

THE PILOT

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THE UNCONSCIOUS ARSONIST

The crime of arson is universally condemned. The deliberate setting of fire can have no justification in any case, and the person committing it is properly given severe punishment when apprehended.

It would be a fine thing for the country if some of that condemnation were extended to the man who causes fire because of his own ignorance, carelessness or stupidity. For the grim harvest reaped by the "unconscious arsonist" is infinitely greater and more serious than that of the fire-bug. He doesn't do it on purpose, of course—but that's a frail excuse indeed when lives and property are destroyed.

Certainly the man who carelessly discards smoking materials in dry woods that are ready to explode into flame at the touch of a spark, is deserving of little public sympathy. Neither is the man who wantonly permits hazards to exist on his property and endangers the property of everyone else in the community.

In some European countries, notably France, the law provides that if a fire starts on anyone's property through the fault or negligence of the owner, he is financially responsible for the damage done to other property. There's small chance of passing such a law here—but the principal it represents is worth thinking about. Most of the hazards that cause fire can be easily eliminated. And the argument that many of us don't recognize hazards when we see them, isn't valid. Ignorance of fire dangers, like ignorance of the law, should not constitute an excuse.

Are you an "unconscious arsonist?" It's easy to say "no"—but can you be certain that's the right answer?

THE RECENT PRIMARY RESULT

You can interpret the recent primary result almost any way you want to. If you are a New Dealer, you can find evidence of continuing support for the President. If you oppose this Administration, you can find evidence to prove that the tide is running away from the New Deal, and that the conservatives have the edge.

Nearer to truth than either of these views, is the observation that the primaries have proven practically nothing. Maury Maverick, one of the 100 per cent New Dealers, lost in Texas, by a very close vote, to a Democrat who is cool to some of the Administration policies. In the Virginia primaries, more or less anti-New Deal Democrats won nominations. On the other hand, strong New Deal candidates swept the slate in West Virginia.

Generally regarded as most important was the bitter Kentucky primary, where Senate Majority Leader Barkley won renomination in a relatively close contest with Governor Chandler. Mr. Barkley was given an extremely warm endorsement by the President, which is generally regarded as having turned the tide in his favor.

Summing up, the primaries indicate that the New Deal is managing to hold its territory—but by narrowing margins in many instances. And the so-called Administration "purge" is not proving as successful as some anticipated.

EVERYTHING BUT THE TRUTH

The Congressional investigation of the Tennessee Valley Authority has degenerated into a farce—and it is a tragic farce indeed for the country.

Witnesses have very largely held to the "you're a liar" type of defense and offense. Charges

GRAINS OF SAND

A pair about as interesting to be found in the country, are Judge and Mrs. Way, who raise orchids in the Sandhills. Now orchids to a great many people are simply fragile and expensive flowers, and beyond that their information ends. The Ways have delved into the orchid question until they can roll off volumes about the life and adventures of an orchid, and what they know about their private lives is astonishing. In their collection you will find the regulation flower that adorns mink coats and party frocks, but the genera Cattleya is not the only outstanding member of a strange family.

When diversification begins in the orchid family it does a thorough job. Nature indulged herself in some frivolous moments when she let her mind run riot in the creation of some of her oddest and most beautiful displays of floral work. The orchid is a great mimic. There is a spray that resembles butterflies, and the plant that trails its greenish blossoms down into rattlesnake formation, and the spider orchid, and the one with the dove in each flower, and a host of other weird combinations. Last week a new South American plant in the Way greenhouse produced a blossom that suggested a scoop in a steam shovel, a bizarre arrangement in design. Its six flower leaves in complicated eccentricity were originated for a single insect to carry life giving dust from one plant to another. The gambler!

You just about need a lawyer-judge and a doctor to point out the architectural difference and the common plan all orchids follow if you hope to distinguish one from another. A great trio are Judge and Mrs. Way and Mother Nature.

This, it seems, is the silly season; or maybe it's just the heat. At any rate, here's a question that's been going the rounds for the past week and giving everyone who's heard it a headache.

Suppose (just suppose) that the temperature yesterday was zero. Today (just suppose, again) it's twice as cold as it was yesterday. What's the temperature today?

If you figure it out, we'd like to know the answer.

When the August sun starts flirting with the nineties and then persistently clings to high figures, the man from the coal yard shows up and induces you to fill up your coal bin. That isn't all, a city store has one of their force call you up or has mailed to you circulars concerning fur coats, expounding on weight and warmth. We wonder just what form of science the human soul operates in when salesman tackle hot

have been hurled—and refuted with unsubstantiated countercharges. There has been much discussion of personalities and little of principles. Equally bad, the members of the committee, with a few exceptions, seem to be bored by the whole proceeding. On July 24, for example, five of the ten members attended the inquiry. On July 26, four attended. This lack of interest is typical, not exceptional.

The truth about TVA will never be ferreted out in this kind of a political investigation. It will not be unearthed by name-calling, and by unproved claims and criticisms. Some time ago the TVA's ex-chairman, A. E. Morgan, suggested that a board of unprejudiced engineers be appointed to weigh the immense amount of technical data surrounding TVA, and make a report. That is the soundest suggestion made yet.

The layman, whether he be a private citizen or a member of Congress, is certainly not qualified to pass upon the justice or injustice of TVA's allocation of power, river improvement, and other costs. The layman cannot be expected to make sense out of hundreds of tables of engineering statistics. Nor can the layman read page after page of prejudiced, self-serving testimony and arrive at any sound conclusion.

The whole country, which has put up hundreds of millions to pay for the TVA experiment, deserves the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. The Congressional committee has all the authority it needs to have a scientific survey made. The American people certainly are not going to be satisfied with a so-called investigation which evades the real issues.

people and make provisions for getting hotter.

All possible advice on how to live and get along in hot weather has been published millions of times. But the matter is always new—in hot weather, so once again:

- Let us try the "Do Nots" first.
- Do Not:
 - Over eat,
 - Drink too much ice water,
 - Worry—particularly about the hot weather,
 - Indulge in too much mental or physical activity,
 - Drink alcoholics of any kind,
 - Take trips unless urgent to places hotter than your own homes.
- Now for a few "Do's":
- Wear comfortable and suitable clothing,
- Cultivate a cheerful disposition,
- Love your neighbor as yourself and, therefore, shut up your dog and shut off your radio, so that the members of your family and the neighbors can sleep, even though it is hot.

Did any one ever write before such a line—"If this be summer, will fall be far behind?" The couriers of the advance season are out. Fields and roadsides are colored now with golden red and purple asters, our autumn flowers. And the mail box fills to overflowing with a deluge of Fall and Winter catalogs that include everything from seeds and bulbs to Christmas toys.

The artists of Sears and Roebuck have made an effort to select a picture for each catalog, relative to the section of the country in which they will enter. North Carolina gets some free advertising in having a scene from her mountain country at Blowing Rock scattered over a group of southern states.

If you don't think Pilot advertising brings results, take the case of a Southern Pines business man who recently placed a small ad in the classified section of the paper stating that he wished to purchase a used desk of certain specifications. It seems that he had previously advertised through the columns of two of the largest daily papers in the state and, getting no results, had just about come to the conclusion that there were no such desks available.

Imagine, then, his surprise when, less than a week after his advertisement appeared, he was swamped with replies; bought a desk, and still continued to receive letters and phone calls. When he came in to cancel his ad, he was seriously considering running another, to advertise the fact that he had already bought the desk, in an effort to stop the deluge.

EIGHTH DISTRICT CONGRESS RACE IS TAKEN TO COURTS

(Continued from page one)
beaten by a group of 15 men who, the victims said, were adherents of W. O. Burgin, Deane's opponent in the Eighth District Congressional race.

Caudle and Davidson were beaten while gathering affidavits, which, they said, were taken from them by the gang. After the incident, Sergeant V. G. Price of the Lexington police force said his department knew the identity of some of the men on the scene when the attack occurred, near Lexington, on July 14.

Board Action Challenged
Burgin's Wake County court order attacked the State Board's validity to reverse certifications of the county votes, which gave him a lead of around 100 votes. The complaint set forth that the amended returns "were not voluntarily made by those signing them, but were made instead, as a result of the intimidation, demand and coercion of the defendant Board or its chairman, in violation of the election laws of North Carolina."

He claimed the change in certification was made, not upon evidence before the State Board, but upon the basis of statements by Chairman W. A. Lucas.

Members of the State Board must appear in court on August 22 to show why Burgin should not be named the Democratic nominee. The court hearing was scheduled to be held this past Wednesday, but was moved up to Monday, August 22, to allow attorneys for the candidates to prepare their cases.

It appears likely that the race will be decided either this month or in September. Should the Superior court uphold the State Board's ruling and Burgin appeals to the State Supreme court, the case will be heard some time next month when the Supreme court is scheduled to meet.

JOHN LANG NAMED STATE NYA HEAD

(Continued from page one)

school; space in the main building, now used for this shop work, is left available for other purposes, and 30 boys have been taken off the street corners and are being made into skilled workmen, capable of producing and earning a living. It is to be hoped that when this building is completed arrangements may already be made to start another.

In like manner in Carthage, similar groups of boys, under the sponsorship of the Moore County Board of Education and under the supervision of Martin Wicker, are repairing and refinishing the furniture and buildings belonging to the county schools. They started work in the Carthage High School, and when they finish in a short time, the building will be almost completely renovated. These boys are from Carthage and the surrounding rural districts.

Some eight or ten girls who have had business courses in high school, but have not had sufficient practical experience to get positions, are rendering good service in the county offices, and getting much valuable experience.

Other groups of girls are employed in a sewing room located in the courthouse. They do plain sewing for the Moore County Hospital, the Moore County Maternal Welfare Committee and the Welfare Department. They are also learning several types of handicraft, embroidery, etc.

Several youths are assigned to work with the Health Department and to assist in the work of the local clinics at Southern Pines, Pinebluff and Carthage.

Eligibility Requirements

It is hoped that every unemployed youth in Moore County, who is willing to accept this opportunity for training, may be reached in one way or another. If projects are unavailable in his locality, there are possibilities of attending one of the several training centers, where the boys live and work together under able supervision. To become eligible the young men and women must first register with the N. C. State Employment Service. A representative of this service is at the courthouse in Carthage each Wednesday morning, in Hemp each Wednesday afternoon, at the Town Hall in Aberdeen on Thurs-

day morning and at Pinehurst each Thursday afternoon. After registering with the Employment Service they must take the card they will receive to the office of the Welfare Department and ask to be referred for employment with the NYA. When this referral has been made and the applicant approved, the County Supervisor will be notified and she will make every effort to see that the youth is placed.

NYA projects which are most highly approved are construction projects, which offer training and provide some lasting benefit to youth. Vocational shops, community buildings, and county owned camp sites are looked upon favorably. Local sponsors have only to draw up plans and guarantee to furnish materials.

Mrs. James B. Swett of Southern Pines is the NYA Supervisor in Moore County. Last week she had an opportunity to place these objectives before a joint meeting of the County Commissioners and the County Board of Education. It is hoped that several localities will avail themselves of this opportunity and that local community leaders will direct their youths to the several agencies which make their certification for this work possible. Mrs. Swett may be reached by letter or telephone at Southern Pines and she will always be glad to assist or advise.

CHURCH NOTES

"The Primary Purge" will be the sermon theme at the Church of Wide Fellowship this Sunday morning at the 11:00 o'clock worship service. There will be a vesper service in the church garden at 7:15.

"Mind," is the subject of the lesson-sermon at the Christian Science Church, East New Hampshire avenue, Sunday morning, at 11:00 o'clock. Sunday School meets at 11:00 a. m. at the church.

Services this Sunday at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Southern Pines will be Holy Communion at 8:00 a. m. and Ante-Communion and Litany with sermon by the rector, the Rev. F. Craighill Brown, at 11:00 o'clock. There will be no services at the Emmanuel Episcopal Church on August 28th and September 4th.

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