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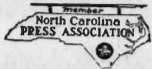
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MARION, N. C., AUG. 15, 1940

WELCOME OLD TIMERS

"The Junaluska pulled the first train into Marion, N. C., August 1st, 1870, with Lester Aldrich at the throttle."

This was a great day for Marion and Western North Carolina. It marked the beginning of the industrial and agricultural development of this section, opening up new markets for factory and farm products. Industries that had been small began to expand, as the railroad offered a much larger marketing field. New industries sprang up—business men recognizing the advantages in resources, power, labor and raw materials made available in the western part of the state by the coming of the railroad.

Industry, commerce and business have grown and expanded in Western North Carolina, as branches of the railroad have reached into previously isolated sections of the state. Western North Carolina's business structure has been built around the railroad and the success of its commerce and industry today is dependent upon the railroad.

Marion and Western North Carolina owe much to men who introduced this method of transportation to this section, to men who risked their lives in hazardous mountain railroading during the latter part of the nineteenth century and the early part of the twentieth. Their efforts aided greatly in the founding of the west.

For these reasons Marion and McDowell county welcome the "Old Timers" to Marion for their sixth annual meeting and reunion, to be held here tomorrow. The dangers, accidents and troubles of early mountain railroading will be discussed here tomorrow. Old friendships will be renewed and new ones made. But nothing will be said by these men about their contribution to the development of the west. The Marion Progress appreciates the work they have done, as do the business men and industrialists of this section, and welcomes the "Old Timers" to Marion for their sixth reunion.

FREEDOM HAS ITS PRICE

The people of the United States, in our opinion, are very foolish if they believe that American ideals of freedom and liberty can be preserved without some contribution from us. It may not be the blood of our soldiers and sailors, but it must be, at least, the assistance that we can render other democracies. They need our help to overthrow the dangers around them and they need assistance in caring for their people, the innocent victims of cruel aggression.

The roll-call of nations that have sat on the sidelines, watching other nations expire, in the belief that the cup might pass them by, includes Poland and Rumania, who stood idly by while Czechoslovakia was dismembered; Norway and Sweden, who were neutral while Russia advanced into Finland; Belgium and the Netherlands, who preserved a scrupulous neutrality until Herr Hitler decided the time was ripe for plunder.

The United States, today, idles on this side of the Atlantic, with many people convinced that this nation can avoid paying the price that free men must pay for their liberty. We hesitate to give effective and decisive assistance to nations that stand for the things we stand for and fight for the way of life that we espouse. Like some of the smaller nations of Europe, we may find out one day, that it does not pay a nation to shrink from the call of duty or to shirk the responsibilities that accompany great power.

Have you done anything to beautify Marion in 1940, or are you waiting on somebody else to do it all?

The trade-at-home program will work only when it has the support of buyers and sellers.

TRAFFIC FATALITIES INCREASE

Traffic fatalities in the United States, during the first half of 1940 were eight per cent more than during the same period last year.

In the first six months of this year 14,740 persons died in traffic accidents in the forty states making reports, says the National Safety Council, which attributes the increase to "war jitters" and an increase of about seven per cent in vehicle mileage.

Even in years of peace the people of the United States resignedly accept as inevitable the loss of life connected with our automobile traffic. It is not to be expected that they will be amazed at the figures for this year.

The unfortunate circumstance is that careful drivers often pay the extreme penalty, losing their lives as result of the carelessness of others. When one drives on the highways it is with the prayer that he escape the results of the carelessness of others. Most of us do, but every week scores do not.

The remedy, so far as we know, is not to be found in restricting reasonably fast speed but in rigidly enforcing safety regulations, automobile inspections and punishing careless drivers without regard to whether their violations of highway safety result in any accidents.

TRAINING NATIONAL GUARD

The only reason that we do not require an army of two or three million men thoroughly trained is the inability of Germany, Italy and Japan to attack us. They are rendered impotent by the combined British and American navies. Once either navy is destroyed the bars are down.

One does not have to know that the dictator nations will attack the United States before believing that our fighting men should be trained. Already we know that modern warfare requires expert fighters. It is an art that cannot be picked up with the speed with which one shoulders a musket.

Admitting the possibility that the British may be beaten in the present war, it seems to us, places upon this nation the duty of being prepared for any attack launched against us. If the British fleet is put out of commission we know that our present fleet is insufficient to prevent foes from attacking this hemisphere in one ocean or the other.

So long as our navy is not large enough to insure us against an attack, regardless of the combination against us, common sense requires that we prepare a second line of defense. The army is this second line. To be worth anything it must contain trained soldiers, with experience in the ways of modern warfare. This cannot be gleaned from books while National Guardsmen live at home. It must come from actual experience in the field.

SCHOOLS TO OPEN AGAIN

With the summer moving along we think it timely to remind the youngsters, happily enjoying their vacations, that it won't be long before school will reopen and they can resume the delightful pursuit of knowledge, so-called.

Adults who take their schools for granted are as silly as children who desire nothing more than a prolonged and endless vacation. Parents should pay some attention to the work of their schools. In the interest of their children they should become acquainted with the educational system, as well as the people who operate it.

LOOKING UPWARD

By continually looking upwards, our minds will themselves grow upwards.—Dr. Arnold.

The man who does not look up will look down, and the spirit which does not dare to soar is destined to grovel.—Lord Beaconsfield.

Thought must be made better and human life more fruitful, for the divine energy to move it onward and upward.—Mary Baker Eddy.

Misrepresentation flourishes because there are fools who believe anything they hear.

Smilin' Charlie Says



"Every plant has its parasites - and the family tree is no exception."

WHILE BRITAIN STANDS

So long as Great Britain remains unconquered hope remains for a real peace which will release Europe—including the German people—from the prison of totalitarian terror.

While Britain stands, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Norway, Denmark, Poland, Czechoslovakia, are only temporary slaves.

While Britain stands there is hope for a genuine "new order" under which some sort of self-governing federation will preserve the liberties of small nations.

While Britain stands there is a chance to stop the trend toward utter lawlessness and anarchy which today spreads the threat of robbery by violence around the world.

While Britain stands there is hope that the ideals of Christianity, liberty, justice, enlightenment, and tolerance will have free opportunity to develop.

While Britain stands, paganism, despotism, injustice, imposed ignorance and calculated intolerance will not have official sanction by the dominant governmental power of Europe.

While Britain stands Japan, Russia and Italy recognize some restraints. While Britain stands the Monroe Doctrine can hardly be seriously menaced.

While Britain stands totalitarian trade cannot coerce the markets of the globe.

While Britain stands the United States is not a democratic island in a world dominated by dictatorships.

While Britain stands the oceans are barriers to, rather than highways for, aggressors.

While Britain stands, "fifth columnists" in America remain merely slinking plotters, lacking great military or economic support.

While Britain stands America can spend some on building a two-ocean navy.

While Britain stands there is time to debate preparedness in the United States.

While Britain stands those who fail to read the lessons of history can say she is fighting only her own battle.

While Britain stands America can stay out of war.

While Britain stands it is even possible for Americans to debate whether aid short of war should be given her.

Britain is not asking for American soldiers. She does believe that her greatest present need, her best assurance of standing is an increased supply of destroyers. The United States has some destroyers which have been laid off as "over age." They might be of use if America were attacked next year. But there is good hope that if they were sold now to Great Britain there would be no possible attack next year. General Pershing has urged that fifty of them should be allowed to pass to Britain.

We believe that the importance of Britain continuing to stand is such that the risk involved should be taken. We believe it is the sort of risk military commanders have always taken. We believe it is the surest, quickest step in national defense for the United States.—Christian Science Monitor.

I'M GROWING OLD

(By James Larkin Pearson in the High Point Enterprise)
I used to get up bright and early, While dewdrops on the grass were pearly; Almost before the break of dawn I'd be out mowing on the lawn.

Or else, to show my hardihood, I'd cut a cord or two of wood; Then run some errands for my wife, To show that I was full of life.

I used to walk erect and proud, The admiration of the crowd; Breathe deep to exercise my lung And keep myself a-lookin' young.

But that was in another age, Before the wars began to rage— Before this great "preparedness" drive

To conscript men of sixty-five. Now all at once I find it pays To do some changing of my ways; I cannot walk without a cane, And all my joints are full of pain.

I lie in bed and grunt and groan, Almost as helpless as a stone; And when I do get out of bed I look like I was nearly dead.

I'm going to let my whiskers grow, And paint 'em white as drifted snow And keep some liniment in store To rub my bones when they are sore

I'll get so blind that I can't see To tell a haystack from a tree, And get so deaf that when folks shout

I don't know what it's all about.

My craving to be young and spry I now declare to be a lie; While this big war-scare keeps alive I want to look like ninety-five.

BE ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

Smile, and the world smiles with you
Knock, and you knock alone;
For the cheerful grin will let you in
Where the kicker is never known.

Growl, and the way looks dreary,
Laugh, and the path is bright,
For a welcome smile
Brings sunshine, while,
A frown shuts out the light.

Sigh, and you attain nothing,
Work, and the prize is won;
For the nifty man
With backbone can
By nothing be outdone.

Hustle, and fortune awaits you,
Shirk, and defeat is sure,
For there's no chance
Of deliverance
For the chap who can't endure.

Sing, and the world's harmonious,
Grumble, and things go wrong,
And all the time
You are out of rhyme
With the busy, bustling throng.

Kick, and there's trouble brewing,
Whistle, and life is gay,
And the world's in tune
Like a day in June,
And the clouds all melt away.
—The Illuminator.

WHO KNOWS?

1. How far is it from Brazil to Africa?
2. What is the basic income tax under British war revenue measures?
3. When did Rumania acquire Southern Dobruia, which Bulgaria now demands?
4. When did Julius Caesar conquer western Europe?
5. How many men will be registered under the proposed compulsory service measure?
6. How many cigarettes do Americans smoke in a year?
7. How many nations has Germany or Russia occupied since last September?
8. What European nations have Western Hemisphere possessions?
9. Is Russia developing a naval base in the Bering Sea?
10. What was the popular vote in the 1936 presidential election?

Nearly 60,000,000 gas masks have been issued in England.

... the morning after and what a HEADACHE

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