

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

Published Mondays and Thursdays at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

JULIUS C. HUBBARD - MRS. D. J. CARTER
Publishers
1932 - DANIEL J. CARTER - 1945

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year \$2.00
(In Wilkes and Adjoining Counties)
One Year \$3.00
(Outside Wilkes and Adjoining Counties)
Rates To Those In Service:
One Year (anywhere) \$2.00

Entered at the postoffice at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, as Second-Class matter under Act of March 4, 1879.

Thursday, Jan. 2, 1947



Expected Legislation To Promote Safety

This month the North Carolina legislature meets in biennial session and important legislation is expected to be enacted relative to the question of safety, especially on the highways.

The legislature is expected to tighten the driver license act to take away from reckless, careless and speeding drivers their privileges to operate on the highways.

The legislature should make it mandatory that those who are "repeaters" in speeding and reckless driving be banned from the highways.

There will also be a bill before the legislature to ban the sale and use of explosive firecrackers in the state of North Carolina.

While no one wants to take away from children the privilege of having fun, the question is being weighed in the balances.

The legislature may find that the fun of shooting firecrackers is not worth the annual toll of maimed limbs, lost eyesight and other physical injuries to scores of children in the state every year.

MONDAY and TUESDAY

Reasonable Valuation And Lower Rate

It is a healthful indication that people are beginning to realize the absurdity of assessed valuation of property for taxation in many counties in the state.

The procedure of assessing property for taxation has become a race between all people to get the lowest possible figures on their assessed valuations. This has proceeded throughout the years until figures for tax assessments no longer are any indication of the reasonable market value of real estate.

In recent years there have been instances in this county of as much as \$10,000 worth of property being sold from a plot assessed at \$2,000, leaving several thousand dollars worth unsold.

Nobody wants to pay taxes, least of all property taxes. A person who pays hundreds each year in income, sales and indirect taxes will howl loudest if his property tax goes up a few cents.

But if property in this or any other county were properly evaluated for taxes, the figures would be much more attractive.

It would not mean an increase in taxes. A county or municipality must have a certain amount of tax money. If the county must raise a certain amount on the basis of \$1.38 at the present valuation, it would raise the same amount on a doubled valuation with a tax rate of 69 cents, which would be much more attractive to the taxpayer.

Realistic valuations could be used to determine what estimates of the real worth of property.

Helping the Public

There's a shortage of anything, and the bureaucrats prefer to hoard the public with the shortage than to increase the supply.

The war has ended over 16 months and we continue to have sugar rationing. It comes out from Washington that some users of sugar are going to get a wee bit more sugar in 1947. And they say they put the word out, you'd think the powers that be are doing it as a tremendous favor.

Picture what there is, the government can't let it out. If there had been a way to increase sugar produc-

tion as there has been to bound the public with a sugar rationing hangover from war times, there would be ample supplies of sugar to fill all legitimate demands.

If the price of sugar during the past two years had been 12 cents per pound, which would have been a low price in comparison with prices of other commodities, there would be plenty of sugar and no rationing by now. Instead, the OPA wanted something to which to point to with pride—namely, the price of sugar. But in gaining that something to which to point to with pride, sugar production was stifled.

To progress as this nation should, we should get away from restrictions and shortages into an era of plenty. Only by production is wealth created.

- THE - EVERYDAY COUNSELOR

By Rev. Herbert Spough, D. D.



The more intently we look at our troubles, the larger they become. If we gaze at them long enough, nurse them carefully enough, they will destroy us. The proper way to treat trouble is that prescribed in the old hymn, "Take It To The Lord In Prayer." On one wall of my study are a matched pair of pictures of Daniel in the Den of Lions. They are copies of two famous paintings by Briton Riviere, and in striking symbolism show man how to meet trouble and overcome it.

The first picture portrays Daniel, with his hands bound, facing a pack of snarling lions. He faces them thoughtfully, but without registering fear. There are seven of these lions, the complete number, indicating the greatness of his trouble and difficulty.

In the second picture Daniel has turned his back upon the lions, and faces a small barred window with head upturned to God in prayer. His hands are still tied, but the attitude of the lions has changed completely. Instead of ferocity, there is now docility. Instead of indicating their

desire to tear him apart, they gaze at him in wonder and amazement.

Daniel is a type of every man in trouble. The first picture teaches him that he is to face his trouble squarely, thoughtfully, appraisingly, but without fear.

The second picture contains a double lesson. The psychological lesson is that he must turn his back on his troubles, if he would learn to escape them. The spiritual lesson is that, in addition to turning his back on his troubles, he must turn to his Lord with them in prayer.

Daniel escaped from the den of lions unharmed. Man will escape from the den of his troubles if he follows the same pattern.

These pictures are the gift of a woman who came to me one time in deep trouble. I had seen these pictures, understood their lesson, but did not have them. However, I described them to her in detail, explaining their lesson. She grasped it, and was helped. Sometime later, she brought me these two pictures as a gift, saying that she hoped that I might use them to help others, as she had been helped.

This story of Daniel is much more than a children's narrative, it has been preserved in the Bible as a striking picture of how men, cast into the den of trouble and adversity, can survive instead of being destroyed, can emerge victorious over his enemies through the protection, strength, wisdom and guidance God will give to those who put their lives fully in His care.

The fellow with a scheme to help you make money usually has a scheme.

North Carolina now has 128 general hospitals, containing 8,475 beds.

In 1940, North Carolina ranked forty-second in hospital beds per 1,000 population.

An automobile is the most dangerous when the nut at the steering wheel gets oiled.

If we'd stop and measure ourselves to the standard of what we think of ourselves—perhaps we'd do better.

Woe unto him that giveth his neighbor a drink, that putteth thy bottle to his mouth, and maketh him drunken.—Hab. 2: 15.

ABSORBENT

By DWIGHT NICHOLS et al

HERE AND THERE—

Have you heard of the guys who sold rabbit sausage? It had a little horse meat in it, but the makers were careful to keep it balanced, half and half—one rabbit and one horse, well mixed. . . . Someone has been telling the yarn about a part of Andy Roberts' car distributor being stolen while he slept nearby. It is a bad day to write, and the Duke Power magazine jokes are well, so here goes:

AND WHY NOT?—

A small boy, with a penny clutched tightly in his hand, entered a toy shop. After a few minutes the proprietor, driven to distraction after showing him most of the stock said, "Look here, my boy, what do you want to buy for a penny—the whole world with a fence around it?"

The boy thought a moment and then replied: "Let's see it."

CHOICE OF WORDS—

You may call a woman a kitten, but you must not call her a cat.

You may call her a mouse, but you must not call her a rat.

You may call her a chicken, but you must not call her a hen.

You may call her a duck, but you must not call her a goose.

You may call her a vision, but you must not call her a sight.

TIME FOR EVERYTHING—

A housewife is enjoying a plate of borscht as a friend rushes in:

"Come quick!" cries the friend, "Your husband is in an accident!"

The wife calmly goes on eating.

"Didn't you hear me?" the friend repeats.

"Your husband is in an accident," she repeats.

"and heard you," said the wife, "when I finish this borscht, I'll tell you what a woman scream!"

MISUNDERSTOOD—

Woman Customer (in bank): "I would like to make a loan."

Bank Official: "You'll have to see the loan arranger."

Woman: "Who?"

Official: "The loan arranger. The loan arranger."

Woman: "Oh, you mean the one who says, 'Hi-Ho Silver?'"

PREDESTINATION—

Country Girl—Paw's the best rifle shot in this county.

City Slicker—And what does that make me?

Country Girl—My fiance.

WHERE FROM?—

First patient (waiting in doctor's office): "How do you do? I'm aching from neuritis."

Second Patient: "Glad to meet you. I'm Thompson from Chicago."

INSINUATION—

A store burned to the ground the very day the owner took out a fire insurance policy. The company suspected fraud, but even after an extensive investigation could get no proof. The only thing the agency manager could do was write the policyholder a note: "Sir: You took out a fire insurance policy with us at 10 a. m. and your fire broke out at 3:30 p. m. Will you kindly explain the delay?"

Cows that are supplied water in bowls at their stanchions during the winter months will drink nearly 20 per cent more water than those watered twice daily. As a result, they produce 1-2 per cent more milk.

Support the Y. M. C. A.

Does Your Handwriting Reveal You? What does your handwriting reveal? A noted graphologist will tell you. Look for the new handwriting feature by Muriel Stafford. A new feature in the Baltimore Sunday American. Order from Your Local Newsdealer.

KEYS TO THE ROAD

25c Each

CAROLINA

Home & Auto Supply
NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.

Millers Hosts At A Holiday Party

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Miller delightfully entertained a group of young couples at a Christmas party at their home in Orange Saturday night, December 21st. Dancing and games were enjoyed by everyone. Gifts were exchanged. The living room and dining room were decorated with holly and a beautiful Christmas tree.

Refreshments, consisting of sandwiches and salads were served. Mrs. Miller was assisted by her small daughter Patricia. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Burton Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Church, Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wallace and Mrs. Veronika Johnston of Missouri.

Support Y. M. C. A.

WATCH and JEWELRY REPAIR SERVICE

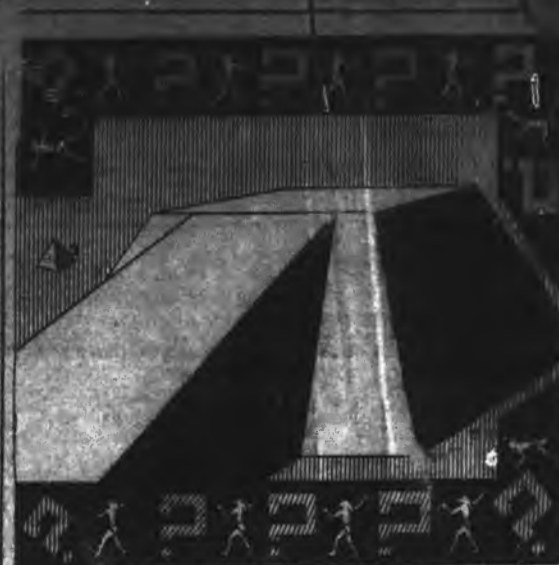


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NORTH WILKESBORO, N. C.



THE REAL MYSTERY OF THE PYRAMIDS

Engineers marvel that a structure of 5,750,000 tons (18 times the weight of the Empire State Building) was ever constructed with mere muscle power.

Yet, with their thousands of slaves, the Pharaohs had less energy at their disposal than is generated today, in many instances, by a single power plant.

The Duke Power Company has under construction facilities that will bring power capacity of the system to a total of 1,140,000 kilowatts . . . and is extending power to new users as fast as equipment essential to distribution is available.



DUKE POWER COMPANY

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AND STILL ONLY

5¢!

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