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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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Monday, January 2, 1950



City Makes Effort To Protect Pedestrians

North Wilkesboro police department has put into effect a "No Left Turn" regulation on the corner of B and Ninth streets.

Under the old system of turning either right or left on the city's busiest corner, pedestrians had little chance, especially with the discourteous driving of numerous motorists who cursed pedestrians who didn't jump out of the way fast enough to suit them while they were making turns over the right of way of the walkers.

Under the old system pedestrians often chose to "jay walk" between corners for the sake of safety as well as to save time. Crossing the street between corners enabled pedestrians to know which way cars were coming, and they could avoid the cars. At the corner they had to watch three sides and jump in several directions at the same time, which is a task, even for a contortionist.

The elimination of left turns at the corner of B and Ninth may be the forerunner of eliminating any turn at that corner, because pedestrians still will have to watch for motorists making right turns and who are liable to run them down from behind.

It has long been a mystery to us why automobile and truck drivers ever got the notion that they had the right of way to run over pedestrians while making turns at traffic lights. The only right of way that a driver or pedestrian has is straight ahead on a green light. To turn means that you must avoid hitting pedestrians who have the right of way with the green light.

To improve the situation, police may expedite traffic on some of the other corners by making it legal to turn right on a red light where pedestrian traffic is light.

During the heavy traffic here during the holidays it was not unusual to see dozens of pedestrians waiting to cross on a green light, and when the light turned green a stream of cars would rush through making a left turn, with no regard for the pedestrians, and the walkers would not get a chance to cross, even when they had the right of way.

Eliminating left turns at the corner of B and Ninth will provide some protection for those who must cross the streets on foot, but a more considerate attitude on the part of drivers is necessary to make safe pedestrian traffic.

Police are going to try to eliminate "jay walking," which is crossing the streets between lights, and it necessary follows that if walkers are going to cross at the corners they must have protection from being run over.

Safety Resolutions Are Suggested For Year 1950

"If you would be thrifty, practice safety in 1950," is a New Year's Resolution suggested this week by Paul Choplin, county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Such a resolution, the county agent pointed out, can be carried out by the whole family to the benefit of all. Furthermore, it is thoroughly practical and can mean the difference between profit and loss for the new year.

Making and keeping New Year's safety

resolutions is much more than a pastime; it is a means of assuring the happiness and well-being of farm families everywhere. The National Safety Council suggests that if each member of every farm family makes and keeps one good safety resolution in 1950, noticeable progress will be made toward reducing the tremendous toll that accidents take in agriculture.

Following are a few suggested resolutions for farm families to make for 1950:

1. We will continually check the farm to locate and remove hazards.
2. We will at all times observe all safety rules in the operation of machines.
3. We will encourage our friends to work, play, and drive safely.
4. Regardless of the emergency, we will not permit young children to operate or ride upon farm machinery.
5. We will observe due caution when working with or around animals.
6. We will keep guns unloaded and out of reach of children.
7. We will handle poisons and explosives carefully and keep them labeled and out of reach of children.
8. We will encourage year-round participation in farm safety activities by the organizations to which we belong.

Persistent hoarseness, an unexplained continued cough or difficulty in swallowing is one of the "danger signs" of cancer. A physician should be consulted.

What do you know about cancer? Write for free informational booklet to your nearest American Cancer Society office or ACS, 47 Beaver Street, New York 4, N. Y.

When Infinite Wisdom established the rule of right and honesty, he saw to it that Justice should be always the highest expediency.—Wendell Phillips.

• LIFE'S BETTER WAY •
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WORTHLESS EXCUSES

There are multitudes of people today who have so many worthless excuses for doing wrong, serving the devil and failing to give their hearts and lives to God. Perhaps one of the main excuses that the masses hold up before them is the failure of church members all about us who live such worldly lives, many of whom are quite sinful and wicked. The outside world will tell us that there are so many hypocrites in the churches, and that they are just as good as they are, and better too, since they do not profess only to be sinners, while the hypocrites say they are Christians.

Well, dear soul, just remember one thing—you can't go to heaven following along with hypocrites. This is a very worthless excuse for you serving the devil and sin. Such an excuse won't get you anywhere toward God, but it will sink you into hell. Yes, we realize this is one of the general excuses the outside sinful world puts up continually, and all about us. I would hate very much to live on no higher level in life than that of a hypocrite, and then go to meet God under such a circumstance. Why not pick out the very best people in the church as an example and try to measure up to them? Indeed there is genuine gold among the counterfeit. Hunt for the gold and not the dross, or the counterfeit. Why throw away the church entirely because there are some who do not measure up to their profession, or that are hypocrites? Isn't it using just as much common sense to throw away all good money because there happens sometimes a little counterfeit to be in circulation? Certainly, but you don't refuse money because you get a counterfeit dollar.

People have many excuses for staying away from the church and Sunday school, but when we sum the excuses all up, with but very few exceptions, the one outstanding reason is because they don't want to go. I'm convinced of this fact the longer I live. People absent themselves from church because they don't want to go. They stay away from God because they want to live for the devil. Of course they have their excuses, but all excuses for living in sin and going hellward, and staying away from God and out of salvation, are absolutely worthless. God won't take excuses at the great and final day of reckoning.

NEW YORK GROCER FOUND DEAD IN STREAM NEAR STATESVILLE

Statesville.—"Foul Play" is suspected in the death of a wealthy Brooklyn, N. Y., grocer whose expensively clothed but shoeless body was discovered in a shallow stream near here Monday, Iredell County Coroner James Meacham said yesterday. The coroner identified the man as J. Seigel, that being the name inscribed on a key chain. He had apparently been dead seven to 10 days. The body was sent to the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston-Salem for an autopsy.

Officers were also investigating the discovery of an expensive topcoat found near the spot about a week ago. Underbrush was trampled down around the coat. No outward sounds of violence had been discovered, but the absence of a wallet and personal papers prompted the suspicion that robbery was a motive for the death. A hunter discovered the body of the 75-year-old man lying face down in about 12 inches of water, at the bottom of a 12-foot ditch. Firemen with grappling hooks lifted it out.

The coroner said that a Brooklyn undertaker had said the man was to spend the Winter in Florida and had been missing for 12 days. New York police said the elderly man, a native of Russia who had been in this country for 57 years, left home Dec. 13 after expressing a wish to go to Florida to visit a nephew. His wife, Fannie, 72, died three days earlier.

Efforts to reach the man in Florida were futile, and two daughters with whom he lived reported him missing. They said they thought he planned the trip by bus. Officers said he was believed to have had about \$100 with him, but no clothing except what he wore. The shoes and necktie were missing.

Seigel retired about six years ago. He had operated grocery stores in New Jersey and Brooklyn. Survivors include a son, Dr. Victor Seigel of Red Bank, N. J., and three daughters. Members of the family were en route here to identify the body.

39-Year-Old Woman Bears 16th Child

Woodbury, Conn.—Mrs. Norman Cole, who is 39, gave birth to her 16th child, a daughter, at her home last night.

Thirteen of the children have been born here and all but one are living.

The proud father, a scrap metal dealer, doesn't believe large families are unusual.

He has 14 brothers and sisters himself.

Vacuum cooling offers an extremely promising method for conditioning certain vegetables for shipment, recent tests by plant scientists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture show.

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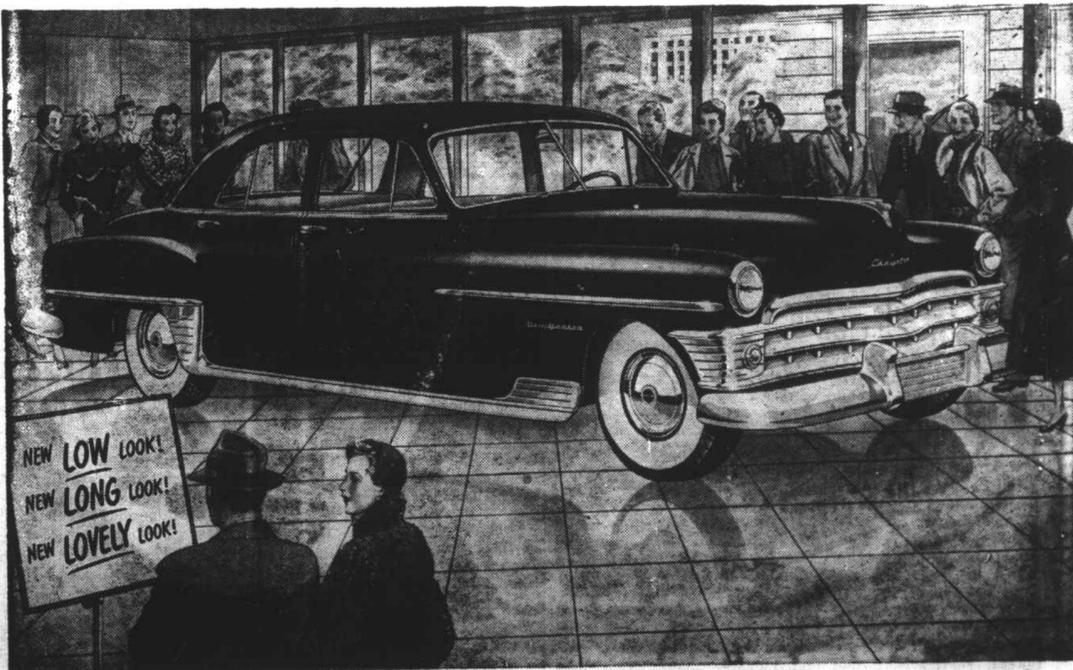
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