

The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1934

Good To See

It is good to see the smokestacks of our local industries emitting a black cloud of smoke. It is evidence of activity and employment.

Give the laboring man reasonable assurance that his job is safe and the battle will have been won. If he anticipates unemployment, he will spend gingerly. But if he is convinced that his pay check will continue to come in regularly, he will spend liberally for the purchase of the necessities of life.

Our North Wilkesboro industries, even during the darkest hours through which we passed, have been able to do much better by their employes than the industries of many cities. And now the smoke from every major industry here is seen floating through morning breeze. It looks good.

The best news yet, however, is that there are very definite indications that we are entering upon a new era of prosperity—a sound and sane prosperity.

The Nursery School

As we have previously remarked, the federal emergency relief program in education is a laudable effort to aid unemployed teachers, to eradicate illiteracy and give adjustment training to children of pre-school age. Through it, many teachers who have given of their time and money to prepare themselves for the teaching profession are being given jobs and at the same time the rest of humanity is being benefited.

The nursery school which opened here today should be of great benefit to the children who attend. Our chief regret is that the school is not all inclusive; that it does not accept all the children of pre-school age over two years old instead of only the children from relief and needy families. However, the position of the federal government is realized. That would be too big a job.

The corrective training will prove invaluable to the children. The check on their health condition will be of much benefit.

We believe the school will prove to be worth far more than the actual cost to the government.

The Kiwanis Code

Kiwanians are to be congratulated upon the adoption of the code of business ethics which is published elsewhere in today's issue of The Journal-Patriot. Of course, if Kiwanians should by their actions make of it an empty gesture, it is to be regretted that any action was taken.

Every business man, every professional man and every individual should join Kiwanians in adhering to the higher standards set forth in the code. A careful study of the code will, we believe, lead all of us to examine our own business conduct.

"Honesty—Thou shalt not steal, either by the old or new methods."

That is one of the principles laid down in the code. It merits consideration. So often we steal within the law and think little about it. What is your standard of honesty?

"Fair Competition—Not merely the letter but the spirit of fairness." Are you as a business man toting fair with your competitor? In other words, are you practicing the Golden Rule? If everybody would simply adopt the Golden Rule, which we studied in our Sunday school lesson Sunday, there would be no need for laws, no need for codes of business ethics, no need for any restraint upon our liberties.

We direct attention to the Kiwanis code because we believe it is a sensible standard and because we believe a study of it will be beneficial.

The Transylvania Case

The Transylvania county case, which has attracted even more than state-wide attention, moved into the limelight locally Wednesday evening when the four defendants chose North Wilkesboro as the place for the beginning of a further legal battle to escape the sentences imposed by Judge Townsend.

The four Transylvania men were convicted of using the credit of the county to bolster a tottering bank. When the sentences and fine imposed by Judge Sink did not stick, Judge Townsend, into whose hands fell the job of passing upon the case, imposed sentences of from two to three years each and informed them that if restitution was made of the \$30,000 of county funds lost in the defunct bank were made, he would recommend clemency.

Recently, friends of the convicted men helped them get up the money. The lost money has been returned, but Governor Ehringhaus refused clemency even though

Judge Townsend had recommended it. The move Wednesday evening was a last-minute effort to escape the sentences.

Sentiment in Transylvania county is practically unanimous in favor of the defendants. How there could have been any collusion between two Republican commissioners who had been in office less than two years, a Republican county attorney and a Democratic bank president is not readily seen. The belief is frequently expressed that there was none and that existing sentiment at the time of the trial overbalanced the scales of justice.

In view of the extreme leniency that has been shown to confessed embezzlers of public monies when collusion was known to exist and when no restitution was made, it does seem that Governor Ehringhaus has erred in standing so firmly on the other side of the case.

The Situation Abroad

While the United States concerns themselves with an economic battle, numerous countries all over the world are in a state of discontent and almost on the verge of war.

Whether war is likely at any early date is problematical. Observers are pretty nearly unanimous in the belief that there will be another great European war in the not far distant future.

The friction between France and Germany, instead of subsiding, seems to be growing greater. The longer time Germany has to get ready, the more certain it is that she will again try to assert her equality with her ancient enemy. Once France gets embroiled in the north with Germany, those who watch such things say, Italy will be on France's tail in the south. Italy wants to recover the Mediterranean coast now held by France. Germany wants to recover the Saar Basin, where the iron mines are.

Central and Eastern Europe are in a ferment. Austria is putting up a gallant struggle against the invasion of Nazi propaganda from Germany, which is designed to bring Austria under the German flag. Italy, on Austria's south, is watching, and many believe that Hitler and Mussolini may soon be at war.

Over in Asia, Japan and Russia are growling at each other across the Manchurian border. Both sides openly admit the possibility of war. Both Russia and Japan are trying to undermine England's influence in India and Persia. China is still trying to maintain some sort of an effective national government, largely with the help of the British, but the Chinese people have been for years the victims of one armed force after another. Several nations of South America are still in a state of war with their neighbors.

Reflecting on these things, it seems that we are pretty fortunate after all. An economic battle, while serious and difficult to wage successfully, is less disturbing than standing on the brink of war.

The Book

the first line of which reads, "The Holy Bible," and which contains four great treasures.

By BRUCE BARTON

PROVERBS, POEMS AND PROPHETS

Ten fairly representative people were asked, "What do you know about Solomon?" Four of the ten answered, "Nothing." Other answers were: He had two thousand wives; he was the husband of the Queen of Sheba; he built Solomon's Temple; he was the wisest man that ever lived.

The statistics regarding Solomon's marriages as given in the Book of Kings are "seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines." The Queen of Sheba was not officially among this distinguished company. A monarch in her own right, she was so impressed by the stories of Solomon's splendor and wisdom that she made a long journey to visit him and after a series of receptions and banquets returned to her home. The present kings of Abyssinia claim their descent from Solomon and this queen. If they are justified in their proud boast her visit was not wholly Platonic. It may have been true of her, as she said of Solomon that "the half has not been told." All that we know certainly is that she never appears in the Bible again.

Solomon did build the temple and it remained the pride and glory of Jerusalem until the destruction of the city by the Babylonians in 586 B. C. But the most enduring monuments left by this great ruler were not in stone or bronze, but in words—The Proverbs, a rich mine of wisdom wherein every nugget is soiled gold. One can only marvel after reading them how a man so wise in other ways could have been so unwise about women.

He made a fine start as king. The Lord appeared one night in a dream, asking him to name his heart's desire, and Solomon answered:

Thou hast made thy servant king instead of David my father: and I am but a little child: I know not how to go out or come in . . .

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad: for who is able to judge this thy so great people?

To which the Lord replied: Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies, neither yet hast asked long life; but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge my people, over whom I have made thee king:

Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee, neither shall any after thee have the like.

Without this wise choice on the part of Solomon we probably never should have had the Proverbs; but something more than inspired knowledge went into them. They bear evidence of comprehensive experience with every phase of human nature and conduct. Some of them, as might be imagined from Solomon's own record, contain warnings against the unrighteous woman.

THIS AND THAT

Race Discrimination

Editor This and That: I have been thinking for several days that I would write and try to prevail on you to use your columns to benefit this great mountain section of ours.

I read in the papers where Mr. Roosevelt, our President, has set up commissions of different kinds to assist our people. Some of these commissions, of course, have operated in this territory and perhaps certain classes of our people have been benefited, but there is one class that has been overlooked entirely. The government has helped the farmers, especially the cotton and tobacco farmer, by paying them to plow up their crops, the intention of which is to eliminate over-production. Now, Mr. Editor, as far back as I can remember, and I believe as far back as you can remember, our mountain county has been noted for its moonshine and we have been talked about from one end of the country to the other, about our moonshine whiskeys, and I have my first time to ever hear of an outsider saying it was not good. I have not seen in your paper anything whereby this class has been helped in any way. Don't you believe that we ought to petition the government to set up a commission whereby they would be authorized to go to each one of our moonshiners and say to him that we are going to pay you so much money if you cut up and discontinue at least one-third or one-fourth of the whiskey you are now making? This would permit them to buy better materials and better equipment and reduce the amount of liquor made and it would be better; they would get a better price for it, they would be benefited and the people who buy it and drink it would be benefited, and our reputation away from home would come back into its own.

Now, if we had any tobacco or cotton farmers I would not make this request, but as you know, there is very little, if any, tobacco or cotton raised in the great county of Wilkes, or any other of our mountain counties. Of course, I would not expect the government or anyone else to help our people if they do not agree to see to it that their products were tax paid in accordance with the laws of the United States government. I think something ought to be done about this, don't you?

W. B. J.
North Wilkesboro, N. C.
Feb. 15, 1934.

About Ruth

One of my best friends of the other sex has the middle name of Grover, which immediately dates him as 20 years older than I and a by-product of Cleveland's administration. But not only W. H. H. Grover, Woodrow and Nira date people. So many were named Ruth twenty-odd years ago that there were four Ruths in 14 girls in my class in the North Wilkesboro high school. Three were blondes, but the quartet ran the gamut in avoirdupois; one weighed 175; one around 140; one about 98, and ye scribe 112. Color is lent to the Mae Westish theory that the males of the specie worship embonpoint, for only one of

Birthday Ball Committee Writes Letter

The following was received from Keith Morgan, treasurer of the National Birthday Ball committee Thursday morning:

February 15, 1934.
Mr. J. M. Anderson, Treasurer
North Wilkesboro Birthday Ball for the President,
North Wilkesboro, N. C.

Amount \$112.00.
Dear Mr. Anderson: It is with deep appreciation that we acknowledge receipt of your remittance, as indicated above, which represents the proceeds from The Birthday Ball for the President held under your direction.

We will take pleasure in including this contribution in the birthday gift which will shortly be presented to President Roosevelt and which he will, in turn, donate to The Georgia Warm Springs Foundation to be used by it for such purposes as he shall indicate.

On behalf of the National Committee, I wish to take this opportunity to express to you and to your co-workers our real gratitude for the splendid leadership and help which you have rendered in connection with our efforts to make the national birthday party such a tremendous success. In the years to come, as the battle against infantile paralysis progresses, under the leadership of our President, I know that you will feel a just sense of gratification in having played such an important part in this worthy activity.

Sincerely yours,
KEITH MORGAN,
Treasurer.

John D. Rockefeller, Sr., Now Sunning in Florida

New York.—John D. Rockefeller, Sr., left quietly for Florida last week behind the drawn curtains of his private car. The 94-year-old retired capitalist looked "the picture of health," it was said, as he boarded the car at Tarrytown, N. Y. A special train bore the car to New York, where it was attached to the Florida Special.

Ordinarily, Mr. Rockefeller has left for his winter home at Ormond Beach, Fla., before Thanksgiving. This year his pilgrimage south was delayed by an attack of grippe, and only recently did his physicians find him in physical condition to travel.

them has ever married—and that was the 175-pounder! Webster says Ruth means "beauty," which is not the chief characteristic of Ruths I've seen in the mirror and elsewhere; but the Bible says it means "drunk, satisfied." Pious parents of the digits felt virtuous in giving their squalling daughters a Biblical name, like that of the Mohabites who was so loyal she couldn't be got rid of any more than can others with her sobriquet. But they didn't know Vivian Castro, the Kerneraville clown, would cast reflections upon the propriety of Ruth for sleeping in the threshold floor at the feet of old, whiskered Boaz and call on the preachers to elucidate.

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