads. get attention—and results.

10 Minutes to Marry: No Time Honeymoon

March 23, Pa., May 29.—Roger Fairchild, Jr., is married but the honeymoon will have to wait.

Authorities let him out of the county jail 10 minutes for the wedding. He's serving six months for robbery.

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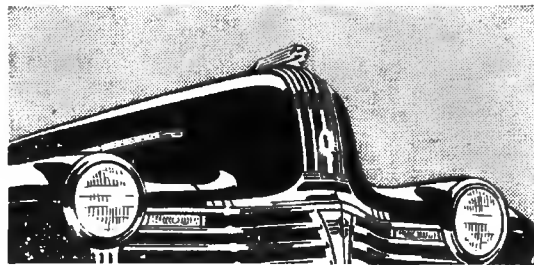
Leaving Charlotte, 9 a. m. arriving North Wilkesboro about noon. Leaving Charlotte 8 p. m., arriving here for 7 a. m. deliveries. Leaving here for Charlotte daily 7 a. m.—2:30 p. m.

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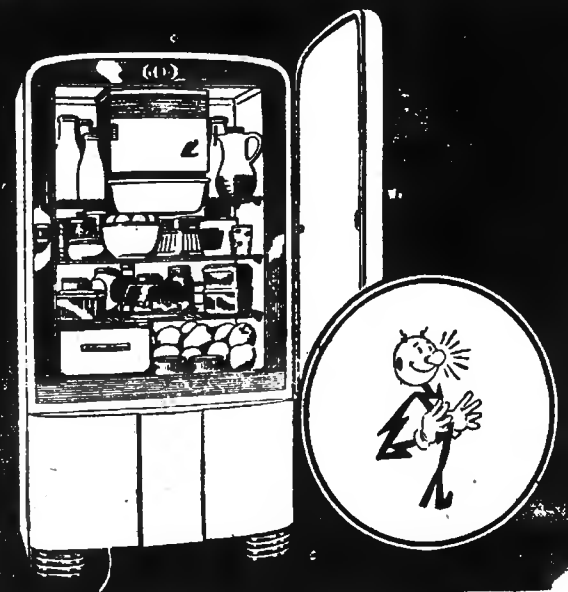


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