

Watauga Democrat
An Independent Weekly Newspaper

Established in 1888 and Published for 45 years by the late Robert C. Rivers, Sr.

PUBLISHED ON THURSDAYS

Subscription Rates

INSIDE WATAUGA COUNTY	
One Year	\$1.50
Six Months	1.00
Four Months	.75
OUTSIDE WATAUGA COUNTY	
One Year	\$2.00
Six Months	1.50
Four Months	1.00

Payable in Advance

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R. C. RIVERS, Jr. - Publisher

Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, Obituaries, etc., are charged for at the regular advertising rates.

Entered at the postoffice at Boone, N. C., as second class mail matter.

The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first object should be to keep that right, and were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without government, I should not hesitate a moment to choose the latter. But I should mean that every man should receive these papers and be capable of reading them.—Thomas Jefferson.

THURSDAY, FEB. 7, 1946

Letters To The Editor

SPEAKS TO SHEEP GROWERS

To the Editor:
I would like to address these remarks to the sheep growers of Beaver Dam township, where I recently listed taxes:

According to the 1946 tax list on approximately 350 farms there are only 104 dogs, 97 males and seven open females. The tax on these dogs would only pay for 16 sheep killed by them.

Mr. Sheeppgrower, I am sure you can readily see now why you may not get pay for your sheep if they are killed by dogs. One hundred and four dogs with probably 100 more, may kill many more sheep than during 1946.

A. E. TRIVETTE.

ABOUT ROADS

To the Editor:

I have heard a lot of complaints against our highway department about our road conditions. I feel for them, as I know they cannot control the weather any more than I can. I wonder if those who are complaining have ever given it a thought that it has been one of the most severe winters we have experienced in a long time. Can our highway department control the weather? Can they go out and overnight repair all the side roads to every man's house in the state? Can they tell Almighty God that we have had enough snow, rain and ice? How many of us have had to leave our car and truck away from our own home because we did not clear our own driveway, which was only a short distance from our own home? Yet we expect the highway department to clear hundreds of miles of roads and work night and day while we stay at home and have a good fire to sit by and never think of the boys out fighting the elements so that we can have a clear road the next day.

I read an article the other day about a party who had moved to North Carolina because of the good roads we had, and is now complaining about the bad road conditions. I don't know of any toll gates on our roads. Let them go back where they came from if they don't like good old North Carolina.

I use the roads of our state as much as any one and have one of the worst roads to travel over every day that there is in the state. I travel the side roads in two counties and most of the people who live on it won't do anything to improve it. They won't open up a water drain and drag up rocks logging up and down the road that will wreck your car. Then they think the highway department should come along and keep the roads in good condition for them. This don't apply to all, as there are some who will help you all they can, and won't accept pay for it.

Do we realize that the state could not buy new equipment and materials to take care of the roads during the war, and have they gone on strike for more money? We surely have a good highway system and good men at the head of our roads.

Why don't we offer to help the highway commission keep our roads in good shape instead of calling them all the bad names we know? I for one think they have done a good job.

CITIZEN.

SUGAR DEALERS SUSPENDED

Raleigh, Feb. 5—The keen shortage still existing in sugar was reflected by OPA's suspension during December of 84 southeastern sugar dealers from doing business in that commodity for violation of rationing regulations, Theodore S. Johnson, state OPA director, said today.

The population of the earth increases approximately 20,000,000 annually.

Director



Dr. Robert P. Morehead, above, of Winston-Salem, has been appointed educational director for the North Carolina division of the field army of the American Cancer Society, according to an announcement made in Mt. Airy by Mrs. George E. Marshall, state commander. The appointment was made by the state executive committee, of which Dr. I. M. Proctor of Raleigh is chairman. Dr. Morehead will direct the expanded educational program of the North Carolina division, which has the active support of club women and civic leaders, as well as the medical profession.

THE EVERYDAY COUNSELLOR

Rev. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

The self-centered life is miserable and unhappy. More people are suffering from ill health, unhappiness and confusion as a result of self-centered living than any other cause. The way to overcome it is to make our lives God-centered. So many letters and problems come to this desk from those afflicted with this form of selfishness.

It shows itself in many ways: an inferiority complex, self-consciousness, bluster, bombast, nagging, bullying, self-pity, worry. Many take refuge from all this in alcohol which is a depressive to the nervous system. This offers only temporary relief, as it depresses a man's consciousness of his troubles only as long as he is under the influence of alcohol. Many selfish people do not realize it, will not admit that they are selfish. But anyone who is guilty of any of these above mentioned forms of selfishness, is thinking about himself and his problems, not about God and His power.

Jesus Christ spoke of one of these when he told of the man who had been an invalid for 38 years, while waiting for someone to put him in the waters of healing. No doubt he had been enjoying a kind of selfish pity for many years. Jesus made short work of him. He asked him if he really wanted to be healed, healed him and sent him home.

So many people feel that they must be lifted out of self from without; that they must find a job, go to work in somebody's store, office, factory. While this is helpful, it is not absolutely necessary. Christ said that the Kingdom of God is within us. This is the place to start first.

We hear much about morale, without realizing what it is about. Morale is a spiritual thing. Christ said that he who would find his life must lose it. He meant that he must lose self, if we would live happy and helpfully.

When He set forth a summary of all God's commandments as, Love God and love your neighbor, He left no place for self. There is nothing in the Bible about putting one's self in the center. In fact, it teaches the opposite. When we open our hearts to God, our hearts receive His power. But that power helps us but little, if it is not permitted to pass through us to others. It is like electricity. It does not work unless the circuit is complete. We complete the spiritual circuit when we receive God's power, let it pass through us into the lives of those about us, our neighbors.

Here is the secret of happy, successful, joyous living. It is one of the best prescriptions for good health. It is so simple that many won't take it.

If you are tangled up with self, why don't you give God a chance with your life. When He comes into a man's life, self must move out of the center. The desire to be useful to others follows. The result true happiness. Why not try it?

Church News

GRACE LUTHERAN
Rev. Edwin F. Troutman, Pastor
Sunday School 10 a. m., Edwin N. Troutman, superintendent.

Morning worship 11 a. m. Sermon topic: "Jesus, the Hope of the World." Anthem: "My Light and My Salvation."

Choir rehearsal Friday 7 p. m., Mr. Garnett Felts, director.

Luther League and L.S.A. 6 p. m. Sunday.
Come and worship.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By DON ROBINSON

BARGAINING future
During all of this labor strife, the attitude of the unions toward management has been, "They won't bargain with us!"

But the thing that has impressed me ever since the unions began their bargaining effort has been the preliminary restrictions they put upon bargaining—they took for granted that they would get more money and confined bargaining efforts to the question of how much?

We wonder what labor would do about it if the "bargaining" was reversed—if management went to the unions and said: "We are going to lose money for the next year until we get back into full production. We therefore suggest a 30 percent reduction in wages during this loss period. But we are willing to bargain with you about it to determine whether 30 percent is a fair cut."

Of course, the unions would laugh at such a preposterous proposal. And yet, if we think of business in terms of small business instead of big corporations, the only way many a business could continue to operate would be to lower wages when money isn't coming in and increased wages when profits rise.

The unions apparently are measuring industry's ability to pay on the basis of those high estimates of record sales which are dreamed about for the near future. But it is quite possible that, as a result of the disruption caused by strikes, that pretty picture of a super-prosperous future may never materialize.

FORD solution

I believe the proposal made by Ford—that a wage increase be arranged now, but that it go into effect only after production has reached a specified peak—is the fairest possible answer to the present situation.

In fact, it might be possible for labor and management to get together on a long-term contract whereby wages would automatically be increased as production mounted to new highs. The only trouble with such a plan is that it would also have to work in reverse—labor would have to agree to accept wage cuts during periods when production slumped. And it is hard to imagine most union leaders agreeing to such a two-sided proposition.

But unless some long-term agreements are worked out, I am afraid that the public will not have much faith in any labor-management peace agreements. For if labor settles for less than 20 percent now, it will certainly go after that other 10 percent it has been talking about as soon as production climbs—and that could lead to a repetition of the present situation a year from now.

I don't think congress should or could do much to end the labor-management conflict which is now going on, but it should certainly take some kind of action to protect the public against a recurrence in the future.

COMMUNISTS optimism

The Communist party is very much pleased with the way things have gone in this country since V-J day. William Foster, head of the party, cheering on the sidelines, predicts the greatest strike movement in history. Outside of a bloody revolution, there is nothing much more they could ask than the program which has been offered in the past few months—first an exhibition of how the maritime unions can paralyze shipping, then a major blow at transportation by stopping production of motor vehicles, then an interruption of communications with the telegraph and telephone strikes and finally the striking of a crippling blow against the food supply with the meat packers' strike.

The whole picture should certainly look like a rosy one to the Communists who want to prove that the main arteries of enterprise in this country, although still considered to be privately controlled, actually are

Dynamite Big Noise In Farm Drainage

Dynamite is the big noise in farm drainage as North Carolina's rural land owners seek in increasing numbers to save potential cropland from the ravages of unseasonable weather, according to Howard Ellis, State College extension service engineer.

Ellis, who has reported two successful demonstrations of ditch dynamiting in eastern Carolina, says that the type of explosive being used by most farmers now is about 50 percent nitro-glycerin and advised that blasting machines rather than the old cap and fuse method should be used in setting off the charges.

On one farm, the county agent demonstrated the advantages of dynamite by blasting a drainage ditch two and a half feet deep, six feet wide and 240 feet long. A test charge of 22 pounds of explosive was first used to determine how the main charges should be placed in order to get the desired ditch pattern. The cost of this ditching was about \$25 and time required to finish it was about an hour. It was estimated conservatively that the cost of the same ditch, hand-dug, would have been \$100 or more, if labor had been available. Side slopes of the dynamited ditch assume an angle of about 45 degrees and spoil bank material is thrown

dependent upon the decisions of the workers.

The only hurdle left for the Communists to overcome is public opinion. But fortunately, when the Communists try to battle against public opinion in this country, they can't win. For, even though all of the cards appear to be stacked in their favor, they know that even the working men—the men who are striking—in their role as part of the American public, are almost as strong in their opposition to outright community ownership of property as are the strongest anti-labor forces.

over a wide area, rather than piled in mounds on the ditch bank.

The cost of a similar ditch—four feet deep, eight feet wide and 450 feet long—was about \$60 using dynamite. It could not have been dug by hand for less than \$150, according to engineers.

The world has been at peace only in eight percent of recorded history.

Tiny steel staples used in book matches of which we consume 225,000,000,000, requires 500 tons of steel a year.

There are 2,500 varieties of animals on exhibit in the Washington zoo.

There are approximately 191,800 railway bridges in the United States.

ROYSTER Fertilizer

All ROYSTER Fertilizer has six major plant foods, and is free flowing in the drill. Making good Fertilizer is a long established custom at ROYSTER plants. That is why it is so hard to beat in the field.

COME IN AND BUY YOUR FERTILIZER EARLY, AND GET A WELL MIXED FERTILIZER

We also have Cabbage Seed, Onion Sets, Seed Beans and Certified Sequoia Seed Potatoes.

GOODNIGHT BROTHERS

Boone, N. C.



HE's still among us—the same long, angular figure, the sorrowful face, gaunt-cheeked, hollow-eyed, brooding, lined by cares and suffering above and beyond his own.

HE will live as long as free people cherish a free nation. He will live as long as there remains one man who will fight to free another.

HE will live as long as people remember and live by what he said.

THE whole world remembers his phrases, and he uttered them over 80 years ago. They are as apt and as true now as they were when the Great Emancipator was struggling to hold together a split nation. It is somehow typical of all that Lincoln thought and said and did that the shortest and most widely known speech in our history should be his.

THE Gettysburg Address is bounded neither by years nor by nations. It remains for us, the living, to prove our devotion to the cause of free men by aiding rehabilitating the nation and the world. We should again resolve that our dead shall not have died in vain—nor even have lost their lives, needlessly because we here at home did not help with all our resources.

If we do that, the faith in freedom that was Lincoln's can never die.

NORTHWESTERN BANK

BOONE, N. C.



Watch Repairing

We are pleased to announce that we have been able to add another man to our watch repairing department, and as a result, we are now able to do your watch repairing within a reasonable length of time.

We are now securing a more satisfactory supply of materials and can offer you about the same service as in pre-war days. Our 22 years experience in this community is evidence of our ability and willingness to serve you well. We solicit your further patronage and good will.

WALKER'S

Jewelry Store
WILL C. WALKER
Opposite Postoffice