

**The Journal - Patriot**  
INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

Published Mondays and Thursdays at  
North Wilkesboro, N. C.

D. J. CARTER and JULIUS C. HUBBARD,  
Publishers

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**

One Year ..... \$1.50  
Six Months ..... .75  
Four Months ..... .50  
Out of the State ..... \$2.00 per Year

Entered at the post office at North Wilkesboro, N. C., as second class matter under Act of March 4, 1879.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 1935

"Are there any optimists left?" someone asks. We think so, but what we're far more interested in knowing is, are there any optimists right?—Montreal Star.

It is stated that a typical American is one who has his home mortgaged for his car, plays golf when he ought to be at work, and has five different loans from the government.—Florida Times-Union.

**Only A Dad**

Only a dad, with a tired face  
Coming home from the daily race;  
Bringing little of gold or fame  
To show how well he played the game;  
But glad in his heart that his own rejoice  
To see him come and to hear his voice.

Only a dad, with a brood of four,  
One of ten million men or more,  
Plodding along in the daily strife,  
Bearing the whips and scorns of life  
With never a whimper of pain or hate,  
For the sake of those who at home await.

Only a dad, neither rich nor proud,  
Merely one of the surging crowd,  
Toiling, striving from day to day,  
Facing whatever may come his way;  
Silent whenever the harsh condemn,  
And bearing it all for the love of them.

Only a dad, but he gives his all  
To smooth the way for his children small;  
Doing with courage stern and grim,  
The deeds that his father did for him.  
These are the lines that for him I pen,  
Only a dad, but the best of Men.  
—Exchange.

**Noticeable Improvement**

Local police officers deserve a word of commendation for keeping traffic unraveled on the streets here Saturday afternoon and Saturday night. There was a noticeable improvement.

Officers kept traffic moving and those who were inclined to double park and jam a streak of traffic were courteously and promptly advised to move on. No doubt some motorists were shocked to find they could not leave their cars in the middle of the street and go shopping or to wait for friends to come from some part of town to join their automobile but the streets are not the place for leisure. If a person must stroll about in an automobile the roads of the country beckon.

We have a fine city here and there is no sense in motorists acting like they were in a "hick town." Just because we have one of the best towns in the state is no reason to quit trying to improve. We could have a community twice as good as any other and there would still be room for improvement. There is always plenty of room at the top.

**The Constitution**

Although much is being said and written about the United States constitution, the average person knows very little about the nation's charter.

We are not familiar with the course of study in public schools now but when we went to school we were required to study the state and national constitutions in a course known as *civil government*, which was quite an interesting study.

At that time the course was offered in the higher grades of elementary schools, which was the wrong place for it. It ought to be in the higher grades of high school and the course should be comprehensive enough to give the graduating high school student some knowledge of government and its various departments, functions and powers.

The Journal-Patriot is now publishing a series of articles by a historical authority on the subject of "The Constitution." This is non-political, is not biased in any way and only tries to impart a needed knowledge to readers. We recommend the articles to our readers. The last article published was on Monday and another will appear next week.

**Borah Leads Poll**

Election of a Republican congressman in a Rhode Island district that went strong Democratic two years ago has greatly enlivened interest in the Republican party, nationally speaking.

Just what the reversal of opinion in the Rhode Island district portends, if anything, we do not venture a guess. But it is a fact that the Republican party is no longer considered dead, even by the Democrats, and lively interest will be shown between now and convention time next year.

Speculation upon who will be the standard bearer of the Republicans is an interesting subject. Unless the unforeseen takes place soon President Roosevelt will be the almost unanimous choice of the Democrats to succeed himself, despite the wide gulf between "new deal" and conservative Democrats.

Someone recently undertook to take a poll of Republican leaders in states, districts in order to find out, if possible, public opinion on whom the Republicans desire.

Out of eleven candidates listed for the vote there were three who were favored by outstanding proportions, Senator Borah, Colonel Knox and Governor Landon.

A brief comment on the three is interesting. Borah is the more or less independent senator from Idaho who has been just regular enough to be classed as a Republican and independent enough to hold the highest regards of the more radical group of the Republican party. He has been talked for president for at least ten years but the talk heretofore has always died down before convention time. Col. Knox is a prominent newspaper publisher who has been outspoken against the Roosevelt administration. Governor Alf Landon, of Kansas, has stepped into the limelight because Kansas is operating on a balanced budget, which is considered quite a disinction for any government at this time.

These three were in the lead in the poll and Borah was 80 ahead of Knox. Choices indicated follow:

Senator Borah	247	121
Colonel Knox	187	99
Governor Landon	127	106
Senator Vandenberg	97	108
Frank O. Lowden	88	107
Herbert Hoover	52	18
Theodore Roosevelt	41	66
Ogden Mills	40	47
Representative Fish	38	55
Senator Dickinson	28	36
Representative Wadsworth	17	30
All others	94	142

The comparatively small number indicating their choice for Herbert Hoover shows the present trend to a great extent in the Republican party. Although many party leaders believe in Hoover's ability and do not blame his administration with the depression, they well remember that a president either gets credit or blame for the way things go under his rule and for that reason they do not want him to be standard bearer.

It is too early to make any predictions with a reasonable degree of accuracy but as things now stand it looks like the G. O. P. may search for a candidate in the mid-west or even as far west as Idaho.

**Sunday School Lesson**

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

**MARTHA**

Lesson for August 18th. Luke 10:38-42. Golden Text: John 11:5.

It is easy to misunderstand this appealing domestic scene chosen for our lesson. For instance, we are tempted to be unjust to Martha. We are inclined to belittle her as a rather unworthy sort of woman. But she was nothing of the sort. Her work was necessary, and most diligently and faithfully performed. She must have been an ideal housekeeper. We can well imagine how clean was her lovely home when the Master arrived for His visit, how delicious the food, how perfect the table appointments, how painstaking the service. There was nothing slovenly about Martha. She was a superb hostess.

Moreover, there is no reason to believe that Martha was not a devout woman, sensitive to religious influences, in love with her Lord. She may very well have yearned to change places with Mary. We must beware of condemning Martha as an irreligious person interested only in practical efficiency.

On the other hand, it is easy to swing to the opposite extreme, and glorify Martha in a very one-sided fashion. Kipling, for example, wrote a characteristic poem "The Sons of Martha," in which he depicts Martha's boys as the hard toilers of the world shouldering rough, rugged burdens in order that the idle sons of Mary may have a comfortable, easy time.

The truth lies between these two extremes of undue censure and extravagant praise. Martha was a wholesome, well-balanced woman, sensible and attractive. But in this particular incident she was a bit distracted and fussy. Perhaps she was tired. At any rate her irritation deserved the gentle rebuke of Jesus. "Martha, Martha, Mary has chosen the best dish."

What the Master meant is that the things of the spirit must be given a central place in this adventure we call life. Mary's choice was the higher wisdom.

*The Story of the*  
**Constitution**  
*by CALVIN JOHNSON*

**CONGRESS THE SUPREME POWER**

The form of Government set up by the Constitutional Convention was a compromise between the loose alliance under the Articles of Confederation, and the plan of a single nation with completely centralized powers. The small States insisted upon an equal voice with every other State. The large states felt that their wealth, size and importance entitled them to a larger voice in the affairs of the country. These conflicting views resulted in what historians call the "Connecticut Compromise."

The colony of Connecticut from its earliest history had a dual system of representation in its legislature. One house represented the towns as equal units. The other house represented all the people as individuals. This plan became the basis upon which the Congress of the United States was set up.

The Constitution provides for equal representation of all the States, large and small, in the Senate, and for representation of the people in the House of Representatives, in proportion to the number of inhabitants.

The Convention was a unit in agreeing that all power to direct and regulate the affairs of the country should reside in this representative organization, the Congress. Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution reads: "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

That provision of the Constitution has never been altered. It has recently been brought to the front of public discussion through the decision of the Su-

preme Court that certain acts of the 13rd Congress were unconstitutional because they run contrary to this first and fundamental provision of the Constitution as drafted in 1787. Congress cannot delegate to the Executive, or to anybody else, the power to enact laws or to issue regulations having the force of law unless it puts clear and definite limitations upon the regulative authority.

Members of the House of Representatives, elected directly by a vote of the people, must be at least 25 years old, and be inhabitants of the state in which they are elected. There is no constitutional requirement for dividing states into districts, or for members to live in the districts they represent. That is something for each state to determine. In New York, several members live outside of their districts. In Missouri there are no Congressional districts. The 13 representatives are elected at large by the voters of the whole state. Senators must be 30 years old and residents of their States.

As the body originally closest to the people, the House of Representatives was given in the Constitution the exclusive right to originate bills for raising revenue.

The insistence of the smaller States brought about another restriction upon Congress; it forbade the levying of any direct tax except in proportion to population. This was later changed by the income-tax amendment, which became effective March 1, 1913. That is the only exception to the rule established in the original Constitution, intended to provide that direct taxes levied

by the Federal Government shall bear equally upon all citizens.

The Senators, as the direct representatives of State governments, were to be chosen by the legislatures of the States. That prevailed until 1913, when an amendment was ratified providing for the popular elections of Senators as well as Representatives. A still later amendment, the twentieth, ratified in 1933, changed the date upon which the

terms of office of Senators and Representatives begin, from the 4th of March to the 3rd of January, and fixed that date for the annual meeting of Congress, instead of the first Monday in December, as originally provided in the Constitution.

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