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THURSDAY, AUGUST 29, 1935

How About a Light?

Possibly before this reaches print the situation will be remedied, but when this was written people who found it necessary to get their mail at night at the new post-office were in the dark.

Possibly those who go to get their mail from the lock boxes are required to take along candles or oil lanterns in order to find the right box. Apparently, groping for the keyhole would make a postoffice patron have a feeling that he was acting like a second story burglar.

To lay all joking aside, it must be said that a light in the postoffice lobby for those who wish to use postoffice conveniences after dark is not only desired, but it is a necessity that should be provided without delay.

None In List Yet

Tuesday we scanned a list of projects to be let by the state highway commission and we were disappointed in not being able to find any part of three of our most badly needed highways included.

In order to get something done on highway 16, the Elkin-North Wilkesboro road or the Statesville-Wilkesboro road it looks like we should get up a delegation and go tell the state highway commission how great the need for the projects is.

About five miles of the Millers Creek-Glendale Springs highway was constructed some time ago. The end of the newly constructed road is about ten miles from Glendale Springs and why in the name of all that's holy is not contract let on the remainder of that road? A great portion of Wilkes needs it and all Ashe county would be immensely benefited.

Security For All

In signing the social security act, President Roosevelt said that the measure will provide "at least some measure of protection to 30 million American citizens." We can think of no more worthy purpose than that of this new law. It is intended to provide three principal means of security for the needy aged and the industrial worker.

First come pensions for those over 65 years, who may be in want. The federal government is to contribute up to \$15 a month for this purpose, matching dollar for dollar with the states. This becomes effective as soon as the states get their own system into operation. The majority of states already have old-age pension systems, most of which will fit into this plan, insuring the needy aged of at least \$30 a month.

For elderly workers the new law sets up a system of deferred annuities, to be paid out of payroll taxes falling equally on employer and employee. Taxes begin in 1937, the first payment of benefits under the law in 1942. These retirement annuities will range from \$10 to \$85 a month, depending on average wages and length of employment.

The third major feature of the social security act is unemployment insurance. The taxes to provide for this are levied solely on employers, and the operation of the system is left to the states. Taxes will be collected beginning in 1936, unemployment benefits as soon thereafter as the states set up their systems.

We do not know—nobody knows whether this scheme will work out exactly as planned. We feel certain, however, that the new law sets up a principle and a policy which, although new in its national aspect, seems to be called for in this modern industrial age. Doubtless in practice many changes in the details of the system will be found necessary. Doubtless, too, there will arise a great demand for the extension of its benefits to classes not now included. But we do not believe that the prime principle of the measure, removal of the fear of dependent old age and of losing one's job and income in times of depression, will ever be lightly abandoned.

Message to Friends

Will Rogers was asked to write the introduction to Charles M. Russell's book, "Trails Plowed Under." The author died before the book was published and Will said that he did not know how to write an introduction. Instead he wrote a letter addressed to Mr. Russell in Heaven. It is typical piece of Rogers literature and is worthy of space in these or any other column. It has been printed in a number of newspapers and thousands are saving it for their scrapbook. If you have already read it you will want to again and if you have not, you will want to save it, so here it is:

"There aint much news here to tell you. You know the big Boss Gent sent a hand over and got you so quick Charley. But I guess He needed a good man pretty bad. I hear they been working short handed over there pretty much all the time. I guess its hard for Him to get hold of good men, they are just getting scarce everywhere . . .

" . . . I bet you hadn't been up there three days until you had out your old pencil and was drawing something funny about some of their old punchers . . . I bet you Mark Twain and old Bill Nye and Whitcomb Riley and a whole bunch of those old joshers was just a waiting for you to poy in with all the latest ones, what kind of a bird is Washington and Jefferson. I bet they are regular fellows when you meet 'em aint they? Most big men are. I would like to see the bunch that is gathered around you the first time you tell the one about putting the limburger cheese in the old nestors whiskers. Don't tell that Charley until you get Lincoln around you. He would love that. I bet you and him kinder throw in together when you get well acquainted. Darn it when I get to thinking about all them top hands up there, if I could just hold a horse wrangling job with 'em, I wouldn't mind following that wagon myself . . .

"You will run onto me old dad up there Charley, for he was a real cowhand and I bet he is running a wagon, and you will pop into some well kept ranch house over under some cool shady trees and you will be asked to have dinner, and it will be the best one you ever had in your life; well, when you are a thanking the women folks, you just tell the sweet looking little old lady that you know her boy back on an outfit you used to rep for, and tell the daughters that you knew their brother, and if you see a cute little rascal running around there kiss him for me. Well can't write you any more Charley, dam papers all wet, it must be raining in this old bunk house.

"Of course we are all just a hanging on here as long as we can. I don't know why we hate to go, we know its better there. Maby its because we havent done anything that will live after we are gone.

"From your old friend,
 "WILL."

What may be the perfect accident has been achieved in Santiago, Chile, where a concert soprano fell from a hotel window on to a dentist.—Atlanta Constitution.

Japan cannot have very much on its mind when it will let a cartoon in an American magazine worry it.—Indianapolis Star.

Now they're debunking cod liver oil. Is nothing sacred?—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Give a politician a free hand and he'll put it in your pocket.—Grand Rapids Press.

Sunday School Lesson
 By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

PAUL
 Lesson for September 1st; Acts 20:33-35; Golden Text, Acts 20:35

In personal appearance Paul was unprepossessing. Various authorities describe him as dwarfish, hook-nosed, round-shouldered, and bald-headed. The apostle himself says that his enemies found his personal presence unimpressive. (See 2 Cor. 10:10.) But it is clear that he had a genial winning expression which drew men to him through its contagious warmth. Perhaps his inelegant personal appearance was due to his ill-health, what he calls his "thorn in the flesh." Just what this malady was we do not precisely know. Some think he was troubled with acute inflammation of the eyes. Another suggestion is that he was subject to malarial fever. The most satisfactory theory is that he had epileptic seizures.

We are profoundly impressed by Paul's courage, energy, and enthusiasm. In 2 Cor. 11:23-27 we read a most remarkable catalogue of mishaps. Only a man of iron nerve could have gone through such a sea of trouble. And how incessant was Paul's toil! The record of his arduous missionary tours testifies abundantly to his ceaseless activity. And how his letters shine with enthusiasm!

This glow of emotion is the overflow of a happy heart. Paul was happy in his convicts, and in his gospel. Here was a man who felt, despite every rebuff and disappointment, the constant and joyous pressure of the Holy Spirit.

And how he rejoiced in his friends! Nothing in his letters is more beautiful than the numerous expressions of tender affection for Timothy, Luke, and many others. But, best of all, he was devoted to Christ. His passionate love of the Master was the mainspring of his noble, heroic career. The supreme seal of his burning heart is summed up in those thrilling words, "To me to live is Christ," and "I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me."

This Week In Washington

Washington, August 28. (Auto-caster)—With Senators and Representatives and almost everybody else starting on long-deferred vacations, the observers in Washington are surveying the scene and uttering prophecies with more apparent confidence than for the past six months. Both the President's supporters and his opponents are in substantial agreement on several points. Everybody recognizes now that the fundamental issue of the political campaign of 1936 will be whether the nation is to go forward along the lines of social reform, advocated by the President, or call a halt to the efforts of the Federal Government to function in this new field. All observers agree that there has as yet been no general test at the polls of public sentiment on the major phases of the President's social reform program. All agree, likewise, that the leadership of the Democratic Party, as represented both in the Senate and the House, is far from being completely "sold" on the reform program, although the 74th Congress, so far, has taken its orders from the White House almost as completely as did its predecessor.

Security and Relief

Two major acts of this first session of the 74th Congress stand out as embodying the New Deal principle of Federal responsibility for social welfare. They are the Social Security Act, providing for old-age and unemployment pensions, and the Works Relief Act, with its appropriation of \$4,880,000,000 of Federal funds to enable the National Government to give employment on public works to the nation's unemployed. The full effects of these measures are not yet apparent, but the principle behind them is clearly defined. Mr. Roosevelt's supporters are insisting that that principle must be the major issue of the 1936 campaign, even if it should be necessary to amend the Federal Constitution to establish the Government's right to occupy this field.

The Administration's augurs are confident that on that clear-cut issue of social reform Mr. Roosevelt can be re-elected, while the Republican soothsayers are equally confident that he can be beaten on any such platform.

Looking ahead politically, one forecast can be made without fear of contradiction. That is that, except for the accident of death, the upper House of the 75th Congress, to be elected in 1936, will have a Democratic majority, no matter which party wins the Presidency. For there are now in the Senate 49 Democrats whose terms of office do not expire until 1939 or 1941. That is one more than a majority of the entire Senate. So that even with a Republican President and a Republican House of Representatives, a Republican Administration taking office in January, 1937, would find itself handicapped from the start.

G. O. P. Outlook

The possibility of electing a Republican Congress in 1936 is as yet merely a plaything for the statisticians, who have figured out that about 180 of the present Democratic members were elected by majorities of 3000 or less, so that a change of 1500 votes per district would alter the entire complexion of Congress. To control the House the Republicans must elect 116 members in addition to 102 seats which they now hold.

Interest in Republican Presidential possibilities has been stimulated by the fall of Republican leaders, conducted by Robert H. Lucas, who has been active in Republican National Committee affairs for years. To the surprise of most observers, Senator Borah of Idaho is far and away the first choice of those who have been heard from, out of 2,600 Republican Committee Chairmen, with Frank Knox a poor second, Governor Landon of Kansas, Frank O. Lowden of Illinois, Senator Vandenberg of Michigan and Herbert Hoover, trailing in the order named. Senator Borah has not only been the leading choice from the beginning, but has increased his lead with each fresh batch of returns.

In the meantime, however, Mr. Hoover, as the latest and only living ex-president, remains, as one of his friends remarked recently, the only Republican who can always make the front page whenever he says anything.

22 Highway Projects Included In Letting

Raleigh, Aug. 26.—Twenty-two highway projects, the largest number in many months, will be included in the letting to be held September 6 by the State Highway and Public Works Commission. Most of them are in the new program, in which the state and federal governments pay 50-50, but seven are on the old program, the federal government paying the entire bill.

SCHOOL DAYS

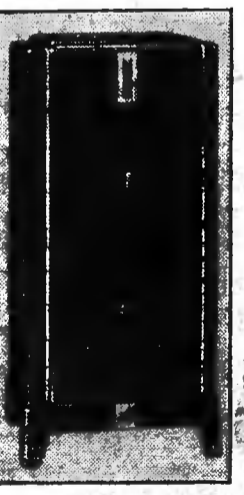


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