

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.—Psalm 146:1.

God's in His Heaven—All's right with the world!—Browning.

A Busy, Fruitful Year

The annual report of the Chamber of Commerce has been published. The facts, activities, and accomplishments speak for themselves.

Needless to say, it has been a busy year for the organization. It has been a year of re-organization, so to speak, of several agencies of the community into the one parent civic group.

While much time was spent in 1955 getting organized, and the foundation of the group set up for action, it is encouraging to note that many projects were started and completed during the calendar year.

With the organizational work behind them, the officers and directors are now in a position to devote all of their time to projects and endeavors which are designed to make this a better place in which to live.

The Chamber of Commerce here is working on a budget much smaller than that of most areas this size. In fact, the budget, according to some, is trimmed down just to the bare essentials.

The officials in setting up the \$19,625 budget felt that with that sum a good job could be done, and by going forward steadily, much more could be accomplished in the long run.

The Chamber of Commerce is an essential organization in the economic welfare of any community, and the interest shown in such an organization reflects itself right back to the economy of those who live in the community.

Rising Out Of The Ashes

Another chapter was written in the industrial development of this community today as the formal ground-breaking ceremonies were staged on the 25-acre site for the new Unagusta furniture plant.

It was just 89 days ago today, that a stunned populace stood in the cold wind of that late afternoon, November 30, and watched Plant No. 2 of Unagusta go up in rolling clouds of thick, black, and sickening smoke.

During the past 89 days there have been countless conferences, and engineering meetings relative to completing plans for the large and modern plant of the firm. This modern plant for which ground was broken today will be among the latest in industrial design in the country.

Such a plant is a tribute to the owners and the community, because it clearly shows the faith and confidence which they have in each other and the future of this area.

Needless to say, the New Unagusta, will add materially to the industrial wealth of this country, and provide jobs for many scores of families.

It is with a prayer of thanksgiving that we see the beginning of another era for a New Unagusta.

And as we hopefully predicted the day after the devastating fire, "out of the ashes will rise a greater Unagusta plant."

It is a source of gratitude that the rise of this modern plant for the New Unagusta should come so soon after the destructive fire.

Certainly this phase of the industrial chapter of local history sets our eyes to the future with more hope and even greater determination than ever.

DEFINITION

Prehistoric, adj. Belonging to an early period and a museum.—Devil's Dictionary.

Views of Other Editors

The Odds On The Ides, In Advance

It is established custom in the trade we follow to dramatize the seasons and hail the passing months with appropriate encomiums.

Spring is a maiden, tongue-tied but wanton, masking a vague regret with a frantic promise.

August hobbled in like an old man, puffing a little, wiping the sweat from his wrinkled brow, resigned to a moist senility.

No harm in it. And somehow the space must

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Dayton Rubber Co. Steadily Growing

Last October A. L. Freedlander, president and general manager of The Dayton Rubber Company, announced a substantial expansion of facilities of the Waynesville plant.

No figures of cost were given, other than to say "a substantial sum."

Incorporated in the statement was the promise that the expansion program would begin at once, and be pushed as rapidly as possible.

Over the weekend office personnel of The Dayton Rubber plant here moved into modern office quarters, which are a part of the expansion program announced last October by Mr. Freedlander.

Space formerly used for offices will be devoted to production departments.

Other phases of the expansion program are being pushed just as fast as feasible, which is encouraging news of the growth of this industrial firm which is such an important part of our community.

A Civic Stimulant

We were among the some 300 who received a civic stimulant Thursday night at the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet, as Joe S. Stone came here from Charlotte and told us anew of the many things which we already knew about Haywood, but perhaps had temporarily forgotten in our daily rush of activities.

What he told us was not altogether new, but certainly refreshing, and we must admit, it was good to hear, especially in the manner which Mr. Stone so capably presented the story of Haywood's progressive growth over the recent years.

The North Carolina manager of Southern Bell is charged with the responsibility of managing the \$150,000,000 investment his company has in this state. He is a master at presenting facts, and for that reason was able to tell us in cold factual figures that Haywood is steadily growing, and our per capita income and effective purchasing power has increased 39 per cent in the past six years as compared with the 22 per cent increase in the state.

Mr. Stone held up the mirror for us to re-see ourselves, and from what we saw, we should have renewed enthusiasm, renewed spirit, and more determination than ever to keep going forward here in Haywood county.

FASHION REFLECTS ITS PERIOD

Molyneux likes the redingote movement and goes to great lengths to cut the coats so as to accentuate that slimmest of waistline that is a sign of the times.—Fashion Dispatch from France.

WHERE'S SUSIE?

A police surgeon in Philadelphia says one is sober if he is able to say "Susie Sat in the soup." The one we wonder about is Susie.—Portland Oregonian.

THE FUN-LOVING POINSETTIA

Be careful handling a poinsettia received at Christmas, if growing well and in its prime, will last for quite a while. It must be kept out of drafts; it must be kept moist always but never soaked; it must have moist air to keep leaves from dropping; it must have some fun.—Fayetteville (N. C.) Observer.

The trouble is, at our house, the months pile up unseasonably fast and the seasons get lost in clockbeats. Just when we're settled to bang out a tribute to May, the telephone rings. It is often a constant critic, deploring our April errors. Before we know it, it's June.

Not this time. Though the deadline has passed for a February observance, we mean to be nothing if not premature. Hence, in a hurry, March.

March is a month of "maybes." It whispers of violets and screams of remembered thistle.

Its midday mood is mostly gentle but woefully unreliable. By nightfall, March can get mad.

Wind is relative. We remember a March that offered no breeze worth a kite's indulgence. The bells sprouted in their marginal beds and a bluebird struttled in prideful advertisement.

The ides passed without fateful incident; here and there a man among us announced the arrival of spring.

The mood was madness.

On March twenty-seven it snowed like the Man On Cloud Nine had a stockpile surplus; the bulbs despoiled and died; the warmer prophets crept back to their caves.

There were kites, belatedly. But some of us were too old to fly them and most of us were too cold to care.

March is a month in deceptive dress, be it lamb-like or lionish. Always beneath the girdle, surprises strajn at the seams.

March can be vicious, like stored-up wrath—or March can be insistently pious, like an apostate. But March is a month to beware of, ready or not.

Don't say nobody warned you.—Charlotte Observer.

WISHFUL THINKING



Looking Back Over The Years

20 YEARS AGO Miss Frances Fincher of Clyde is member of cast of play at Woman's College.

George Moffitt is elected president of Citizen's Bible Class taught by J. R. Morgan.

Mrs. Nana Shankle gives dinner party at Birchwood Hall.

Little Miss Margaret Atkinson presents framed picture of George Washington to Central Elementary school.

10 YEARS AGO Aaron Hyatt wins DAR medal in 38th annual declamation contest.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Rathbone of Crabtree are first Haywood couple to pay off FSA loan.

Miss Janette Burgin becomes bride of R. G. Goldsworthy.

S/Sgt. Howard Hyatt receives discharge from Army at Fort Meade.

J. H. Howell, Jr. attends income tax course at Chapel Hill.

5 YEARS AGO Miss Jean Ann Bradley is engaged to Carey T. Wells.

Mrs. Ralph Prevost gives buffet supper announcing the engagement of her cousin, Miss Barbara Ann Boyd, to Erwin Burgin.

Fines Creek girls, Canton boys win Gold Medal Cage Tourney.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred W. Best and children are named as typical Beaverdam family.

Cruso citizens are hopeful of getting telephones.

The Ten Commandments

- 1. Don't let your parents down. They've brought you up. 2. Stop and think before you drink. 3. Be smart, obey. You'll give orders yourself some day. 4. Ditch dirty thoughts fast or they'll ditch you. 5. Show-off driving is juvenile. Don't act your age. 6. Pick the right friends to be picked for a friend. 7. Choose a date fit for a mate. 8. Don't go steady unless you're ready. 9. Love God and neighbor. 10. Live carefully. The soul you save may be your own.—Columbia (S.C.) State

Just Looking Around

Sometimes curiosity can be rewarding. At other times it can get one into trouble.

My curiosity Thursday night paid off a handsome dividend.

Telephone officials, being keen observers, sensed I wanted more information about how quickly a call had just been made from the WTHS cafeteria to San Francisco during the Chamber of Commerce banquet.

Joe S. Stone, Carolina's manager and Nick Posey, plant foreman of Canton, took me in hand, and gave me ten digits to dial.

I spun the dial quickly and in eight seconds flat from the time I stuck my finger in the first dial hole, a voice was saying: "San Francisco Time Service. It is 7:38."

That was 10:38 here—but no matter what the actual time, it meant we were living in a fast age.

Then Nick stepped up, and handed me a number of five digits.

"Dial this and see what you get."

I figured it was a number in Asheville—perhaps a time signal station there, so I dialed as instructed.

Hardly had the dial gotten around to normal when the ringing signal could be heard, and I saw a smile come across Nick's face.

I suspected he had me dialing some prison warden, or some such place, when a pleasant voice said: "This is Denver."

Nick quickly replied: "Just testing, thank you."

That call was so fast I did not get to clock it.

Then the telephone officials explained that perhaps the call to San Francisco went out via Atlanta, and the familiar southern route, while the Denver call a

few minutes later might have taken a loop via Chicago and out the central route.

I don't know which way they traveled to get there, but I do know they were not long on the way.

The cafeteria was never more beautiful than Thursday night. And the many hours of preparation it took for the job will never be known.

The set-up and tear-down was much like a circus schedule. The cafeteria was not available until 2 p.m.

It had to be cleared Thursday night for the school schedule Friday.

Rambling 'Round

By Frances Gilbert Frazier

The subject has come up so many times that it has become almost banal, and the enormity of it has been lost in the mad stampede of everyday life. We are referring to juvenile delinquency, and its unbelievable growth.

To us, one of the most appalling and atrocious aspects of this was the wanton murder of a little nine-year-old Cub Scout by a fourteen-year-old boy. It is inconceivable that a child of fourteen could have acquired in those few years such degradation of mind that he could have committed this crime.

This brings up the question that has baffled so many who are striving to combat this growing fiendishness; is it ancestry or environment that molds one's life? Isn't there some cure for this terrible epidemic of lawlessness... murder, vandalism, robbery, assault?

"A new broom sweeps clean" . . . but an old one lasts longer.

Personally, we are far from being a devotee of the so-called "comics", but we must confess that we are a push-over for "Henry" and "Dennis, the menace". Without a word being inserted, Henry can express his story in pantomime most conclusively. And when he "washes his hands" of the whole affair, you feel a satisfaction that the job has been well done.

Dennis is so perfect a replica of the boy next door, down the street or even your own progeny. You feel as though you know exactly the dizzy of apprehension his parents go through every minute.

"The early bird catches the worm" . . . but we've never had a report from the worm. After all, he was the first one out.

You always see in the advertisements how many miles a car can travel on a gallon of gasoline; it is their stock talking point. But have YOU ever tried to figure out how far you can travel on a train of thought? How many blissful miles you can get away from everything by just watching a white fluffy cloud go slowly drifting away into eternity? How many happy hours you can spend listening to a gurgling little stream as it swings you into a wide open sea of contentment? How many beautiful cities you can visit of your own choosing by closing your eyes and putting your head back on a cushion? How many beautiful thoughts you can collect for future treasuring by reading a good book or interesting short story? How many wonderful friends you can gather around you by remembering the many little things people have done for you?

Or, just board that train of thought with no special destination and listen to the wheels go clickety-click as you travel into day-dream-land, that Paradise of Perfection.

When angry count ten, is sage advice. When really mad, just count five twice.

It must have been when Christmas bills began flooding in that Dulles coined the phrase, agonizing reappraisal.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

A court has ruled that calling a man a communist is libelous. To be one, it should, is traitorous—Laurel (Miss.) Leader-Call.

Lots of fellows pretend they are coming to you for advice, when really they're just hoping you will approve what they are planning to do.—Bartow (Ga.) Herald.

Pain wastes the body; pleasures the understanding.—Benjamin Franklin.

Inside WASHINGTON

MARCH OF EVENTS

Don't Expect Any Changes In Cabinet at This Time

Kennedy Looks Good 'Veep' Bet to Some Demo Leaders

Special to Central Press Association

WASHINGTON—Do not look for any change in President Eisenhower's Cabinet despite the recent furor raised over Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson and Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. Insiders say that both men have the full support of the President and can stay on just as long as they like. Furthermore, from a political standpoint, it is highly unlikely that either Cabinet member would quit or be fired in an election year, thus giving the Democrats campaign ammunition.

Do not forget that Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson at one time was in just as much hot water as Dulles and Benson because of public statements he made, and no effort was ever made to remove him. The White House feels that both Dulles and Benson may have spoken out of turn in the past but they are working hard at their jobs to achieve administration goals.

VICE PRESIDENT KENNEDY?—Democratic leaders are saying that Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts looks more and more like a good bet for the party's vice presidential nomination. They point to these factors:

Adlai E. Stevenson is reported favorably inclined toward Kennedy as a possible running mate. Kennedy would be geographically "right" on the ticket. He has an excellent war record—to balance Adlai's World War II civilian status. He is a Roman Catholic—and the Democrats want to lure back the Catholic voters who voted for Ike in 1952. He is also only 38 now.

AIR FORCE—The Air Force is admittedly finding it difficult to swallow the fact that Mr. Eisenhower's budget provides for only 1,900 new planes during the year beginning July 1, as compared to more than 2,300 during the current fiscal year.

However, the word has gone around that Gen. Nathan F. Twining, Air chief of staff, will be "looking for a job" if he doesn't consistently support Ike's program during its tortuous course through Congress.

Twining has never been given to unorthodoxy, and it seems likely that Air enthusiasts in Congress will have to take the initiative without his help if the aircraft budget is to be revised upward.

NAVY—Rep. Carl Vinson (D), Georgia, says the Navy has 985 vessels and 16,000 planes in operation. The chairman of the House armed services committee has furnished a breakdown of the size of the United States Navy. Of the 985 ships, 404 are "warships." Also there are 26 aircraft carriers in commission. In addition, there are 1,800 ships in the mothball fleet.

Seventy-three ships are now under construction and contracts will be signed soon for another 15, at a total cost of \$2,785,000,000. This doesn't include landing craft.

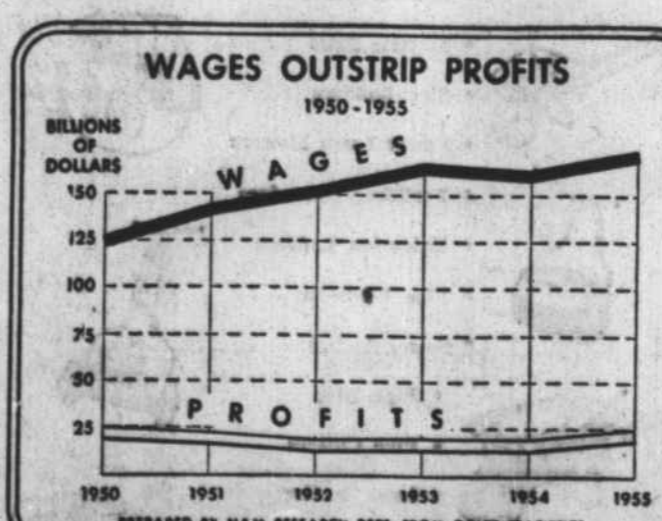
New legislation will authorize the construction of another 23 ships, including the world's first atomic-powered surface vessel—a guided missile light cruiser—and the modernization of 23 existing vessels. This new program will cost \$1,429,000,000.

RELIGION AND TREATIES—Two treaties of friendship with other nations soon to come before the Senate for ratification threaten to stir up some controversy in religious circles.

These are treaties of friendship, commerce and navigation with Haiti and Spain. Usually, these treaties contain a clause that citizens of one country shall have the liberty, while residing in the other country, to hold religious services, both public and private, in places of their choice.

This clause is absent in the pending treaty with Haiti. This has caused some concern among Protestant church leaders. They are not concerned so much about the absence of the clause in the treaty with Haiti, since this nation is tolerant toward all creeds.

They are afraid, however, that the clause also will be absent in the treaty with Spain when it comes along. Spain, they remark, is notably less friendly than Haiti toward non-Catholics.



Total wages and salaries in 1955, except for those on government payrolls, were 39 per cent above those of five years ago. The total climbed from 124 billions of dollars in 1950 to 173 billions last year. This was a record high level. It was the result of the greatest number of people working at the highest pay rates in history. Average hourly wages in manufacturing, for instance, were 28 per cent higher than during 1950.

Total corporate profits, on the other hand, were about the same as in 1950. In that year profits were \$2.1 billions of dollars, somewhat higher than the 21.8 billions estimated for 1955. Despite the greatest production and sales year ever, a larger number of corporations earned no more than they did five years ago.