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Of course if the textile workers just must strike, regardless, they will find September Morn a better time than the dead of winter, even though they passed up the blackberry season.

Greensboro News says: "It's beginning to appear that George Ross Pou has definitely replaced Odus Mull, and then Will Neal, as the man who is always mentioned."

Tobacco sales are reported to be averaging almost double what they were this time last year in some markets, which leads us to hope that maybe, come Christmas time, Santa Claus will be able to make his rounds with less embarrassment.

The Highway Toll

According to figures submitted in the report made by the Motor Vehicle Bureau, four hundred and fifty-five lives were sacrificed in North Carolina's magnificent highways during the first seven months of the present year. Drunken, reckless and hit-and-run drivers are charged with most of this toll, while simple carelessness and crave of speed on the part of the motorists furnish cause for the balance.

The records show that drunken drivers were responsible for seven deaths; speeders slew sixteen; recklessness resulted in seventeen fatalities and five lives were lost in grade-crossing mishaps; seven children were struck down while at play, four of them being the victims of hit-and-run varmints, not yet made to account for their crime.

These fatalities are by no means the only loss. There must be added the injuries that did not prove fatal and the material loss involved, and these present abundant reasons why we should be pulled up with a jerk.

We have this long list of fatalities, injuries and damage to property because the motorist has not yet grasped the meaning of his responsibilities. He refuses to drink his liquor and remain from under the steering wheel; he does not concern himself with what or who is around the bend or across the brow of the hill; he does not place the proper value on the lives of little children; he is not going anywhere in particular, but he craves speed and is in a powerful hurry to get there.

Until motorists in general desert their present frame of mind, nothing much can be done about it unless we provide a driver's license law with teeth—one that will keep his toe off the accelerator after he has once proved his recklessness.

Showmanship

Coleman W. Roberts, president of the Carolina Motor Club, paraphrases Irvin Cobb's statement that "all North Carolina needs is a press-agent" by saying that "all North Carolina needs is showmanship." It would take a lot of defining to determine the difference in the two statements, because very little exists, except that the activities of the press-agent is only succeeded by those of the showman, which maybe is what Mr. Roberts is driving at.

"If California had some of the things that exist in this state, the entire world would know about it," says Mr. Roberts, and that, we take it, would be the job of Mr. Cobb's press-agent. "But when the world in turn started its trek to see these things, the visitors would find them displayed with all the fine points of showmanship, the good points played up and the bad ones hidden."

He points out that because of lack of showmanship we are allowing vast stretches of the finest beaches in the world to remain with only a few fishing shacks to mark their human interest; we haven't even made adequate arrangements to accommodate the people who will naturally come to the newly opened national park, even in the absence of ballyhoo and invitation.

Mr. Roberts is eminently right in his conclusions, and it might be added that good showmanship could profitably be employed to other than tourist interests, important as the passing visitor is to any community.

We are too complacent and self-satisfied. We make the best furniture in the world, and ship it all over the United States, but when we go to buy a living room suite we do not even notice that it was made hundreds of miles beyond the State border, because no showman has pointed out perfectly good reasons for looking for a North Carolina label. It is the same way with countless other things ranging all the way from shirts to threshing machines.

The farmer too, is suffering from lack of showmanship. His potatoes are marketed without selection; his butter is not guaranteed as to freshness; his products are not attractively packaged, and he sees customers purchasing California and Florida asparagus tips and carrots, because they are sized and ribbon-tied, while his fresher and better products are passed up because they are unwashed and dumped in the basket in a harum-scarum sort of way.

There is abundant room for showmanship in every line of industry in North Carolina, but we are not in our ways and probably will continue to wait for some enterprising Yankee to come and point the way.

Fair Tax Resolves

It is not too late to refer to the recent first annual convention of the North Carolina Fair Tax Association, meeting at Sanford. This organization is dedicated to a commendable purpose, and its progress should be of interest to all of us.

The convention resolved: "That we intensify our campaign of education and organization throughout the State, giving particular attention to the formation of county units which may work for better and more economical local government and taxation . . . That we use our influence to check the trend toward centralization of government and power at Raleigh, and to restore to the people of our counties and municipalities the right to self-government and control of local affairs . . ."

All of which is within the providence and purpose of the Association's pronouncement when it was organized, which was to "foster, promote, encourage and otherwise awaken an interest in governmental affairs and functions, directing particular attention to matters of taxation and economy in government."

Yet in another resolution the Association goes on record as opposing the proposed new constitution for the State of North Carolina, which, to our way of reading it, strikes out vigorously for many of the things that the Fair Tax group is fighting for.

Excessive taxation is admittedly the result of extravagant spending by state and local units, which under the old constitution are permitted to go unhampered. Under the old constitution, the State has accumulated about the largest per capita debt in the United States, and practically all of it without popular vote. Under the revised constitution the debt making power of the legislature is severely curtailed. The same applies to county and local units. The proposed new instrument provides for a better general system of taxation, homestead exemption a uniform system of inferior courts that are now hopelessly overlapping and costly.

Just what danger there is in the proposed new instrument prepared by unbiased and thoughtful citizens, the Fair Tax Association does not point out. There may be good and sufficient reasons why the old constitution should be preferred over the new, but they have not been convincingly presented, and the Fair Tax Association is aligning itself with a group of selfish politicians who are appealing to the prejudices of the voter through the cry of wolf. And that is not a sign of future good health.

In resolving against the absentee ballot law and calling for its abolishment, the Association is on common ground with thinking North Carolinians, who are not seeking political preferment and who would have honest and dependable machinery for registering the will of the citizens on any subject.

The Association has a man's size job on its hands in its effort to lift the sales tax from the shoulders of the taxpayers in this State, and in the meantime it could well leave some of these other matters for future resolves.

Our Interests Are Pooled

The fact that definite decision has been made to route the great scenic parkway through North Carolina as far as Blowing Rock, might mean to some of us that that is as far as our interest lies. Having come thus close to our own front yard, we may make the mistake of letting other selections fight their own battle.

As the Asheville Citizen points out, the resources of North Carolina are more nearly pooled than in any other State, because of tax policies, school and highway programs to which this state is committed as a whole.

It is plain then that what happens to help or hinder one section is reflected in others; a pinch at one point brings something more than sympathetic pains at all others.

While piedmont and eastern North Carolina have received some aid from the federal government in working out the salvation of these sections, western North Carolina still relies upon the tourist industry for the main support. It has been the chief reliance of that section for many years, and by the very nature of things will have to remain so.

To divert the course of the parkway from Blowing Rock into Tennessee for entrance into the Smoky Mountain Park, when by every kind of sensible reasoning it should include Asheville and other North Carolina points along its approach, would mean that tourist traffic with its obvious possibilities would be reduced to a minimum. The people of North Carolina as a whole are or should be interested in seeing that this injustice is not done.

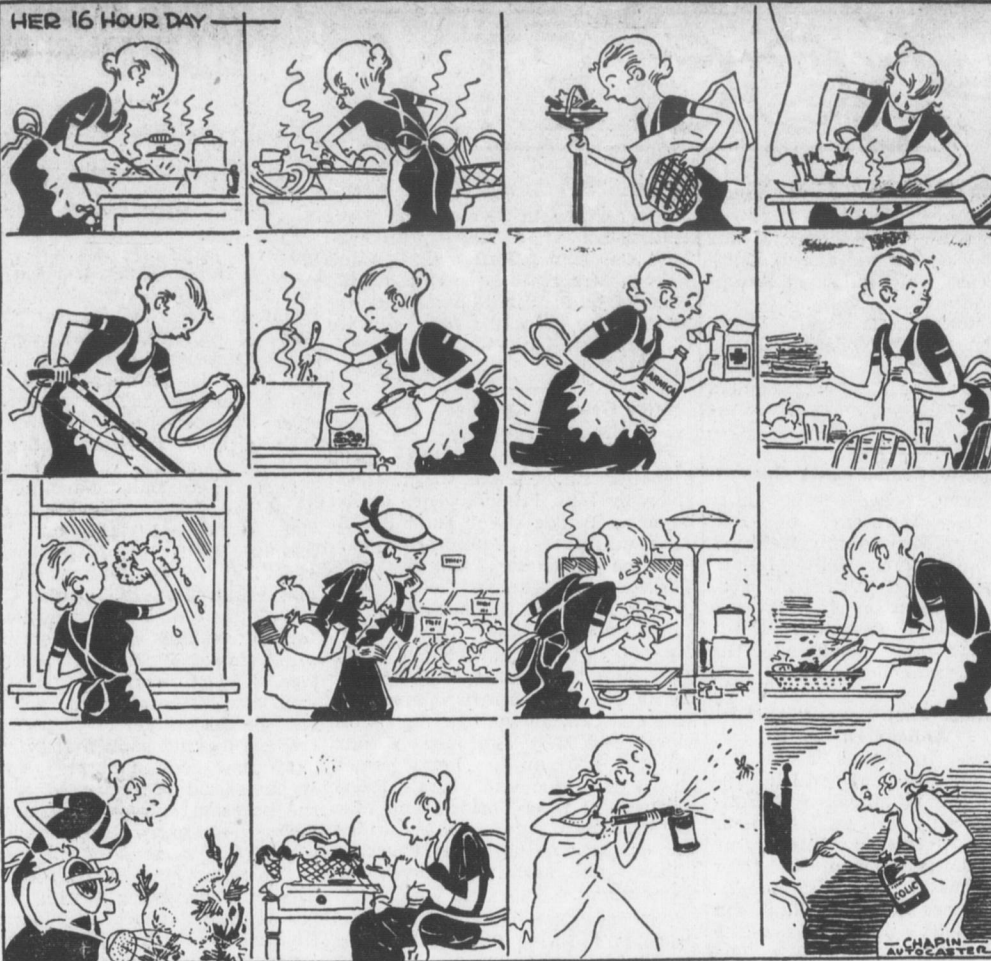
Tennessee statesmen, or should we say politicians, are pointing boastfully to the amount of money that the government has poured lavishly into that state through emergency grants and allotments in recent months; they are asking further support of the voters on the basis that they will continue to deliver.

We would not take from Tennessee one iota of the joy that has come from this national favoritism, but we do deplore the tendency over there to hog the show. That part of Tennessee which her leaders would have the route traverse, as an entrance to the Smoky Mountain park, has never been a resort section; conversely it may be stated that for almost half a century, the resort counties of Western North Carolina have been bending every energy to bring this wonderful section to the attention of the nation. Are they to be robbed of the fruits of their labor by ambitious politicians who have already received paternalistic preferment from the government at Washington?

If this is to be a great scenic parkway, then it should be charted a course that provides scenery; if one of its purposes is to provide employment to individuals and industry, then it should be routed through a state that the government has neglected rather than through Tennessee where it has poured fourth its bounty unsparingly.

The tourist counties of Western North Carolina need the help of all of us in preventing this injustice; it is not their fight alone although they are having to bear it.

How About A Labor Day for Ma?— by A. B. Chapin



MRS. E. W. HOLT TAKEN BY DEATH

Mrs. Drucilla Hurt Holt, 46, wife of Emory W. Holt, of the Union Cross community, died Saturday night in the Mount Airy hospital following a surgical operation three days prior to her death. The deceased was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Hurt, of Rusk, and was an esteemed woman in her community.

Funeral services were conducted Monday morning at 10 o'clock at Salem Fork church by Rev. D. G. Reece and Rev. Zebedee Adams. Interment was in the church cemetery. Mrs. Holt is survived by her husband and the following sons and daughters: Otis, Walter, Harvey, Victoria, Viola and Vena.

New Piano House Now Open In Winston-Salem

The J. R. Stackley Piano House, catering to retail and wholesale trade has opened at 534 North Liberty street, Winston-Salem.

Mr. Stackley, formerly a sales manager for R. J. Bowen Piano Co., has covered this territory for 14 years. At one time he was regarded as the youngest wholesaler in the United States.

In addition to the Liberty street store he will open a wholesale warehouse and show-room for repair, tuning and reconditioning pianos on North Main street.

According to the management, the store will carry a general line of pianos from the best known and

finest quality to the satisfactory low price instrument. Mr. Stackley has just returned from a two week stay in New York city, where he purchased 100 new and used pianos, players and grands. Incidentally, he studied music at the Wisconsin Conservatory of music.

ROOSEVELT CRITICAL

President Roosevelt Friday night beckoned the average man and woman away from the newly formed American Liberty League designed to enlist 4,000,000 property owners in critical examination of the new deal. He believes it does not go far enough to protect the rights of all the people.

The North Pole is about 13 miles nearer the earth's center than the equator.

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