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North Carolina Press Association

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1938

**TOUGH ON LEGISLATORS**

If the State Bar Association, which has opened a campaign to bring about reform in the system of appointment of justices of the peace in North Carolina, is successful in doing anything about it in the next legislature, the lawyers will have performed a great service to the State, but they should consider the hardships that will be inflicted on many legislators who have promised magistracies to their campaign workers as a reward for their services in the campaign. For in the past justices of the peace have been appointed almost entirely on the basis of political services to legislators rather than on their qualifications as judicial officers.

As a consequence of this system of selection of justices of the peace, as Francis E. Winslow, president of the State Bar Association said in Raleigh in an address before the Wake County Bar Association in opening the campaign for reform in the manner of appointment, "in spite of this fantastic system, there is a small and courageous minority of magistrates who still manage to carry on their duties with nobility and self-respect which lift them above the multitude", but at the same time it has created many other justices of the peace who are of the opposite type and character who misuse and abuse the authority and responsibility of their office.

Winslow severely condemned the system as one which creates out of the high office of justice of the peace "a business which depends upon convicting so many head a month" and permits the indiscriminate and wholesale appointment of justices as a reward for political services. And while stating that his attack would be upon the system and was not directed toward any individual justices, he bitterly condemned those magistrates who corrupted their offices for personal gain.

"We all know J. P.'s who have convicted appearance bonds to their own use; who have pocketed fines; who issue warrants for offenses over which they have no jurisdiction and collected costs thereon; who bulldoze and intimidate humble defendants who render judgments by default without notice, who solicit accounts for collection, who always fix judgments for their regular customers, who regularly decide cases from personalities, prejudices or favoritism and who are otherwise lacking in upright character," Winslow asserted.—Gates County Index.

**CANCEL THE ORDER**

We had always thought that the reason it was vital to increase this country's annual income up to a hundred billions, or thereabouts, was to bring to an end this business of relief of all kinds, to make everybody sufficient unto himself with money in two banks and a house with Southern exposure and a rumpus room. We had thought, without really having given any great thought to it, that Government was only stepping in because it had to during the acute stringency of a national income ranging between a miserable 40 billions and 60 billions. But not so.

Not so according to Senator George of Georgia, anyhow. After the President's speech at Gainesville Wednesday, he said:

"The President is eternally right in his position that the national income must be increased. Our national income must go to \$100,000,000,000 to enable us to meet the inescapable demands on government."

If the first reason for gearing up our economy to a hundred-billion rate of production is simply to enable the politicians to appropriate in the style to which they have become accustomed during an emergency, we believe, for our own part, that we'd just as soon do without the rumpus room.—Charlotte News.

It's wise now, even for lawyers, to admit that they don't know the law.

The world, in general, is not interested in the individual who has a good excuse.

The trouble with most plans for efficiency in government is that it means few jobs to distribute.

We may have passed the horse and buggy era but there's many a human ox pulling a heavy load.

Roger Babson says that farmers who raise spinach are making money. And yet, what is money, with a troubled conscience?—Detroit News.

After seeing pictures of advance models of the 1938 bathing suits, we have come to the conclusion that there will not be much on the subject.

We suppose if a newspaper columnist should ever die a violent death it would be spoken of as killing the goof that relayed the olden gag.—The Ohio State Journal.



**Random SIDE GLANCES**  
 By W. Curtis Russ

Mrs. Gwyn in her "Here and There" and Uncle Abe, frequently make mention of my dislike for poetry, and prose. They are absolutely correct, but since it's spring, I'm giving over, and reprinting an article, which comes under the head of prose, that was first published in The Rico-Dove Creek (Colo.) News:

As the slow dragging andante and fassetto of Lohengrin's wedding march was fading—then pealing in air, Mrs. Marcella Davis strummed the ivory keys unto a higher pitch as the little flower girl, mystically wonderful, threaded her winding along the aisle, strewing flowers upon the floor, fit emblems which fill with hope the human heart and strengthen it to bear the storms of life. Once again the magic fingers touched the ivory keys, and rich music—melting and tender like love's tear filled eyes, mellow and rich as an old painting rare, sparkling and gay like imperial gems and chaste and refined like the face of a muse, bowed like a rivulet through the quietness of the room, as the bride stepped forth like some lovely star from a frosty sky, fresh and crisp like the mountain breeze, touched by golden ingots from some treasured isle.

Clinging upon her father's arm she passed o'er the rose petals strewn along the bridal pathway leading unto the wedding altar. Rejoicing in the brightness of her course she did not shrink in the midst of her journey, but exultant in the strength of her youth and the thought of meeting her loved one, she moved toward the spot where she was to meet her lover. Where gleaming spokes of pale light spread its beams across the mound of roses, there stood the groom, and as she threaded her deep path of roses, he stepped forth to guide her trembling feet to the altar which quivered and gleamed beneath a ceiling of amber and pavements of pearl. Here, within the depths of a palpitating sea of flowers, stood the battling Titan who was to pronounce the words which would permit these two to rear themselves their future home.

With church ritual in hand, Rev. Davis, dignified and adorned by his sacred shrine built for his peoples' God, stood, and as the wedding march reached the strain where Lohengrin's white gondola rested upon the placid sands, strewn by the groans and wailing of the wild sea waves, the tumult was stilled, and as the shades of evening deepened into night—this strange plot of human fate pronounced the words which made this loving pair as one.

Sometimes one wonders if being struck by lightning could be much worse than constantly catching thunder.

"If you wish a thing done right, do it yourself"—except in the case of house-painting, where we'd advise against putting the paint on yourself.

Still Digging at Dugald  
 Mrs. Mae Pherson (just at meal time)—Dugald, we've guests at the door.  
 Dugald—Grab a toothpick quick!

Undeceiving  
 She—Anybody would think I was nothing but a cook in this family.  
 Husband—Unless they ate a meal here.

"This girl is new on the coast and it's up to us to show her the difference between right and wrong."  
 "Okay, pal, you teach her what's right."

**LETTERS to the Editor**

EDITOR'S NOTE—Letters to the editor, if free of personal abuse, are always welcomed. All letters must be signed and the opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily the opinions of The Mountaineer.

Waynesville, N. C.,  
 March 29, 1938.

Mr. W. C. Russ, Editor  
 Waynesville Mountaineer,  
 Waynesville, N. C.

Will you permit me through your columns to call attention to the splendid efforts being made by the Youth Council in our township. I was delighted to be present at their meeting held last week and was deeply impressed by the program and the earnest manner in which it was conducted.

Probably the most lasting impression was made when the leader asked for sentence prayers from those present, and one of the young people asked that God would "open the eyes of our parents, that they may see our need and help them to direct and help us to live up to higher standards than ever before."

When these young people come for help and encouragement, will you not make a sacrifice if necessary, of time and money, to help them make our community a finer place for us all to live?

The meetings are held each Tuesday night at various places in the township and all Christians are most cordially invited to co-operate. I am firmly convinced that these young people have started out with a determination to set a higher standard for right living, and to better moral conditions in our community.

Let us encourage them all we possibly can and this group of earnest young Christians may be the leaven which is needed to elevate the standard of morals and Christian living in Haywood county.

Very sincerely,  
 EVELYN M. HYATT.

**THIS WEEK in HISTORY**

March 28—Gunpowder first used in Europe by the Venetians against the Beroese, 1380. Its discovery is ascribed to Berthold Schwartz, a monk in the year 1300. The New York legislature passed a law for the abolition of slavery in that state, 1799.

March 29—Act passed for union of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 1867, under name of Dominion of Canada.

March 30—Radio telephone service between the United States and the Philippine Islands opened, 1912. Daylight saving went into effect in United States, 1918.

March 31—An earthquake caused serious damage in California, 1898.

April 1—Civil government inaugurated in canal zone, with Col. Goethals as governor, 1914.

April 2—Australian ballot introduced in several American states, 1890. Floods in the Mississippi valley devastated 200 square miles and rendered 30,000 people homeless, 1912.

April 3—The Vaterland, largest vessel in the world, was launched at Hamburg, 1913.

**POINTED PARAGRAPHS**

Most appreciated after-dinner speech: "Give ME the check, waiter."

Someone asks, "What is the most expensive talkie ever produced?" Ah, brother, her kind is legion.

Somebody wants to know if it's possible to create a perfect vacuum. It isn't HUMANLY possible, but old mother nature does some pretty neat jobs of it.

"Affairs of defunct local telephone company finally wound-up"—headline in small-town paper. Now they can take off the "receiver."

Memory: When your pockets are lined with silver—so are the clouds.

"Method in his madness" would seem particularly applicable to a European dictator—if you transpose the first and last words.

Remarks a politician: "I wish to remind you that a politician is a human being." Ah, brother, unless you resolve to keep your trap closed, it's a forlorn wish!

We're in favor of a prolonged holiday on the passage of any further laws. There already are more laws on the statute books than a fellow can—break.

Is Your Hat  
 In  
**"Easter" Shape**  
 If Not Let Us Renew It In Time For Easter.  
 ALWAYS LOOK YOUR BEST

**CENTRAL CLEANERS**  
 MAIN STREET  
 Phone 113

**A CHINA EGG**

May look like the real thing to a hen, but it makes a mighty poor omelet. . . If a hen can be fooled with an imitation of her own specialty, how much chance has a layman to detect inferior quality in a prescription? That's why Alexander's label means so much.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

**ALEXANDER'S DRUG STORE**  
 Phones 53 and 54  
 Opp. Post Office

TWO REGISTERED PHARMACISTS FOR YOUR PROTECTION

**BIBLE THOUGHT**  
 WHY SOME PRAYERS FAIL: *Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.*—James 4:2, 3.

**HONOR A BOY HERO**  
 Life everyday presents its heroes who deserve the acclamation of the world no less than those who die on the battlefields.

Of course, we do not hear of all acts of bravery, but one day this month a Maryland home caught on fire. All of the family escaped except two small boys, six and four years old. An older brother, James Haddick, 17, died in a vain attempt to rescue them.

Hearing the younger boys' screams, he broke away from those restraining him and dashed into the burning house. Later, he was seen to reach the door with one of them in his arms but staggered and fell back into the flames.

James probably did not stop to think of the danger to himself when he answered the cries of distress that came from his small brothers. Some may content themselves with the observation that he should have been more cautious in view of the improbability of effecting a rescue.

However, millions of people everywhere, who hear of his deed, will laud his brave and self-effacing act in the face of danger, knowing quite well that the future of the human race depends upon the impulse that moves men and women to sacrifice themselves for others.

**LET'S WAGE WAR UPON SYPHILIS**

One of the nation's leading magazines, The Ladies Home Journal, is conducting a campaign among the women of the country, designed to enlarge the national fight on syphilis. In a page newspaper advertisement, the editors asked women everywhere to write a letter to their congressman, urging passage of the bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Robert M. LaFollette and in the House by Representative A. L. Bulwinkle, which plans an attack to stamp out syphilis in this country.

We have not read the bill but the magazine calls attention to the facts that 60,000 babies are born with syphilis each year, that 40,000 people a year die of cardiac conditions caused by syphilis, that \$10,000,000 a year is spent for the syphilitic blind, that \$31,400,000 a year is spent for the syphilitic insane, that 685,000 syphilitic cases are now under treatment and that in one city 44 out of every 1,000 expectant mothers were infected.

"The only possible enemies that this measure will save," says the editors of the magazine, "are inertia and indifference. If this bill is passed, all it will cost is twenty cents a year per person. That is much less than the present cost of caring for syphilitic blind and insane alone."

As the New York Times has so well said, "Experience has shown that the words 'syphilis' and 'gonorrhoea' must be used in print if venereal diseases are to be controlled." Certainly the time has come for plain speaking everywhere and for wide education among all people in regard to matters of sex. The literature of today discusses this subject with a frankness which would have seemed incredible not many years ago and The Mountaineer offers no apology for calling the subject to the attention of its readers.

It is just about this time of year that business men begin thinking excuses for going fishing.

It may be human nature to criticise others, but we find it hard to understand those who never find anything good anywhere.

An expert is a man who thinks he knows it all without studying any more.