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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

No words can express what the world owes to sorrow. Most of the Psalms were born in a wilderness. Most of the Epistles were written in prison. The greatest thoughts of the greatest thinkers have all passed through the fire. The greatest poets have "learned in suffering what they taught in song." In bonds Bunyan lived the allegory that he afterwards indited, and we may thank Bedford Jail for the "Pilgrim's Progress." Take comfort, afflicted Christian! When God is about to make pre-eminent use of man, He puts him in the fire.—Macdonald.

A Good Name —

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and a loving favor rather than silver and gold." This aptly applies to the life of Miss Lura Taylor who was so brutally murdered near here last Wednesday. "She was my best friend and a most lovable character", a neighbor of the victim was heard to remark. Everyone who knew Miss Taylor speaks in the very highest terms of her sterling character and pleasant personality. She was quiet in manner but always looking for an opportunity to do a kind act or favor for those with whom she associated. Reports of high esteem come from the company for whom she worked the past seven years.

To have so beautiful a life as Miss Taylor's snuffed out so brutally by a fiendish degenerate male, and whose children she had been feeding and clothing, is incomprehensible. But he has a soul. A soul that has been fed with indolence, jealousy, hate . . . till it was so cankered that all love, honesty and decency is gone.

Christianity and education should awake more keenly to the need, not only everywhere else, but in Sylva and Jackson County as well.

Changing The Picture —

According to 1945 figures (the latest available) just released by the Division of Commerce and Industry, N. C. Department of Conservation and Development, Jackson County farm families produced only 308,825 dozen eggs and in 1940 only 263,419 dozen, while Wilkes County, which has been producing hatching eggs 15 or 20 years, produced 2,197,575 dozens in 1945.

This figure-picture is rapidly changing in Jackson county since our farmers started their hatching egg producing program just about a year ago. Our farmers are expected to produce near 1,000,000 dozens this year, and the program is just getting started here. Hatching egg producing flock owners now have 30,000 hens in the county with more flocks being established all the time.

Good hatching eggs are now bringing the flock owners 80 cents per dozen. Figure that out for an annual income. Not too bad for a county just getting started into the business.

Our Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations are now exerting much effort toward securing more industry for the county and a bigger percent-

SUMMER —

Officially summer arrived yesterday, June 21, but summer weather arrived last week here in Jackson County. Several days during the past week-end were the hottest we have experienced in the mountains for some time. But with the late cool spring these warm days are welcome. Hot weather here means that it's hotter in the low lands and large cities. The coming of these hot spells drives people to the mountains seeking comfort in the cool breezes of evening and night where they can relax and rest. That is just what is happening now as we note an unusually large number of tourists in Sylva and this section at this time.

The heat is one factor that sends tourists flocking to this area, but it is the lesser important in their minds — beautiful mountain scenery with the chance for outing and recreation are the main factors bringing them here.

The month of June is always a lovely time in the mountains with the flame azalea gradually climbing from the lower altitudes in the early part of the month to the highest peaks in the latter part, the bloom of pale lemon to deep orange, coupled with the pink mountain laurel in large showy clumps is a beautiful sight to behold. There is the rhododendron with its bloom of purple-pink growing in the higher altitudes, which can be seen along the highway clearings at its best as it clusters the mountain sides a mile or more above sea level.

Summer has arrived in the mountains and so have the tourists.

Bringing Home The Bacon

Comparisons of commodity prices in the various countries of the world mean little unless they are related to wage rates. In other words, it is the ability of the workman to "bring home the bacon" that counts.

The U. S. Department of Labor has calculated the minutes of working time required to earn enough money to buy a pound of bacon in ten countries. It is a revealing example of the superiority of our living standards as against those of the rest of the world.

The average American worker works 30 minutes for his pound of bacon. His equivalent in Canada works 45, and in Great Britain, 53. In Ireland he must put in 96 minutes. Finally, the Soviet Union—that wonderful "worker's paradise"—is last on the list, with 466 minutes of work needed for that precious pound of bacon! The communist workers see bacon at long, long intervals, if at all.

These enormous differences are principally due to the economic and social systems under which men work. In the United States we have a free economy. That pound of bacon is one of the products of a highly efficient, extremely competitive industry which can live and prosper only if it meets the needs of free consumers. The same thing is true of everything else we buy, whether it be an automobile or a pair of shoes or a ticket to a movie. The fact that only a free economy can produce abundance for the masses of the people can't be repeated too often.

"The Rape Of Our Roads"

The Buffalo Evening News has printed an article called "The Rape Of Our Roads" by Frederick G. Brownell. It is one of the most revealing pieces yet to appear on what heavy commercial trucking is doing to the public, tax-supported highways.

"America faces a transportation crisis of the first magnitude," writes Mr. Brownell. "Under the relentless battering of outsize and overloaded trucks, the 3,000,000 miles of roads that comprise this nation's arteries are going to pieces faster than we can find the money to replace them . . .

age of the tourist business of this area, which is all well and good. However, we feel that if these organizations supported an already established "industry" and one with much greater possibilities which not only spells progress for the participating individuals but for all businesses and Jackson County as a whole, which is the hatching egg and dairy program, they will have rendered a big service.

There has never been a time in the history of the county when the opportunity was as great as now. The machinery for the program has already been set up and it is rolling in high gear. It only needs the backing of the entire community to keep up the momentum.

"JOE BEAVER"

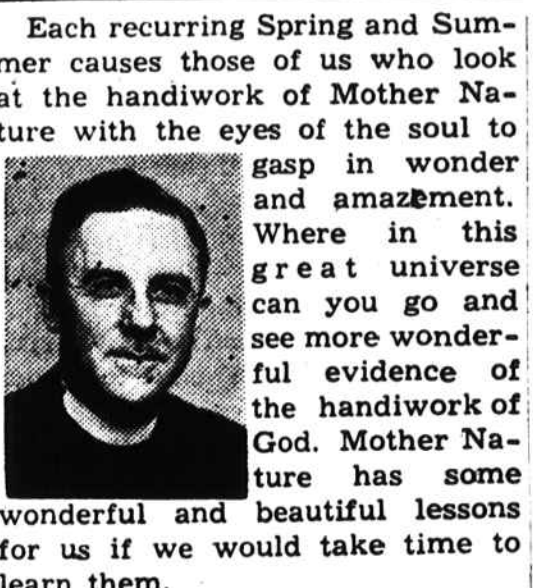
By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

The Everyday Counsellor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.



Each recurring Spring and Summer causes those of us who look at the handiwork of Mother Nature with the eyes of the soul to gasp in wonder and amazement. Where in this great universe can you go and see more wonderful evidence of the handiwork of God. Mother Nature has some wonderful and beautiful lessons for us if we would take time to learn them.

Some weeks ago I was driving through the mountains of Western North Carolina. At one sharp turn I saw something which caused me to stop and look more closely. Growing out between the ledges of a rock on a great cliff were several evergreen trees. At first it looked as they were growing out of the rock itself. Then further examination revealed that they were growing out of crack in the rock. Apparently the roots reached on down into Mother Earth underneath the rock. Gradually as the trees had grown the cracks had widened.

I have been walking over a more wonderful example of that each day in front of my office at the Little Church on he Lane. There was a low place in the cement in front of the steps where water gahered after a rain and would not run off. We drilled a small hole through the concrete in the center of this low place. This permitted the water to seep away slowly. Along with the water apparently a few seeds of grass washed in and now for many weeks I have been walking over several vigorous green blades of grass which having found a root in he earth beneath the concrete have sought sunlight and warmth thru this small hole.

As I walk over this spot day after day and see these few blades of grass growing up out of the hard surroundings of man-made concrete, I have ever been reminded of what God can do if only given a chance — even a small chance.

There are many lives which are just as hard as the concrete in front of my office door. In their hearts, apparently nothing grows. Their minds think only of self and the things they want and don't have. Hear them talk, and they are always thinking about what they dislike and what they want for themselves. But these hard hearts can be penetrated just as we penetrated this concrete sidewalk. We can

drill a hole into them by prayer, plant a seed, keep the hole open by prayer that God's power may reach down. If I had put the seed for a tree in that hole instead of grass seed washing in, in due course, I would probably see what I saw up on the mountain top.

If your life is hard and barren, drill a hole in it with prayer and ask God to let something worthwhile grow out of it. If you have some friend whom you would like to help whose life is hard, try drilling a hole in it with prayer. If you want to get along a little faster, get some close friend who believes in prayer to join with you. Continue in prayer daily, be patient, and you will be amazed at the results.

Why don't you give God a chance with your life, your home, your business, your friends?

A quick look AROUND W.N.C.

JUNE 19-24 IS CLEAN-UP WEEK
MURPHY — Next week is clean-up week in Murphy. The Town of Murphy and Murphy Regal Club are co-sponsors of the effort, and are asking that everybody in the community participate.

All residents of Murphy are asked to clean up their premises, both homes and business places, and have the trash ready to be picked up by town trucks by Thursday. The trucks will be sent to all areas of town Thursday, Friday and Saturday to collect the rubbish, states J. H. Bayless, clerk.

Special emphasis is placed on making and keeping Murphy a clean town, for the purposes of beauty and health, as well as making a good impression on visitors to the community.

EMPLOYEES AT CHAMPION PLANT GET WAGE RAISE
CANTON — A mill-wide increase in wages and salaries for all their employees was announced yesterday, June 14, by the Canton division of the Champion Paper and Fibre company, and at the same time their policy with respect to holidays was considerably liberalized.

The base rates of all active hourly employees are to be increased by four cents per hour effective next Monday, June 19, and employees working on piece rates and salary rates will also receive an equitable adjustment effective on the same date, company officials said.

This is the second upward re-

WHAT OTHER PAPERS SAY

YOUNGER AMERICANS AND THE CRIME RECORD

Here are items in a crime report offering material for thinking that should go deeper than usual into the subject — if anyone knows how to delve to that extent.

Thirty-one per cent of all persons committed last year to Federal prisons were between 18 and 24 years of age. Seventy per cent of all first offenders in the Federal criminal courts last year came from the same age group.

There will be capacious variety in the causes assigned for this record among the nation's younger age group. Some will begin the diagnosis by declaring prohibition a near cure; then the American home, the school, the automobile and other institutions and agencies will be introduced as impressive exhibits.

Like many others, The Times has tried and failed to find the answer. But, beginning an inquiry at home in North Carolina, the State was reminded recently by an expert in penology, Dr. McCormack, who made a survey of the State prison system, that the task of rehabilitation — the job of trying to find and save any worth-while material in the prison population — has been almost entirely neglected in North Carolina.

A start, a good start, has been made right where something new in prison belief and practice is needed. At the Butner Prison Camp for youthful first offenders North Carolina is making an earnest attempt to overcome waywardness before it becomes a settled, hardened habit. And even a reasonably large percentage of scoring would vastly change the crime records in this State.

Here and throughout the nation prevention of crime habits, like the prevention of disease in the realm of medicine, is the thing. An ounce of sure-enough rehabilita-

tion for a youngster may prevent a life of crime. — Asheville Times.

UNFAIR GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN PRIVATE BUSINESS AFFAIRS

A short time ago the Saturday Evening Post printed an article called "The Federal Snoops Are After Me," written by Robinson McIlvaine, publisher of the Downingtown, Pennsylvania, Archive. Mr. McIlvaine and his wife had bought this little weekly paper on the proverbial shoestring, and were getting along nicely until a representative of the Wage and Hour Division of the Federal government appeared with a long bill of particulars of unfair practices which the publisher had unwittingly committed. Mr. McIlvaine has since followed up the Post piece with a further recital of events which he printed in his paper. It all amounts to an interesting, first-hand account of how Federal laws whose intent is perfectly good can be carried to extremes of interpretation which make them almost incredibly onerous to business — and especially small business.

Newspapers of less than 4,000 circulation are exempt from the Wages and Hours Act, and Mr. McIlvaine assumed that his Archive, with a circulation of about 1,600, naturally fell into this category. However, it seemed that the printing end of the paper had been set up as a separate corporation, and this legal quirk brought it within the scope of the law. Mr. McIlvaine didn't think he was engaged in interstate commerce either. But he was wrong again — simply because he printed letterheads for firms which mail letters out of the state!

That was only the beginning of the troubles. It had been a common practice for years for groups of people, young and old, to drop

who will share in the wage raise. This increase will be effective July 1, it was stated.

According to present indications, officials stated the town tax rate for the fiscal year 1950-51 would remain the same, although the budget for that period has not been completed.

EFFORT TO KEEP BUSINESS DISTRICT CLEAN BEING MADE

KERNERSVILLE — An effort is being put forth by the town to help keep the business district clean. Tom Tarkington, secretary of the town, stated this week.

Merchants are asked to co-operate with the effort by picking up or sweeping up paper in front of their individual places of business in lieu of sweeping it into the street.

TOWN GIVES PAY BOOST TO WORKERS JULY 1

CANTON — A pay increase for employees of the Town of Canton has been approved by the city officials, it was announced yesterday by the finance officer, Alderman Robinson.

All full-time employees on the hour rate, will receive an increase of 5c on the hour while all full-time salary employees will be given a \$10 per month raise. There are approximately 25 workers in the first bracket and 18 in the latter,

CAR-TUNES

by Kirk-Davis



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MUGGS AND SKEETER



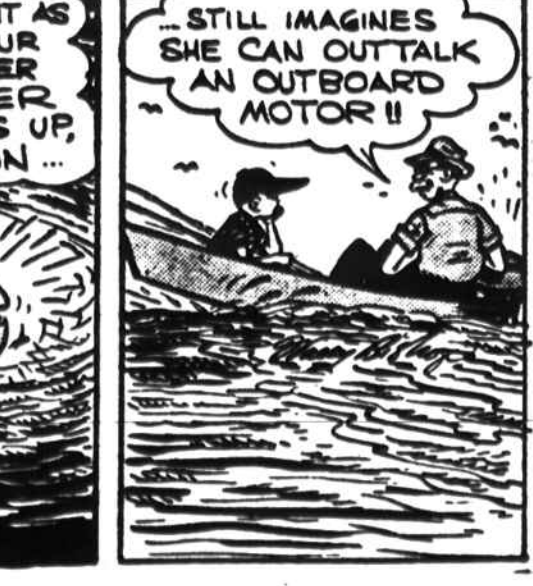
BY WALLY BISHOP



DO WE HAVE TO GO ALL THE WAY BACK AGAIN?



STILL IMAGINES SHE CAN OUTTALK AN OUTBOARD MOTOR!!



- GOALS FOR 1950**
- (1)—NEW INDUSTRY.
 - (2)—IMPROVED SCHOOL FACILITIES.
 - (3)—HARD-SURFACING AS MANY ROADS AS POSSIBLE.
 - (4)—AN EXPANDING HEALTH POLICY.
 - (5)—A COUNTY FAIR.
 - (6)—CONTINUING EMPHASIS OF TOURIST TRADE.
 - (7)—DEVELOPMENT OF HATCHING EGG, TURKISH TOBACCO, AND CASTOR BEAN CROPS.
 - (8)—HONEST, EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT ON ALL LEVELS.