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"The basis of our government being the opinion of the people, the very first objective 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.

BOONE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1963

Lake A-Runnin'

I. Beverly Lake, Raleigh attorney and former Wake Forest College law professor, has settled the question politicians have been asking, once and for all.

He will seek the Democratic nomination for Governor in next summer's primary.

Dr. Lake, who was edged out of the primary honor last time around by Terry Sanford, who went on to become Governor in the frantic race of 1960, has been going around seeing the people for several weeks and most likely enjoyed what he saw, for he's in the running again.

Last time, the Lake campaign was tied right closely to the race issue, since he strongly advocated strict segregation in the public schools. He also assailed the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in his hard-fought campaign.

What line he will take in the campaign which he has just entered will be made clear in an announcement Friday, Lake said.

Four other Democrats have an-

nounced their candidacies for the Democratic nomination. They are: Former Superior Court Judge Dan K. Moore of Canton; former Federal Judge L. Richardson Preyer of Greensboro; Bruce Burleson of Bakersville and Raymond J. Stansbury of Hillsboro.

Personal opinion is that the Lake votes will come mostly from voters who would have otherwise voted for Judge Moore, and in the short range view, should be a help to Judge Preyer.

However, whenever Bob Scott makes his move (provided he decides to run) he will draw steam from the Preyer organization. Should he desist from making the campaign and join with the Preyer-Bennett-Sanford movement, it could spell big trouble for the Moore campaign.

At any rate, we should soon know. But this is for sure, Democrats are in for a political tonnybrook in the 1964 primaries—a battle royal, which they can ill afford.

The Miseries Of Dallas

The strange, Marxist Oswald youngster, who, maybe should have been put away in some sort of an institution a long time ago from what we have read, and who shot down President Kennedy, before he himself was dropped by a night club, strip-tease operator, was not all that is wrong in Dallas, merely the outward symptom of the ailment which has beset the Texas city.

The disease runs deeper than the cold-eyed stoical youngster who tried to get Russian citizenship and who went out for the Chief Executive with the precision taught in the Marine Corps. Some time ago, Adlai Stevenson, American UN Ambassador, and a man of peace, and pretty phrases, and without qualities which would anger a normal person, was literally driven out down there, when he sought to make a UN speech. A Protestant minister is authority for the statement that Vice-President Johnson and Mrs. Johnson got ill-mannered treatment on their home soil, and that a class of third-graders clapped their palms at the news the President was dead. And the decent

people in the community are rightly disturbed.

Whenever a campaign of hate and of vengeance is pursued by politicians, gangsters, mediums of information or any segment of the population, the seeds of disaster are bound to germinate. Freedom of speech does not constitute license to agitate against the government, which is in fact, the people who manage the affairs at Washington. Perhaps one last word of vilification uttered by some man on a Dallas street was just enough to snap something in the befuddled mind of young Oswald, and initiate his assassination of the President.

There's also blood on the hands of those who've agitated, and there's no way of telling whose words had the most lethal effect.

We shall hope that out of all the ill will and anger directed at men of good intentions will come unity—even in Dallas. An agitator, a spreader of malice, can be as dangerous to the nation as the man with the assassin's gun.

Dangers Of Slippery Roads

In severe winter weather conditions when you want to drive safely and without the threat of a stall or a skidwreck, common-sense and proper equipment are the answer, according to Prof. Amos E. Neyhart of the Pennsylvania State University.

"Officials responsible for the operation of our street systems are becoming increasingly concerned with the fantastic winter storm pile-ups caused by cars not equipped with tire chains or snow tires," Neyhart said.

"Many winter traffic jams which hamper snow plows and strangle all traffic movement, and cost millions of dollars, could be prevented if people would always carry a set of reinforced tire chains in the trunk for emergencies," he asserted.

Neyhart, who is the driver training authority for the American Automobile Association, pointed out that the sale and use of snow tires is increasing, but that chains are the only

sure way to avert stalls when conditions are severe.

"Snow tires are better for winter driving than regular tires," Neyhart said, "but reinforced tire chains help you stop far more safely on packed snow and ice and give four to five times the 'go' traction of regular tires."

Professor Neyhart referred to the test findings of the National Safety Council's Committee on Winter Driving Hazards which each winter conducts extensive tests of the behavior of vehicles, tires, chains and other equipment. Most of what we know about the safe operation of vehicles in winter weather has been developed by this committee.

The Pennsylvania educator is a nationally recognized traffic authority and directs courses in 65 universities and colleges in the United States and Canada for driver training teachers and for the motor transport industry.

Russian Proverbs



From Early Democrat Files

Sixty Years Ago

December 3, 1903

The roads are yet good.

A few volumes from you for the public library would be highly appreciated.

A great number of rabbits have been killed by our sportsmen during the snow.

Some cattle at large here nearly all the time. Remember the stock law.

Rooms in this town are going to be an object soon, unless some building is done at once.

Mrs. Joe B. Clarke, of Blowing Rock, spent Tuesday night in town, the guest of Mrs. Boyden.

Twenty-two days until Christmas, and the little ones are engaging in a lot of talk about old Chris.

The stockholders of the Blowing Rock Drug Co. have decided to sell drugs for the next twelve months at greatly reduced prices.

The public school at Deerfield will close on Saturday, the 12th with a public debate at 10 a.m. and a silver medal contest at 3 p.m.

Thirty-Nine Years Ago

December 4, 1924

On last Saturday, Mr. Malcolm McGhee was married at the Methodist parsonage to Miss Lou Baird, the Rev. Woolsey officiating.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Roten of Denver, Colo., who have been spending some time with relatives and friends in Watauga, left early in the week for Florida, where they will remain for a few weeks before returning to their home. Their visit here was enjoyed by all, and we are hoping that they may return to their native county to remain permanently.

Mr. James Council, engineer on the roads of Transylvania county, was with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Council, through Thanksgiving. On Friday evening a substantial repair was served at the home in honor of his visit which was much enjoyed by all present. The young man left for his headquarters at Brevard Sunday.

Married at the Methodist parsonage in Boone on Thanksgiving day, Mr. Conrad Jones and Miss Ruth Welch. The groom, as we understand, is a Wataugan, while the bride is a resident of Wilkes county. The Rev. Woolsey performed the ceremony.

Fifteen Years Ago

December 2, 1948

Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Canipe of Hendersonville visited in town during the week end.

Mrs. N. Neal Blair, Sr., underwent a major operation at the Charlotte Memorial Hospital last Wednesday. Mrs. Blair is recovering satisfactorily and will likely return home next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Isaacs and daughter, Kim, of Robbins, N. C., spent the week end with home folks in the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sheffield of Richmond, Va., spent the past week end with Miss Epsie Greene in Boone.

Miss Ann Smith, freshman at Queens College, Charlotte, has been pledged to the Kappa Delta Sorority. Miss Smith is a daughter of Prof. and Mrs. A. R. Smith of Boone.

Mr. Robert D. Hodges, who is a student at N. C. State College, spent the Thanksgiving holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fidelity Hodges of Boone, Rt. 2.

Miss Roberta Critcher of Draper, was a Thanksgiving visitor with her mother, Mrs. Jennie Critcher. Visiting in the Critcher home the end of the week were Mr. and Mrs. Paul DuPre of Mount Airy and Mr. and Mrs. John Critcher of Asheville.

Mr. and Mrs. Clet Lookbill and daughters, Bobbie Jean and Doreen of Waco, Va., spent last week with Mrs. Lookbill's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Greene. Mrs. Greene returned from the hospital Thursday.

"A lot of people don't believe about telling fortunes with cards," he said, "but my aunt was a wonder at it. One day she read the cards and told me that I was going to get a job with the government. I had no idea of applying for a job of this kind, but inside two weeks I had it. Another time, she told my brother that he was going to have a bad spell of sickness. He was taken sick three weeks later and spent about a month in a hospital. She also came within two days of predicting when my sister would get married, and when she said it, my sister wasn't even engaged."

"Remarkable!" I stated.

He nodded his head and then added: "You can't explain things like that! They're just plain ironie."

KING STREET

BY ROB RIVERS

Christmas Lights . . . Burn Brightly

The special Committee, Merchants Division, of the Chamber of Commerce, has the business district all lighted as the shopping season begins to get into its stride and is due the commendation of all the people for their prompt and efficient action in this regard. . . . The lights appear with evergreens on both sides of the street, in alternate wreath and tree designs, while the usual vari-colored lights are stretched across King at short intervals to make the business area gay and bright.

WE FEEL BETTER—like a youngster—when the lights are burning brightly on the Street as an enduring symbol of the Yule, and we don't like to have much truck with folks who don't warm up inside when it's time to begin shopping and getting ready for the feasting and the good times which have been traditionally associated with the birthday of the Prince of Peace.

AT ANY RATE, the business district is a-glitter, and the stores and the shops are filled with eye-catching items for gifting, and capable sales people are on hand to render such assistance as is necessary in making the holiday a glad time. Of course the season is commercialized, which is to be regretted in a way, but on the other hand, we don't know as it does a man much harm, at least once a year, to warm up and want to do a lot of the things for folks he ought to have been doing all along.

CHRISTMAS IS HERE, already, say the merchants as they survey their mountainous stocks of holiday goods, and again, we would like to emphasize the convenience and the wisdom of trading at home with people you know, for the best service, the best merchandise, and for the good of our city and county. . . . It's good chimney-corner economics to do business with the folks who've built the town and developed the county. . . . They had to serve well to have wrought so much for the common good. . . . Let's stay with them.

BUT BACK AGAIN to the beginning, we would like to thank the Merchants Association Christmas Committee for a good job. . . . Our manners to Dennis Greene, Chairman; Phil Vance, Ned Trivette, Glenn Andrews, A. E. McCree, O. K. Richardson, S. M. Ayers and Vaughn Roten for their fine work. . . . We have always had good committees working at this job, and this year is no exception. . . . Christmas decorations and Christmas openings have a lot to do with the trade along the Street. . . . That was so, even in the days when Russell Hodges and we had a meeting, and set the Christmas opening as a self-appointed committee, and got the lights put up and the Santa Claus pack filled for the big opening.

* * *

Man And Wife . . . 50 Years

We had a happy time down at the Daniel Boone Hotel for a few minutes Sunday afternoon greeting Clyde Eggers and Mrs. Eggers at a reception given by their son and two daughters on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. . . . A large crowd gathered for the happy occasion, and there would have been more, but a smidgin of snow has come to be big news in the papers down-State and a lot of the people invited from away called to say they wouldn't chance the weather.

IT WAS GOOD to talk to Mr. Thomas of Hickory, a son of the late Luther Thomas, who was an old friend of Bob Rivers, the first. . . . The family left Watauga in 1908. Mr. Thomas says, but he still enjoys occasional visits to Watauga, and keeps posted, he says, through the Democrat, which has been in the family all his life. . . . Also had a good visit with the former Laura Brannock, and her sister, who was Lena Brannock, two of our neighbors way back—daughters of B. T. Brannock and Mrs. Reta South Brannock and nieces of Mrs. Eggers. . . . We hadn't talked to a member of the Brannock family since they left here as children in 1917. . . . It was good to re-live for a few minutes the care-free days of our happy beginnings.

MR. AND MRS. EGGERS are good friends of ours. . . . Mrs. Eggers, the former Miss Nora South, was a good neighbor and we've known her all our life, and Clyde almost that long. . . . Married in Boone December 1, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Eggers traveled over to Forest Grove in Beaver Dam township in a buggy on a day which Mr. Eggers says was overcast, but warm and balmy. . . . Their golden wedding day came in snowing, but by the hour of the reception the sun was bright, and the snow was going away from the avenues of travel, and their friends enjoyed greeting them on this happy occasion. . . . Boy and man, we've always been good friends with the Eggerses. . . . It was good to see them, happy and in good health after half a century of married contentment. . . . Congratulations and best wishes for many more happy anniversaries.

Back in the old days a girl might break a leg—I mean limb—chasing her man but the man had to pop the question. It could be that things has changed a little in this matter and wimmen figger if they can vote and wear pants and fly airplanes they can pop the question. Leap Year might make it easier on the girls from the standpoint of etiket, and that's all they was to it anymore.

Uncle Pinkney

HIS PALAVERIN'S

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

They was a heap of interesting items in the papers last week. Fer instans, I saw where one of them column writers was claiming 1964 would be a big year fer weddings on account of it being Leap Year. Folks always makes a big do about Leap Year and how the girls is going to make it or bust that year. Personal, I don't put no stock in that kind of talk. When a girl thinks she's in love and ready for the alter, one year is as good as the next year and she works at it just as hard any year as she does in Leap Year.

But I don't mean to hint, Mister Editor, I'm a authority on wimmen. All I know fer shore is you can always tell a married woman by the ring on her finger—but, judging from my old lady, you can't tell her much.

And I see where ole Krushy, that ain't having much success burying us, has come up with a plan to beat the pants off us. Them wimmen athletes from Russia that was visiting us went home and said America was wonderful on account of "they make prettier panties than ours." Krushy announced immediate that in "due time we will produce panties in color that cannot be matched anywhere on earth." I reckon he aims to come out with some end-of-the-rainbow models.

At the national level I see where one member says he is going to put a bill in the next Congress making cigarettes again the law. Ever onct in a while we gif them kind of bills in the Congress and I figger they was put in to make headlines back home. I recollect when Huey Long was in the Senate he put in a bill to outlaw coats and ties between May and October. They throwed Huey and his bill both out of the meeting. And that's what will happen to the cigarette bill.

Incidental, a law agin cigarettes wouldn't bother me none. On account of they was gitting too lady-like, I cut 'em out five year ago and took up pipe smoking.

About the most unusual item I saw in the papers last week was where Senator Margaret Chase Smith was the "after-dinner" speaker at a big Republican banquet some place in Maine. It ain't often, Mister Editor, you see where a woman is a "after-dinner" speaker. Most of 'em can't wait till after dinner to tell it.

Yours truly,
Uncle Pink