

# The Skyland Post

Published Every Thursday By  
SKYLAND PUBLISHING COMPANY  
West Jefferson, N. C.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1949

Entered as Second-Class Matter at  
the Post Office, West Jefferson, N. C.

ED M. ANDERSON Publisher  
MRS. ED M. ANDERSON Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES PER YEAR  
In Ashe—\$2.50 Outside Ashe—\$3.00

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## Our School Problems

The roads, like schools, should be built with the present as well as the future needs in mind. Our population is increasing, conditions and methods of teaching are also changing. For these reasons it is important to get an overall long-range picture of the needs before action is taken. This is particularly true when funds are limited and the best possible use must be made of every dollar.

Printed elsewhere in this paper today is a report of a group of State officials, made after they had surveyed the school needs of the county. Their viewpoint is well worth study. It is unbiased and their suggestions are made purely from a practical educational viewpoint. Citizens, who are interested in the county are asked to read the report with care.

## An Age Of Travel

The present is known as an age of travel. No distance is too far. And since the mode of travel has cut down the traveling time we are not too far away from even the once remote provinces of the world.

It is amazing that in this age of travel, there are some sections of Ashe county in which the travel conditions have scarcely been improved in the last ten years or even a longer period.

It is true that some of these roads are not so widely travelled; but at the same time if they were wider and less rugged they would be travelled more. Perhaps the mail carriers in this county can best testify as to some of these conditions. They travel these roads daily and "for better or worse," which happens to be worse in many instances.

In addition to improved secondary roads this county also needs some real outlets into its two bordering states, Tennessee and Virginia.

When we compare this county with others, we find it superior in many ways except roads. Now is the time to do something about these.

## Time For Optimism

Lew Hahn, president of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, recently wrote, "We have just lived through an amazing period. No retailer ever before saw such conditions and no man now alive is likely to experience anything approaching them in the future. We have had the seven fat years. The only limitation on increasing volume was the ability to secure merchandise to sell. . . . Even while we enjoyed these remarkable conditions, it must have been quite clear such conditions could not last forever. We knew a readjustment was coming. Now it is here.

"It is a time for optimism — not pessimism! . . . We face the opportunity to build a great and enduring prosperity upon a foundation much more sound than the necessity created by a great war."

What has happened in retailing — as in all other lines—is that scarcity of goods has pretty well been replaced by a wide abundance. The customer, quite naturally, is looking for the best quality, the lowest price, the most attractive displays, the most courteous and helpful service. In our competitive economy, the retailer who

does the best job will get the business. The retailer who cannot or will not adjust his thinking to changing times will fail.

Here is a challenge to all retailers, chain and independent, large and small. Economic conditions in this country largely depend on how much money crosses retail counters — mass distribution makes mass production possible. Opportunity always beckons to the good merchant.

## Road To The North

This year will see marked progress in one of the most significant highway projects in the North American continent—the Trans-Canada Highway stretching its 4,200 miles from Halifax in the east to Vancouver on the Pacific Coast.

This highway has had an uncertain and somewhat stormy legislative history. Advocated over 35 years ago, the last link in the road was opened for traffic in a 157-mile stretch in Ontario six years ago. Today the traveler can motor from coast to coast on the Trans-Canada, although parts of his journey will not be on the latest type of improved highway construction. The road is significant, however, for Canada in linking East and West and drawing the eight provinces through which it passes closer together in the motor age. Canadian officials are conscious of the benefits of an all-weather improved highway from coast to coast in terms of bringing into the Dominion tourist dollars.

## The World At Work

Anyone concerned, as who is not, with the problems of earning a living, will follow the business of the Ninth Session of the Economic and Social Council with avid interest. It began July 5, in Geneva, Switzerland. The heavy agenda of 52 separate subjects includes items that range from the supply of DDT for controlling malaria to the problem of slavery and the progress of the U. N. Appeal for Children.

But uppermost in everyone's mind in preparation of the United Nations to sustain and build a prosperous economy in the world. On the success of that effort, the happiness of many depend. Yet how little space is accorded to it in most newspapers.

Tools for building a prosperous world have been readied over the past few years. Now comes a detailed plan from the United Nations on how these tools can be put to work. Essentially, it specifies the kind and quantity of resources needed for their effective operation.

The plan falls into two phases. The first covers technical assistance for economic development such as U. N. and the Specialized Agencies are organized to provide if the funds are made available. This would include recruitment of experts, supply of experimental stations, training of native personnel and the like. This phase contemplates a total expenditure of \$86 million in two years.

The other phase is far more ambitious, rather ambiguous, but of terrific import to the daily life of all peoples. It is a program for raising an estimated \$17 billion a year over the next four years to finance the improvement made practical through the technical efficiency developed in the first phase of the plan.

A major part of this colossal sum, Secretary General Lie insists, would come from domestic investors in the backward countries under the spur of various fiscal devices. But at least \$4 billion a year would be sought from private investors in the highly developed countries. Incentives and security for such investment are proposed.

An idea of the role these investments can play in economic development is given: "Dams for flood control, irrigation and power can increase food supply and provide electric power for villages and industries. Processing in refrigeration plants can save perishable products and expand food production. Expanded production of textiles, home equipment and farm tools and machinery can make jobs for surplus farm populations and raise living standards."

When U. S. A. President Truman spoke of "a bold new program" in his inaugural address last January, much speculation was aroused. The boldness of this response of the United Nations to the challenge may leave one breathless. Yet, it may be asked whether anything less bold will suffice to keep the wheels of industry and agriculture turning, and to inspire the masses of men everywhere with hope and confidence in freedom.

## This Week In Washington

While the American Medical Association in national convention and otherwise continuing to bombard the administration's national health insurance program as socialized medicine administration leaders in charge of the program took a new tack before house and senate committees by asserting that the national health insurance program would prevent, not cause, socialized or state medicine.

And the testimony of J. Donald Kingsley, assistant federal security administrator speaking for Oscar Ewing, the administrator, who is ill, at least gives you something to think about in mulling over this much-debated subject. Here's what Kingsley told the committee.

The problems confronting the people insofar as the medical bill is concerned are not medical problems, but economic problems; that the first is the manpower or doctor shortage and the hospital or facility shortage; second, the manpower and facility distribution, in that hospitals and doctors are not distributed where they are needed and, third, that another economic question is one of inadequate medical purchasing power.

He declared the doctor is doing his part of the job of preventive and curative medicine magnificently and the results they achieve in those areas where they are given a chance are proof of that, but a common financial problem underlies, which is not the problem of the doctor, but for the economist and the statesman.

The thing that national health insurance is expected to cure, according to Kingsley, is the fact that today a substantial proportion of our population must depend upon public or private charity or go without the type of medical care that modern medicine knows how to provide.

And here are some statistics. The federal government is today providing medical care for some 24 million citizens; government owns and operates three-fourths of all hospital beds, government already employs directly thousands of American doctors and pays fees to many hundreds more the taxpayers' money finances full medical care for all members of the armed forces and their dependents and for all disabled veterans.

It provides hospital care for needy veterans, for merchant seamen and complete care for tubercular, mental and other chronic patients. It pays the cost of limited medical care for those on public relief rolls. It gives members of the congress free medical service and free hospital and doctor service in government hospitals such as the naval hospital at Bethesda, Md., and Walter Reed hospital in Washington.

In addition the taxpayers carry the lead on that vast field of medical service such as public health. For all this the taxpayers are paying millions upon millions of dollars.

One of the top business executives, Charles E. Wilson, of General Electric, sees no drastic depression ahead, not more than a 14 per cent decline all along the line by the second quarter of 1950 with the high level of 1948 again reached by the end of 1951.

This a bright picture painted by Mr. Wilson. But government economists and some members of congress are taking no chances. Even today they are dusting off the full employment act of 1946 and its provisions for bolstering the economy and what's more, a new bill is in the offing.

The thought behind this new proposed plan is that if unemployment goes as high as five million it's dangerous and something should be ready, so a drastic plan will be attempted with government playing a leading role. The proposed plan of expansion is backed by Senators Murray, Montana; Pepper, Florida; Kilgore, West Virginia; Keafauer, Tennessee; Humphrey, Minnesota; McMahon, Connecticut; Sparkman, Alabama; Thomas, Utah and many congressmen.

Some weeks ago we wrote about lack of responsibility in this congress and gave the backing and filling and final killing on the Rankin veterans' pension bill as an example. Now comes a new veterans bill and the house whooped it through by a vote of 365 to 27. It is expected to cost about 65 billions over the next 50 years or better than a billion a year. What makes one sort of

## FISHING



## Dale Carnegie

Author of "HOW TO WIN FRIENDS and INFLUENCE PEOPLE"

Out in Missouri several years ago, I knew two little girls. One had a happy, sunny nature. She was affectionate, demonstrative, and her parents were very proud of her. And certainly with reason. The other little girl was quiet, taciturn, shy. She even looked somewhat unhappy most of the time. You could see a youthful gleam of envy as she watched her sister win her way with everyone.

I noticed that when the father suggested that the two little girls go out with him, that the second little girl hesitated, hung back. So the father and the happy little girl went off together and she stayed at home and amused herself with her dolls.

"We wish Ellie wouldn't be like that," said the mother; "she will never be as happy as Becky."

The other day V. Verlin Morris, Bartville, Ohio, told me a story that brought to my mind those two little girls in Missouri.

"I have two little girls," he said, "one seven, the other four. Two years ago the older girl became ill at various times. The doctor checked and found nothing wrong with her physically.

But she continued to be ill, ran a temperature frequently of 102 degrees.

"The two children were of different types, the younger one far more responsive than the older one, and I think both my wife and I paid more attention to the little one. But one day when the little one was asleep, I read stories to the older one, acted out the parts, made her laugh and enjoy them. Soon she climbed on my lap and became affectionate. Suddenly she said, 'Daddy, I like you.'"

"This opened my eyes; the child was hungry for affection and attention. Instantly I made a pledge that never again should that child feel that she was of no importance in our home. Thankful that what I had learned had come early in her life. She stopped being fretful, stopped running a temperature. Today both my little girls have a happy attitude, both have smiling faces."

I don't know what has happened to the little girl back in Missouri, but I hope that her parents, too, learned early in her life what Mr. Morris learned.

## DOWN SOUTH

Director of Research  
Southern States Industrial Council  
By THURMAN SENSING

One might wonder sometimes if the Congress of the United States, much less the people in general, understand the fundamental issue at stake in the present situation concerning the mining of coal in this country.

The issue which underlies all other phases of the dispute is whether or not the people of this nation shall be protected from monopoly in whatever form it rears its ugly head. The present industry wide labor monopoly in the mining of coal, dictated over by John L. Lewis, is just as bad a monopoly as any industrial monopoly that ever existed in this country, if not worse.

If the people of the United States are to be protected from monopolies — and unquestionably such protection is fundamental to the preservation of our form of government — then there should be no discrimination in the type of monopolies from which they are to be protected. It is the responsibility of the Congress of the United States to make certain that this protection is granted. It is the further responsibility of the people of the United States to demand that the Congress take such action.

One of the underlying ills of Great Britain in its present serious economic plight is that the people of that nation have not had operating in their behalf in-

fringe are the demands of veteran's groups.

## Timely Hints

Dry, sunny summer weather is the time many housewives choose for washing blankets and bedspreads. When doing this job, textile specialists suggest care in brushing up the nap or fluffy surface of cotton chenille spreads and wool blankets.

The nap on chenille spreads may be fluffed by shaking them occasionally as they dry on the line and rubbing briskly with the hand or a soft brush. Give them a final rub after they are dry. Never use a stiff brush because it is likely to pull out some of the chenille.

To raise the nap on wool blankets, however, a clean, stiff whisk broom is recommended, but the brushing must be done after the blanket is thoroughly dry. Wool is weak when wet and must be handled carefully. When dry, brushing will not damage the blanket, and fluffing the surface will add much to its warmth.

More than 274,000 farm families were influenced by some phase of the Extension Service program in 1948.

## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS IS HELD

(Continued from page 1) uniform, gave assistance in ten veterans' cases.

The Legion also awarded one oratorical speaking contest award, ten spelling medals, medals to two burglars, sent two boys to boy's state, decorated graves with 111 flags and conducted 33 military funerals.

Other accomplishments of the post were a float in tobacco festival parade, donations to Red Cross and Infantile Paralysis and went over the 1949 membership quota by securing 106 members.

After the business meeting of the post, "Meet North Carolina" and Memorial Day service and parade movies were shown to the post and American Legion Auxiliary members.

such increased cost is handled — it is passed on to the public.

If the amount of coal that can be mined in the United States can be dictated by one labor union — and Mr. Lewis is now demonstrating that under our present laws the word "if" should be dropped — then another labor union can dictate the amount of steel that can be manufactured or the number of pairs of shoes that can be made or the number of pounds of butter that can be produced or the production of anything else that comes to mind. Continuation of such conditions will inevitably lead to the complete destruction of the freedom which underlies our whole philosophy of government and under which we have made all our progress.

For the safety of the nation and the preservation of a form of government that guarantees its people the right to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," we must have laws to protect us from monopoly in labor just as we are now protected by law from monopoly in industry. We cannot condone one and condemn the other; they are equally bad.