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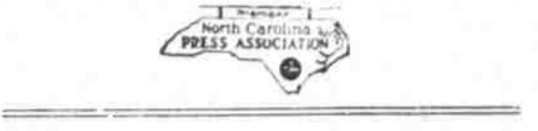
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 1940

THE BAND GROWS

We note with interest that a band has been recently organized in the elementary schools of the saxette students of the fall term, who satisfactorily completed this type of study, thereby attesting the keen appreciation of the pupils and their parents of the opportunity offered in the schools this year for band instruction.

We are sure from the large number of students, more than a hundred in all the townships schools, we are told, who are now taking this type of work, that there have been many personal sacrifices made by the parents to purchase the instruments.

We hope that the students recognize this fact and doubly apply themselves to making the most of this new opportunity, and adding their best toward bringing the Waynesville Band up to the standard of a first class school organization.

The three most expensive instruments, which would have been a considerable hardship on any of the students were purchased by a group of civic minded citizens.

THEY ARE BOTH AFTER IT

An interesting fact was disclosed by a recent Gallup survey, namely that the majority of independent voters are to be found in the big cities.

When one contemplates the fact from the standpoint of the conditions of the small town and rural sections under which we live here we can get the reason at once.

In small communities people live closer together, their interests are more allied and personal obligations are stronger than in the larger cities and communities.

This "independent voter" has grown in amazing importance during the past few years, and as President Roosevelt intimated in his Jackson Day Dinner speech, the Democratic party, if it wishes to continue in power must go after this vote.

In recent years politicians on both sides have learned that it is this "unknown quantity" that turns the tide of political fortune and can make or mar a budding "statesman" in one day at the poles.

PUNISHING OTHER TOWNS

We have never been able to understand why some judges of police courts, would give women of questionable character, their choice of serving a jail sentence or leaving town. Certainly no good is accomplished by such an act, and The Raleigh News and Observer points that such is nothing but punishing other towns.

The Raleigh paper said recently, regarding such an instance:

"Raleigh may be more moral for the absence of two women who were ordered by City Judge West to get out of town or serve 30-day jail sentences. But if these women were not fit to be at liberty in Raleigh, no neighborly act was performed by the court in forcing them under threat of imprisonment upon some other communities. Among decent citizens it has long been regarded as scarcely neighborly to dump the garbage over the fence into another citizen's yard. It is time that decent cities and decent judges learned as much consideration for other communities."

A new vessel, a destroyer, will be named in honor of the late Thomas Alva Edison. But Edison was never a destroyer. It seems some other big thing should bear his name—maybe a powerful lighthouse or a beautiful and useful hospital.—Ex.

It's surprising that some food manufacturer hasn't come out with an alphabetic soup to take care of all vitamin requirements.—Exchange.

THEN AND NOW

The records show that the six-cent gasoline levy has averaged better than two million dollars each month for the past year. That means that North Carolina motorists have contributed in this form of revenue alone enough money to operate the entire state government for more than six years in times comparable to 1917, the year when Uncle Sam entered the World War.

During the year just ended the total revenue collected from motorists was in round figures twenty-five million dollars. The State's total tax revenue for 1917, according to the auditor's reports, was less than four million. This year's gasoline tax alone would have footed a state bill of that size for more than six years.

In addition to that twenty-five million turned into the state till by the motorists, they chipped in one cent a gallon, or one-sixth that amount to the federal government, and also around a quarter of a million in the form of a one-quarter cent per gallon "inspection tax." (Incidentally it is figured that "inspection" actually cost less than a fourth of the amount collected for this purpose, so the state again is collecting money to pay for a service it doesn't render).

So what? Well, if for no other reason, reciting these figures simply to impress how sturdy oaks from little acorns grow; how the pennies left at the filling station becomes mountains of dollars—that alone is worth their study.

But these figures hold another significance: They show the mounting costs of government; they tell plainly that the government maw is insatiable; that no matter if twice this amount were coming from this source it would be spent. Our statesmen at Raleigh would see to that. Oh, yes, we know that the spending stems from the public demand for increased services, and maybe it is unfair to pin it on the politicians. But there it is—twenty-five million from the tax on gasoline alone in 1939 and \$3,870,149 from all sources in 1917. There's a whale of a difference, isn't there?—Elkbin Tribune.

TAR HEEL THIRST

Certain figures appearing in last week's issue of The Mountaineer regarding the number of arrests and number of cases brought before the city court for trial showed a rather alarming trend in local moral conditions.

We doubt if the census would show an increase in population proportionate to warrant an increase in the court records.

The figures recently released by the State Alcoholic Beverage Control System would indicate that the Tar Heel thirst for intoxicating drinks is growing. As the majority of arrests made in this county were for drunkenness, Haywood must be coming in for her share of the growing taste for stimulants.

Yet Haywood County does not even have ABC stores.

The 27 counties, in which the sale of whiskey is legal, totaled the sum of \$7,272,106.90 in their liquor stores in 1939. There being no legal distilleries in the state, the money derived from the sale of stock was sent out of North Carolina.

In other words North Carolina is more than \$7,000,000 poorer in 27 counties from the thirst of its citizens. Based on the total sales for 1939 the 27 counties averaged total sales of \$269,337.29.

On the same basis, if the entire hundred counties in North Carolina maintained liquor stores, it would cost the citizens of the state around \$26,933,729 per year to quench the thirst of its people.

The total sale in 1938, as reported by the state ABC offices was \$6,829,645.65, which also shows the trend of habit in North Carolina.

December just past appears to have been the banner month for thirst in the state since repeal. Perhaps the holiday season of entertaining and conviviality helped swell the figures.

Yet while these amounts are being spent for drink, the schools of North Carolina are running only eight months, except where local tax is supplementing state funds.

With the march of time will we be able to boast of a "well balanced" state?

DESPITE HER RECORD

Each year Durward Howes, editor of a well known women's magazine, names ten outstanding women. On the list for 1939 is the name of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

We wonder if a woman has ever, in a public place in America had to "take so much" from the public. She has endured enough criticism to wilt a less aggressive type of woman to total oblivion as she has gone sweetly on her own way. The public could take it or leave it, just as they pleased.

In selecting Mrs. Roosevelt as one of the ten, Editor Howes said, "she has ignored precedent after precedent and still has managed to survive public opinion, until now she occupies a unique and enviable place in American annals."

Here and There

—By—
HILDA WAY GWYN

The following contribution came to us . . . during the week . . . it is from a column edited by Mrs. Sam Preston . . . in the Charlotte Observer . . . she gives a clipping that she received from a tramp 40 years ago . . . that is now yellow with the passing of time . . . It is regrettable that all who play cards, do not know their Bible as well as the tramp.

The Religious Card Player

A private soldier by the name of Richard Lee was taken before the magistrate of Glasgow, Scotland for playing cards during Divine service . . . A sergeant commanded the soldiers at the church and when the parson read the prayers he took the text, those who had Bibles took them out; but this soldier had neither Bible nor common prayerbook . . . and pulling out a pack of cards he spread them before him . . . The sergeant of the company saw and said, "Richard, put up the cards, this is no place for 'em" . . . When the service was over, the constable took Richard prisoner, and brought him before the mayor . . .

"Well," said the mayor, "what have you brought this soldier here for?"

"For playing cards in the church."

"Well, soldier, what have you to say for yourself?"

"Much, sir, I hope."

"Very good, if not, I will punish you severely."

"I have been," said the soldier "about six weeks on the march . . . I have neither Bible nor common prayer book . . . I have nothing but a pack of cards and I hope to satisfy your worship of the purity of my intentions."

"Then spreading the cards before the mayor, he began with the ace . . .

"When I see the ace, it reminds me that there is but one God . . . When I see the deuce, it reminds me of the Father and Son . . . when I see the three, it reminds me of the Four Evangelists that preached, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John . . . when I see the four, it reminds me of the wise virgins, who trimmed their lamps . . . there were ten, but five were foolish, and were shut out . . . when I see the six, it reminds me that in six days the Lord made Heaven and earth . . . when I see the eight, it reminds me of the eight righteous persons who were saved when God destroyed the world, viz: Noah, his wife, his three sons, and their wives . . . when I see nine, it reminds me of the nine lepers, who were cleansed by our Saviour . . . there were nine out of ten who never returned thanks . . . when I see ten it reminds me of the Ten Commandments which God handed down to Moses on the table of stones . . .

"When I see the king it reminds me of the Great King of Heaven which is God Almighty . . . when I see the queen, it reminds me of the Queen of Sheba, who visited Solomon, for she was as wise a woman as he was a man . . . She brought with her fifty boys and fifty girls, all dressed in boys' apparel, for King Solomon to tell which were boys and which were girls . . . the king sent for water for them to wash . . . the girls washed to the elbows, the boys to their wrists . . . so King Solomon told by that."

"Well," said the mayor, "you have described every card in the deck except one."

"What is that?"

"The knave," said the mayor.

"I will give your honor a description—the greatest knave that I know of is the constable who brought me here."

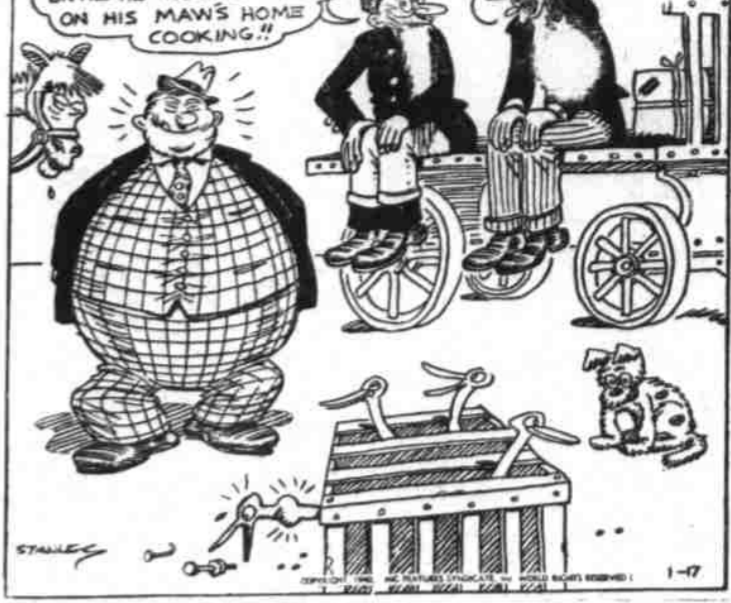
"I do not know," said the mayor.

"If he is the greatest knave but I know he is the greatest fool."

"When I count how many spots there are in a pack of cards I find three hundred and sixty-five . . . as many days as there are in a year . . . when I count the number of cards in a pack, I find fifty-two, the number of weeks in a year . . . I find there are twelve picture cards in a pack . . . representing the number of months in a year . . . and in counting tricks, I find thirteen, the number of weeks in a quarter . . . So you see a pack of cards can serve for a Bible, an almanac and a common prayer," ended the soldier on trial . . .

THE OLD HOME TOWN

By STANLEY



Voice of The People

Do you think that highway patrolmen's cars should be painted a distinguishing color, as at present, or the same colors as other automobiles?

J. L. Stringfield—Chief of Police—"I think they should be painted a different color from the ordinary car, as they are done now, in order for people to know who they are."

Robt. V. Welch—Sheriff—"I think the patrolmen's cars should be painted a different color, so that the public can spot a patrolman's car."

Weaver McCracken—"Whenever you see the patrolman's car, you know who he is and I like the idea of recognizing an officer."

John R. Hipps—"I like the patrolmen cars painted just as they are at present. It works on the same principle as knowing a policeman when you see him."

Joe Liner—"I approve of the plan they have now, and I agree that the cars should be a distinguished color."

J. J. Ferguson—"I think that

John W. Shook—"They ought to be painted a different color, so that people will know when they meet them on the highway. It would be like having policemen going about town dressed in plain clothes."

Henry Francis—"I like the way they have them painted now. I wouldn't like to have them changed, for they help people to keep to the right speed on highways"

Jimmy R. Boyd, Jr.—"You can look at the matter in two ways. If you are violating the law, you can recognize the patrolman's car—and on the other hand if you are in trouble and need his assistance, you like to know him when you see him."

White Mease—"I think they should be different, for it adds distinction to the force of the patrolmen on the highways. If a driver should need the assistance of a patrolman it would be almost impossible to tell one were it not for the color of his car."



BLACKIE BEAR

BY D. SAM COX

MR. MAN DINES ROVER DOG AND HIS FRIENDS

It was away long in the afternoon when Jay Bird came back from Mr. Man's house, and when he lit on the door-step he was laughing so he couldn't talk. It was such a funny sort of a laugh that it tickled all the others, and they began to laugh too. Even Grandpa Bear, who was such a sober old fellow, most all of the time, had to laugh with the rest. After a while they all stopped laughing and then Jay Bird said: "Well, Blackie, it seems a pity to fool anybody like Hound Dog is fooling Mr. Man. When Hound Dog and Howler get over there last night, Rover Dog met them at the gate, and when Howler told Rover Dog that his brother had come to see him, and that they had both come over to spend the night, Rover was so glad to see them that he barked and barked until Mr. Man came out to see who had come. When Rover told him that Howler and his brother had come over to spend the night, Mr. Man told them to go out in the barn and sleep in the big pile of wheat straw. And he told Rover that they could sleep late the next morning, as it was Sunday, and when they got up to come around to the kitchen and Mrs. Man would give them a good breakfast. And that's just what she did. And she seemed to like Howler, and so she asked him to keep his brother over with him and stay for dinner. They smiled and wagged their tails and said they would be glad to spend the day.

HELIUM HOPES

Liquid helium, which is just about the coldest thing we know (it can exist only in temperatures around 452° below zero), has the peculiar property of creeping up the walls of a glass vessel in which it may be kept. Indeed, it creeps so eagerly that it is likely to creep over the top edge and flow away. This has annoyed scientists, who have used liquid helium to produce extremely low temperatures, and, if it annoys them enough, some good may yet come of it. Helium, of course, is ordinarily a gas, and its most spectacular use is for filling balloons.

Down in Rockingham, County Judge J. C. Sedberry left the key in the door of his post office lock box and when he returned a little while later he found them gone and some mail which he had opened and replaced in the box had been taken. John Copeland and Zeb Billingsley, post office workers, decided to catch the thief. They inside of the door to a weight balanced on the edge of a desk. A night or two later, Copeland and Billingsley heard the weight fall to the floor. They ran out into the lobby where they found a young Negro delivery boy. The Negro, listed as James Allen, has been bound over to Federal Court.

LETTER to the Editor
 EDITOR'S NOTE—Letters to the Editor are free of personal abuse, and are returned. All letters must be signed and the opinions expressed therein are not necessarily the views of the editor.

Editor The Mountaineer
 In connection with the Christmas promotional commendations and the due many parties.

To the City Fathers of Wayneville and Hazelwood, employees actually doing the Chamber of Commerce to commend all groups to splendid Christmas. To the individuals putting time and effort to make the program possible. I tend thanks.

In connection with which Santa Claus and the three weeks prior to Christmas, special are due to John Boyd Briggs. To John Boyd Briggs, to Oscar Briggs for the design and construction of his time and talent design—and constructed sleigh body used by Santa.

To the Editor of The Mountaineer, thanks for his general co-operation and the generous amount given through the paper.

It is our opinion that the program, generally speaking, has been a great success for the good of everyone, and next year the same type of should be employed.

Very truly,
 Merchants Division
 Chamber of Commerce

In Looking Over The General Hay
 GETS A FEW THINGS OF WIDE INTEREST OFF WITH LETTERS

(Continued from previous page)
 business, while the mid-west have been Florida does afford an ideal spot to contact sections of the country they are impressed with the culture or personal contact away from home?

I think there is a lot that can come from this campaign, while on the other hand, I believe we are profitable opportunity up the Ohio Valley section. I'm one of those who do not believe in putting eggs in one basket. I believe in planting all one row.

GENERAL

To the Band Students of the Wayneville Talk of Township Schools writing to Dear Boys and Girls— I have been reading, for a while about your band situation. I have heard you plausibly than one occasion. I live out greatly impressed with the public have accomplished in station on time, and also realize National must travel before you can call a band of standard own re-

When you entered that trip in assumed a number of We have ities. You owe it to be climate practice as long as agricultural allow you, and to practice so as est. One can dawdle some intelligently hours and never acquire at thing. You will get me mail long band just what you development of hard work and study.

When you joined this year assumed a school and publicity ability. For the band has through not only to the school, but the community. I understand of the summer you will get a group of local members of inclusive for you to help of expensive instruments, but, especially added to the individual could have the public in your band.

And now a very a matter, boys and girls in this vicinity are larily blessed with a work hard for it, and benefit, to give you Your being a member is one of them. Had gone with that much winter overcoat to buy ment for you. Maybe ed a new dress, or the house, but she s have your chance in she put aside her ers often do.

So you see this of the band is a full work and responsibility a lot of fun. The count your progress to the public. Don't obligations. Yours for music in And in the community GENERAL HA