

And the patriarchs moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt; but God was with him. —Acts 7:9.

The truest mark of being born with great qualities is being born without envy. —La Rochefoucauld.

Firecrackers Are Against The Law

In a timely editorial, The Elkin Tribune pointed out that firecrackers are a menace to everyone. The editor of that newspaper goes on to say:

"Although it is against the law to manufacture, own or shoot fireworks in North Carolina, we suppose that this Christmas, as in years past, the anniversary of the birth of Christmas will be ushered in with the boom of exploding fireworks.

"In the first place, shooting firecrackers is not an appropriate way in which to celebrate the world's most important and sacred day, and in the second place, fireworks are a menace to both those who use and those who are around when they are discharged.

"It is a difficult matter for police to apprehend such violators of the law, for in many instances large firecrackers are thrown out of passing cars, or are exploded when police are not around. And by the time officers can reach the scene, they either find the culprits gone, or encounter innocent looking faces, even though pockets may be filled with unexploded crackers."

Really Big

We hear much about big business. We should hear more, and think more, about big business — which makes the biggest business seem pygmy.

Our federal government employs more than 5,000,000 people — while the largest private employer, the Bell System, employ less than 746,000. The government has annual revenues of about \$80.8 billion — while the private enterprise with the largest sales, General Motors, has about \$12.5 billion. The government has total assets of \$165.7 billion in the last year for which such figures are available — while the private enterprise with the biggest assets, Metropolitan Life Insurance, had a little less than \$14 billion.

North Carolina's Crucial Problem

President W. E. Bird of Western Carolina College in an address before the Rotary Club here last week, pointed out some facts about the crucial problem of getting and keeping teachers in schools and colleges.

President Bird told of some experiments which are now being tried in several of the largest colleges in the nation, whereby one professor lectures via a closed circuit TV to a large class of several hundred. Sometimes the same lecture is channeled to other nearby colleges.

The class gets the lecture fine, but as President Bird said, the plan is "dehumanizing" the classroom. It gets away from the personal contact of teacher and student, which has been proven time and time again an important and essential part of good teaching.

The one remedy, according to President Bird, is to offer the teachers salaries that are comparable to those salaries paid by business and industry.

He said that the proposal that the standards for teachers be lowered in an effort to see if that would appeal to more people and get them to enter the teaching profession, has been unsatisfactorily tried.

The problem, as President Bird pointed out, is growing steadily worse instead of better. That is a discouraging fact, and the solution is nowhere in sight.

Views of Other Editors

The Limits of Good Taste

For a little over 25 years the Motion Picture Production Code has been attempting to apply what one might call the "inch-rule of taste" to the immeasurably intricate vagaries of human nature as portrayed on the screen. Industry self-regulation reflects the effort to exercise, unofficial, voluntary restraints in an area where some countries utilize censorship.

THE MOUNTAINEER

Waynesville, North Carolina  
Main Street Dial GL 6-5301  
The County Seat of Haywood County  
Published By  
The WAYNESVILLE MOUNTAINEER, Inc.  
W. CURTIS RUSS Editor  
W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers  
PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY  
BY MAIL IN HAYWOOD COUNTY  
One Year \$3.50  
Six months 2.00  
BY MAIL IN NORTH CAROLINA  
One Year 4.50  
Six months 2.50  
OUTSIDE NORTH CAROLINA  
One Year 5.00  
Six months 3.00  
LOCAL CARRIER DELIVERY  
Per month .40  
Office-paid for carrier delivery 4.50  
Second Class mail privileges authorized at Waynesville, N. C.

MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
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Thursday Afternoon, Dec. 20, 1956

Christmas 1956

Matt. 14:25 "And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea."

Matt. 14:29-31 "And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

"But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

"And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

The miracles which are recorded in many passages of the Bible had a profound effect upon those whose lives were touched by them because they were done with a calm authority and confidence that spoke eloquently of their divine origin. They were a challenge to the followers of Jesus during His ministry as a physical presence and to us today to have faith in God's Messiah and act according to His word.

Jesus did not write His teachings on golden tablets to be enshrined in great temples which time would destroy. He wrote them deep within the hearts and minds of living men and women where His message could not be stamped into oblivion by any sort of ruthless oppression nor worn away by the impartial attrition of time. This is the strength of Christianity — that it needs no outward trappings. With its message of hope and concern for the dignity and worth of each human being, it brings the greatest comfort and burns the brightest within those most sorely oppressed. This Christmas of 1956 let us all pause once more to burnish anew our thoughts of Him who came to build a Kingdom in our hearts. His teachings lend meaning to the humdrum life, dignity to the unfortunate, hope to people who have none and courage to those who must do the impossible. This troubled Christmas all men would do well to remember His outstretched hand and His words to one who was sinking into a stormy sea "Oh thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?"

Getting Ready For Christmas

This year's Christmas retail sales are expected to be the greatest ever — more than seven per cent above last year, the U. S. Chamber of Commerce forecasts. And what it takes to get a store ready for Christmas has been described by John S. Tompkins in The Wall Street Journal. He writes: "It takes time (lots of it), money (lots of it) and, above all, people — from store presidents to floor walkers, buyers and sales clerks, carpenters, and truck drivers, artists and artisans, celebrities and anybody. And it takes Santa Claus."

Mr. Tompkins' article has to do with a huge department store in New York City. But what he says is applicable, on a varying scale, to stores of all kinds and all sizes in every community in this vast country. To many a merchant, the extent of Christmas business determines whether he is to have a good, bad or indifferent year. All merchants must compete for the favor of a public which knows what it wants and is after the best deal possible. So all merchants must do their utmost to provide the stocks of goods, the courteous service, and attractive advertising, and the other inducements that bring people into the store and cause them to

This week the Motion Picture Association of America, Inc., brought out a revised code. Certain formerly proscribed subjects—such as kidnapping, childbirth, and the illegal drug traffic—are now permitted "within the limits of good taste". On the other hand, so-called mere killings, blasphemy, and double entendre are among matters now forbidden. Basically, the code retains its general principles. It declares: "No picture shall be produced which will lower the moral standards of those who see it. . . . The sympathy of the audience shall never be thrown to the side of crime, wrongdoing, evil or sin. . . . Law—divine, natural, or human—shall not be ridiculed, nor shall sympathy be created for its violation."

Clearly, the decision as to whether or not a motion picture adheres to the code will always be partly subjective. The new code, like the old, contains many debatable provisions and some which seem unenforceable. "Self-regulation" is not aimed at the responsible movie maker, who can and does regulate himself. It is an effort to curb those who would commercially exploit questionable material. The limited effectiveness of any such set of rules is illustrated by the fact that the appearance of the new code virtually coincides with the release of a film which—in our opinion—flagrantly violates good taste, however it may conform to Hollywood's "flexible" rules.

It is not our intention, however, to condemn the revised code before it has been tested. We prefer to wish the industry well with its admittedly difficult task—and then to watch what happens. —Christian Science Monitor.



PHYLIS CUTSHAW, 2½, has learned early the lesson of sharing with others at Christmas time. Here Phyllis deposits a coin in the Salvation Army Christmas kettle, while her mother, Mrs. Carl Cutshaw, 11 Smathers St., and Lt. Mae Smith of the Salvation Army look on.

(Mountaineer Photo).

My Favorite Stories Looking Back Over The Years

By CARL GOERCH

We received a letter a few years ago from the wife of an army officer who wrote in to tell us about an experience that was witnessed by her husband at the Officers' Training School at Miami Beach. We'll tell the story as nearly as possible in her own words.

Before introducing the dramatic personnel, let me say that this school is made up of men from 35 to 55 years of age; professional men and executives of big business corporations for the most part. After observing them for almost six weeks—writes the lady—I must say that I've never witnessed a finer spirit among any group. They have proved that they know how to obey orders, they work hard, and they take it all with a smile. They have demonstrated a real determination to shoulder the responsibilities that lie ahead.

The time: Just after two hours of drill and calisthenics. (Some of these men are very much overweight.)

The place: Locker-room of the Roney-Plaza. (The room is small and the crowd fills it to overflowing. Soldiers call it the Mad House. It is dark, the constantly steaming showers produce a dense fog, and there is utter confusion at all times.)

A dignified Major, whose physical examination undoubtedly revealed too much obesity but whose business acumen and experience had qualified him for a real job in this army, emerged from the shower and passed along the long line of mourners waiting to spray. He finally reached his locker and after a half-hearted attempt to dry himself in that damp atmosphere, proceeded to don his uniform.

He put on his undershirt. During the process, two or three frisky lieutenants brushed up against him, their wet bodies moistening the garment. The Major frowned.

He put on his shorts, and the same thing happened. He struggled on. He put on his blouse and then reached into his locker for his pants. Inasmuch as his waist measures somewhere around 44 inches, the pants were of rather large dimensions.

He lowered the pants close to the ground, lifted his right leg and was immediately brushed up against his locker before he could get his leg in. The jam got worse. It was almost time for formation and everybody was in a terrific rush. The fog of steam also became more dense, and it became increasingly difficult to see in the dimly-lighted room. The Major muttered to himself,

buy. Then — also because of competition — they must operate at a very modest profit. This isn't just true of holiday trade. It's true every day in the year.

He placed his pants into the proper position and once more tried to get his right leg in. This time he was successful. He lowered the garment again—this time to get the left leg in when somebody pushed him from behind. He felt a sharp tug forward, and the next thing he knew he was down on the floor—flat on top of a Captain.

The Major turned his pants loose in order to save himself from the full force of the fall. Both men grunted sharply as they struck the concrete floor.

The Captain was up first. "My fault, sir," he apologized. "I don't know what made me stumble like that."

"I don't either," growled the Major, picking himself up from the floor.

The Captain took a brisk step forward — and down he went again, pulling the Major on top of him once more.

By this time everybody was watching. "Excuse me, sir," said the Captain.

"This seems to be getting a habit with you," sarcastically commented the Major.

He peered more closely at the pants which were rolled up around his feet. He peered at one of the Captain's legs. And then, with as much dignity as he could muster, he swelled up and said: "I would appreciate it very much, sir, if you would get out of my pants."

The Captain looked down and saw that he had accidentally stepped into the left leg of the Major's garment. Reaching down, he released himself and rose to his feet. The Major did likewise to the accompaniment of howls of delicious joy on the part of the spectators.

For days afterwards the passing word around the school was "Hey, you; get out of my pants." And I don't know whether that crowd

20 YEARS AGO  
Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Russell go to Boston for a visit of several weeks.

Athletic Ball is given at Clyde school gym.

Martha Mae Wyche and her sister, Jane Wyche, have joint birthday party.

Lee Davis of Tarboro visits his family here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Evans of Pittston, Pa., arrive to spend the holidays with their daughter, Mrs. L. M. Richeson.

10 YEARS AGO  
Proposed hospital expansion program gains civic support.

William B. Umstead is appointed to the United States Senate to fill vacancy caused by the death of Josiah W. Bailey.

R. C. McBride is elected to head masons in 1947.

Mrs. Lily Perry is installed as new president of the Woman's Missionary Society of the Baptist Church.

Charlie Way and Bill Miller Ray return from Raleigh where

will ever stop joking the Major or the Captain about it. Both men, however, are taking it good-naturedly. I hope the men under their command never find out their identity, because I'm afraid both the Major and the Captain would have a hard time enforcing discipline.

Rambling 'Round

By Frances Gilbert Frazier

Just ahead of most of us lie the days of payment. No, we do not mean financial obligations; those we take for granted. What we have reference to is payment for our over-indulgence in food, sweets and all the other delicacies that are as much a part of the holidays as the lighted tree and gayly wrapped packages.

You know, there's one satisfaction in being pleasantly plump . . . uh, or stylishly stout . . . well, all right then, fat. If one has acquired the poundage through the years, the owner of said avoirdupois has become used to it, and so has his friends. But take the shapely figure that has become accustomed to the words and looks of admiration, and let the scales show an advance of a fractional part of a pound, the owner thereof cries out in anguish and the kindly (?) public sits up and takes notice (with comments). Yes, the advent of a second chin in the making undoubtedly is a calamity of renown.

Then speedily follows the diet routine, a schedule that must be related to every listener not quick enough on the getaway. And, pray tell us, what is more boring than the recital of a regimented diet to a healthy gourmet!

But the funny thing about obesity is that it usually is accompanied by a hearty sense of humor and no necessity for indigestion tablets.

A wreath of love to hang above  
A friendly hearth on Christmas day.  
Some mistletoe tied with a bow  
Of holly red, in the door way.

And you, my dear, just standing near,  
To bring me luck throughout the year.

Little Mary was trying everlastingly hard to appear nonchalantly uninterested in the coming holidays. She wanted people to consider her too grown up to enter into such childish behavior as scanning incoming mysterious packages, or evincing an interest in the selection of a Christmas tree; or even in the decorating of same. She, outwardly, seemingly just didn't give a hoot about the whole thing.

But, inwardly, the little girl was a burning conflagration of excitement. Not a single movement or utterance of her parents escaped her attention. When unobserved, she eagerly looked through the pages of current magazines for anything pertaining to the holiday spirit.

The days passed and preparations became more and more active. Then, early one morning, Little Mary's mother heard a peculiar sound in the living room and hurried downstairs to investigate. To her utter astonishment, she found Little Mary in pajamas and robe, sitting in front of the open fireplace and softly weeping.

"Why, darling, what on earth . . . ?" she started but Little Mary rushed into her mother's arms. "Oh, Mommie," she sobbed. "I don't want to be grown up. I want to be just a little girl waiting for Santa Claus. That suffocated stuff is the bunk!"

Heard in passing: "If all the things she wants was laid end to end it would pave a wide roadway to the poorhouse."

they attended a dance at St. Mary's Junior College.

5 YEARS AGO

Belk employees are honored at dinner given by J. C. Jennings at Mt. Valley Grill.

More than 6000 people attend last event of Trade Jubilee at the high school stadium.

M. O. Galloway is named president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Lions Clothe 113 children at cost of \$1600 in Christmas program.

Dr. J. E. Fender heads Haywood Medical Society.

The world's largest concrete building (45 stories) is being built in Sao Paulo, Brazil. It's shape is like that of the stacks of a giant ocean liner facing the wind.

Inside WASHINGTON MARCH OF EVENTS

See Secretary Dulles Certain To Resign Post About Jan. 1 | No Definite Successor Looms But Dewey Strong Possibility

Special to Central Press Association

WASHINGTON—Secretary of State John Foster Dulles is almost sure to resign from President Eisenhower's cabinet after the first of the year.

While doctors termed the recent cancer operation on Dulles a success, it left the 66-year-old cabinet member in a weakened condition, and it's improbable that he will resume the arduous task of directing the nation's foreign policy.

The administration has no definite successor to Dulles under consideration as yet. However, a distinct possibility is former Gov. Thomas E. Dewey of New York.

Whether Dewey enters the cabinet, however, hinges on his willingness to give up a lucrative law practice in New York. In the past, he has been rumored to be in line for the job.

If Dewey declines, the best bet is that Undersecretary of State Herbert Hoover, Jr., will be elevated to Dulles' post. Hoover has been acting secretary several times in Dulles' absence and is experienced in the job.

Secretary Dulles

TO REVIEW CAMPAIGNS—These post-election weeks will see the most vigorous examination of campaigning practices ever engaged in by American politicians and political scientists.

The reason is that neither party—the Republicans nor the Democrats—succeeded in winning the elections altogether. The GOP, of course, failed to take Congress, while the Democrats were swamped in their drive for the White House.

Some explanation will be sought for the fact that President Eisenhower, despite scoring one of the most one-sided victories in the history of presidential campaigning, nevertheless was the first American chief executive in 108 years to win the White House at the same time his opponents were winning Capitol Hill.

Even some GOP candidates who were the most closely linked with Mr. Eisenhower went down to defeat: Arthur B. Langlie in Washington, Douglas McKay in Oregon and Dan Thornton in Colorado.

Adlai Stevenson's role in the campaign will also be essayed carefully. For instance, politicians want to know whether the Democratic nominee suffered at the polls by waging a more politically realistic but less intellectual campaign in 1956 than he did in 1952.

ATOMS FOR PEACE—Great strides in the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes are expected to be made during 1957. This reflects President Eisenhower's desire to see his "atoms-for-peace" program pursued in every possible manner.

Utilities concerns, manufacturing companies and engineering enterprises are planning atomic projects. Expenditures for research and development, totaling \$60 million this year, are due to be at least doubled next year.

Under proposals already formed up, utilities companies expect to build 16 atomic power plants, costing \$425 million and producing well over a million kilowatts of electricity. The Atomic Energy commission also is planning to build 10 experimental plants.

Not all of these projects will be launched in 1957, of course, but many of them will take shape within the next year.

