

# 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, SEPTEMBER 26, 1935

## Secondary Roads

Probably the most beneficial improvements from the works progress administration in this part of the state will be better secondary roads.

The man who lives on a hardsurfaced highway is fortunate in that he can drive his car or truck any time during the year but in Wilkes county there are thousands of people who live at least ten miles from a good state highway and not all the dirt roads can be traveled in all kinds of weather. When these people do travel they pay their seven cents per gallon on gasoline into the road funds just the same as the man on the side of the highway. Their automobile license tags cost just as much.

The program to better the farm-to-market roads is just what is needed for these people. Nothing helps a community economically as much as does a good all weather road. A farmer can get his products to market when he wants to and at his own convenience and at the time it will mean an advantage to him. He will take greater pride in his community, knowing that he does not live in an "out-of-way" place.

## The Food Dollar

It is encouraging news that the United States Department of Agriculture is beginning to concentrate on efforts to reduce the cost of distribution of food products. A great deal of effort has been spent, aimed at getting higher prices for the growers and producers of food, and too little attention has been given in the past to serious efforts to reduce the spread between what the producer gets and what the consumer pays.

A recent report in Washington indicates that farmers are now getting a higher proportion of the food dollar spent by the consumer than at any time in recent years. According to these Federal statistics, in June, 1932, the farmer got only about 31 cents out of each dollar spent by the consumer for the ten basic food stuffs. In August, 1935, the farmer's share of the food dollar was 45 cents. The ten foods included in these computations are: Beef, pork, poultry, butter, peas, potatoes, flour, bread, eggs and milk. Retail prices of pork and eggs have gone up recently, but the prices of dairy products and potatoes have gone down.

Distribution costs have been steadily rising for nearly 20 years. In May, 1917, the processors, distributors and other handlers of food received only about one-third of each dollar spent by consumers, as against more than two-thirds in 1932. But since 1932 the tendency of distribution costs has been downward.

There seems to be some ground for hope that the cost of living to the buyers of foods may be reduced, without cutting down unduly the prices received by producers. This can only be accomplished by cutting distribution costs. The effort of the Government toward that end is certainly highly commendable.

## School Athletics

Although we have never advocated athletics in schools to the point where the regular functions of the school system would be pushed in the background, we are of the opinion that athletics is a great asset to any school.

Aside from the physical training it affords the participants, there are other benefits, and not least among these is the upbuilding of a school spirit and pride in the institution. Good teams in the major sports help to build a name and reputation for a school along with efficiency in the class rooms.

Although it is the regular teams and stars in the various sports that accomplish this benefit we wish to call more particu-

lar attention to physical education, in which practically all of the students should participate.

This phase of athletics has its value everywhere but more especially in towns and cities. The average country youth works on the farm during vacation months and even after school hours during the term. His muscles should be well hardened and his physical being should be in the pink of condition at all times. It is not so with the average youth in towns and cities. He needs physical work, whether it be on some kind of manual labor job or on the playgrounds. Exercises of the proper kind to build a healthy and strong body that can resist disease is of equal importance to training of the intellect.

We hope that no high school in the county this year will neglect athletics and at the same time we trust that athletics will not interfere with regular school work. We have known many good school athletes who were also good scholars, even the best in the class. This goes to show that if the student and teacher does his or her part that both the physical and intellectual phases of school life can be carried on in unison and with coordination.

## Indicating Improvement

Notwithstanding all the pros and cons of this pre-political campaign year, it must be admitted that there is quite much improvement in business conditions, nationally speaking, showing up at this time.

We are not going to try to give credit for the improvement to anyone but will cite some of the things that undeniably show an upward swing of the economic pendulum.

In New York City Tuesday night upwards of a hundred thousand people paid almost a million dollars to see a prize fight, which was not even in the championship class. These people had money and were willing to spend this enormous sum to see one boxing match between two men.

These attendance and gate receipts figures correspond with those of the Dempsey-Sharkey battle before the depression and the Dempsey-Firpo battle in 1923.

On Sunday around 45,000 people paid to see a baseball game in Boston, a game that did not even decide anything in the way of baseball championship because both teams were virtually out of the race for the league pennant and the world series.

This throng of people had money to spend on a baseball game.

We do not attempt to say what all this portends but we do know that people are spending again for something other than necessities. Whether it will lead to boom days of 1926-29 with wild spending and speculation we do not know, but we wish to cite some things to show that there is a spending era on the way.

Frequently we read of such news items these days as manufacturers taking orders to be filled January 1 or later. Improvement of this nature is sure to lead to increased employment, which is one of the crying needs of this age.

## Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

### JOHN

Lesson For September 29th; 3rd John; Golden Text 3 John 11.

Of all the apostles John was closest to the heart of the Master. He stood with him in the judgment hall; he was present at the Cross, when he received from the dying Saviour the care of Mary; he came first to the sepulchre on that glorious day of resurrection, outrunning Peter; and he recognized the Lord first at the Sea of Tiberias. Later he was a sturdy pillar of the little church at Jerusalem. Later still this master-fisherman, according to a long established tradition, carried on a prolonged ministry in the city of Ephesus, from where it is supposed he was banished for his faith to lonely Patmos, there to write the picturesque flaming book of Revelation. Then, apparently, he was allowed to return to Ephesus, where he died in extreme old age.

The poet Browning, in his famous "Death in the Desert," accepts this tradition certifying to the apostle's great age, and imagines him awakened from a deep trance to deliver a last inspired message before his death.

There is a beautiful story of John's farewell to his Ephesian brothers. Too old to walk, he was carried in the arms of his disciples into the midst of their assembly, where he repeated again and again this saying, "Little children, love one another." When asked why he said this, and nothing else, he replied, "Because this is our Lord's command, and if you fulfil this nothing else is needed."

The third epistle of John, chosen for our lesson, was written to his friend Gaius, evidently a man of means and position, given to hospitality. This brief letter gives an interesting insight into the state of the church at the beginning of the second century. The 11th verse, chosen as the Golden Text, is a simple admonition to follow "that which is good."

## PUBLIC PULSE

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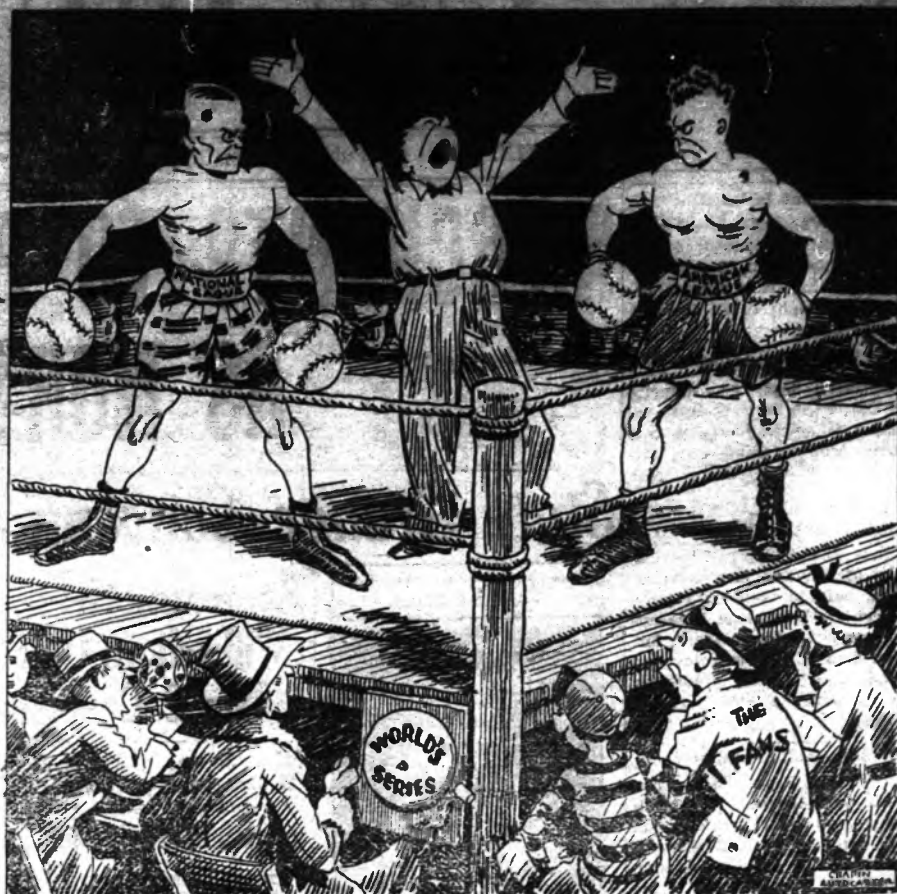
## PRAISES LECTURE BY R. DON LAWS

Mr. Editor:

The lecture by Mr. R. Don Laws at the court house this afternoon on "Man's Footprints On the Sands of Time" was full of suggestive truths. His entire lecture is supported by history, yet the diagraphic picture he drew made it all new. Mr. Laws held the large audience spellbound for one hour and five minutes. He is a man of kindly nature, destitute of malice, and strongly emotional, yet under sufficient provocations can be aroused to severe denunciations. We find Mr. Laws to be a wonderful speaker as well as a writer. He showed from the beginning that he was master of his subject. His entire lecture was free from sectarianism or politics. He used a chart with diagrams plainly showing the history of man from the earliest dawn until the present time; his method is of the simplest, there is nothing ornate in his language, his words being those of every day speech, rhetoric and flights of fancy are not thought of, a child can plainly understand him. In his speech today he gave infidelity many hard knocks, showing plainly that all remote sections of the earth, including some large cities where Jesus Christ was not supreme, human life is worthless and corruption and disaster prevails.

His speech from beginning to end was a stone wall between the church and infidelity. He is capable of broad generosity and extends to others the same unreserved candor which he demands for his self. Not many men of this generation are better equipped

## "AND TH' NEXT NUMBAH" — by A. B. Chapin



ed on ancient and modern history. From early age it has been the ambition of his life to unsolve the problems of mortal life and human destiny as far as history would permit, and being located in a rural section free from the noise and clamor of city life and with the advantage of one of the best private libraries in the state and with the advantage

of a fine brain, such conditions are most favorable for noble and enduring achievements. Having passed the meridian of his life, his lecture will grow more popular as time moves on. We trust it will be many years before it can be truthfully said that R. Don Laws is growing old.

GEO. E. BLEVINS, Springfield, N. C.

## Marriage Licenses

Licenses to wed have been issued during the past several days by Old Wiles, register of deeds, to the following: James R. Pierce, Champion, and Virginia Bumgarner, Wilkesboro route 1; Lon Miller and Ruth Shatley, both of North Wilkesboro; Oscar Dancy and Irene Johnson, both of Hays.

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