

The Journal-Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1935

Stoutish, middle-aged women, a motor expert has discovered, are the safest drivers, but, my boy, you'd better be pretty darned careful whom you compliment on that score.—Boston Herald.

Holidays and Safety

While the drive is on to promote the general idea of highway safety, we consider it a good time to call attention to safety measures during the holiday season, which is just around the corner.

At Christmas time, the period set apart for observance of the anniversary of the birth of the Savior of the world, many people consider it as the time for one grand splurge of riotous living and in so doing there is a great danger of an excessive number of accidents.

This is not intended as a sermon but as an admonition for safety and carefulness. Christmas time should be a time of joy but we cannot understand the human complex that causes carelessness in handling human lives during the holiday period.

Each year there is a large toll of lives taken in firecracker accidents, hunting accidents, and many fatalities on the highways.

The thrill of making a noise, or carelessly shooting a gun, drunken driving and taking many of the chances that will be taken during the next few weeks is not worth the risk of snapping the thread of life for some poor soul. Celebration of Christmas in an orderly and careful manner will bring a greater sense of joy and satisfaction.

Million-Dollar Incomes

Only one man in the United States reported a net income above \$5,000,000 in 1934. In 1929 there were 38 income tax returns showing incomes above that figure.

That looks as if the process of "re-distribution of wealth," of which we hear so much, were actually under way. We don't know the name of the fortunate individual, who, according to the Treasury Department, received between 6 and 9 million dollars, of taxable income last year, though it might be easy to make a fairly close guess as to his identity.

There were only 32 million-dollar incomes, all told, in 1934, but there were almost 4 million persons who received enough in that year to require the filing of income-tax returns. More than 2 1/4 million of those reporting incomes below \$5,000 paid no tax, while the 32 biggest incomes, aggregating almost 60 million dollars, paid more than half of their incomes, about 33 million dollars, as taxes. It is obvious that if all of the incomes of a million or more, instead of only 55 per cent, were taken, it wouldn't help the Treasury much.

Most folks would be willing enough to pay Uncle Sam half a million dollars or more if they had million-dollar incomes. There would still be a surplus left on which almost anybody could live in comfort. But the fact that a man received an income of a million dollars in 1934 is no guarantee that he will get that much in 1935. The one thing harder than making money, those who have experience say, is keeping it after you've made it. Even millionaires are alive to the need of laying something by for a rainy day.

After all, the big returns to the Government from the income-tax are not from the few immensely wealthy, but from the middle-class group with incomes of from \$2,500 to \$25,000 a year. And when we get down to those who make no reports to the Government, the indirect taxes paid are probably higher, in proportion to income, than those of many of the direct income-tax pay-

Cutting The Fire Bill

The tale about the man who lived in a house with a leaky roof and who did not patch it in good weather because it did not leak and who could not patch it in bad weather while it was raining can be applied to many subjects.

In the Wilkesboros and vicinity there has been but little fire loss in recent months but while we are getting by without bad fires is a good time to ponder fire prevention. For this reason we reproduce the following comment about lowering the fire bill:

It's fun to watch the fire engines flash by, with their crimson bodies gleaming and their sirens shattering the air. It's also fun to watch the firemen at work on a blaze, with their magnificent modern equipment, their amazing efficiency of movement, and their knowledge of just what to do and when to do it.

Both of these "pleasures," however, become less pleasurable if you reflect that good, hard-earned dollars must come out of your pocket to pay the bill.

It should be everlastingly emphasized that we all pay for fire—whether fire hits our property or not. All of us help to pay the upkeep of fire departments, alarm systems and water facilities. All of us who carry insurance policies must help to pay the bill for those who sustain fires—over a period of time, any town's insurance rate is determined by the volume of its fire loss.

All of us must chip in, through higher taxes, to make up the taxes lost when a home or an industry is destroyed by fire.

So it goes—we pay our share of the nation's fire bill in a half-dozen different ways. Authorities estimate that bill could be cut at least 80 per cent by the exercise of a little caution, a little forethought, a little preparedness. Most fire hazards can be easily and cheaply eliminated—and those which are easiest and cheapest to do away with are often productive of the worst fires.

Do your part to prevent fire—in the interest of your home, your business, the lives of your loved ones, and your bank account.

Fifty-Three Bread Taxes

It has recently been stated that the cost of a loaf of bread includes 53 taxes levied on it and its materials between the time the seed of grain is planted and the finished loaf is delivered to your door.

A half-dozen or so of those taxes come readily to mind. The miller who makes the flour pays taxes, as does the farmer who raises the wheat. If it is transported by a heavily-taxed commercial carrier, another tax must be added. The baker who bakes it and the store which sells it are likewise the recipients of frequent calls from the tax-collector.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

CHRISTMAS LESSON

Lesson for December 2nd. Matthew 2:1-12. Golden Text: Matthew 1:21.

The beauty of Christmas takes many forms. Consider the loveliness of the Nativity pictures such as Lerolle's "Arrival of the Shepherds." Recall the thrilling beauty of Christmas music. How delightful are the old, familiar carols!

Then poets too have dedicated their talents to the praise of the Christ child. Elsa Barker, in her poignant "The Vigil of Joseph," makes the carpenter say that his "heart quivers in lonely pain before that Beauty it loves and serves—and cannot understand!"

And what a wealth of charming stories has the Christmas season inspired! The Nativity story itself, as we find it in Luke's gospel, is the greatest ever written. Here we have what the psalmist calls "the beauty of holiness."

And then there is Henry van Dyke's famous tale of "The Other Wise Man." This is the epic of Artaban, who sold his possessions, and bought three jewels, a sapphire, a ruby, and a pearl, to bring to the Holy Child. On his way to Bethlehem he was delayed by a dying stranger on the road. Long he worked over the helpless soul, and at last his patience was rewarded. But Artaban paid dearly for this act of mercy, for he found himself cut off from his three friends, with no food and a weary horse. So he was forced to turn back, sell his sapphire, buy camels and provisions, and start out afresh.

At last he reached Bethlehem three days late. And what a tragic hour! For Herod's soldiers were killing the innocent babes! Fortunately Artaban, by giving his ruby to the captain as a pledge of non-interference, was able to save the life of one infant.

The years passed. Artaban had only his pearl now which he placed in the hand of a poor girl as her ransom from a life of slavery. And then a strange voice sounded. It was Jesus about to die. The Other Wise Man had found his King.

"What is to be found on the menu of practically every inn in this country?" asks a temperance advocate. Thumb-prints, perhaps.—Punch.

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

Washington, Dec. 16. (Associated Press)—President Roosevelt's speech before the Farm Bureau Federation has served to focus attention sharply upon the clear-cut fact that the battle-ground of the Presidential campaign of 1936 will be in the agricultural West. Mr. Roosevelt, in effect, challenged the Republicans to offer a substitute for the AAA which would be equally satisfactory to the farmers between the Mississippi and the Rocky Mountains. No one qualified to speak for the Opposition has yet offered any such program. The feeling grows here, however, that the Republicans' answer to M. R. Roosevelt's challenge will come from the West and not from the East, when it does come.

Senator Borah's radio speech, in which he criticized sharply the conservative Eastern wing of the Party, is regarded as not so much an expression of the Senator's own desire to be the Republican candidate as it was an effort to rally the progressive thought of the West into a solid front, which can dictate the Party's agricultural policies. It is also interpreted as a back-handed slap at Mr. Hoover's leadership.

G. O. P. Strategy

Whether or not the line of cleavage between Eastern and Western wings of the Republican party will amount to anything more serious than the customary fight for organization control remains to be seen. Experienced political observers here, however, are swinging strongly to the opinion that considerations of political strategy will force the Party to pick its candidate from somewhere west of the Mississippi and east of the Rockies.

That would eliminate M. R. Hoover on the West, and Col. Knox and Senator Vandenberg on the East, leaving the contest, so far as visible candidates now in the field are concerned, to Senator Borah, Gov. Landon, and Senator Dickinson of Iowa. Few are found who believe that Mr. Borah seriously expects to be the nominee. That leaves Governor Landon as the rising star of the moment.

Congress A Factor

There is no end to the possible complications affecting next year's campaign which may develop from the actions of Congress, which meets now in the matter of only a couple of weeks. The temper exhibited by returning Senators and Members can best be described as "rambunctious." They are going to put up a fight for every measure that has votes in it.

Out of the 531 Legislators on Capitol Hill there are only 64 whose terms don't expire in 1936. Those are the 64 Senators whose terms run to 1938 and 1940. One-third of the Senators and all of the Representatives must run for re-election next November if they want to come back. That makes for a situation in which

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of John D. Hall, deceased, late of Wilkes County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Halls Mills, North Carolina, on or before the 12th day of December, 1935, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement. This the 12th day of December, 1935.

MRS. JOHN D. HALL, Administrator of John D. Hall, deceased. 1-16-61

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

North Carolina, Wilkes County. Under and by virtue of a certain mortgage deed executed the 3rd day of August, 1933 from C. R. Billings, Blanche Billings, Ell W. Johnson and Carrie Johnson to J. W. Walker, and the terms of said mortgage deed not having been complied with, and the amount secured thereby being due and payable and demand having been made and payment refused, I will on Saturday, the 11th day of January, 1936, at one o'clock p. m., at the Courthouse door in Wilkesboro, N. C., offer for sale to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described property, to-wit:

In Rock Creek Township and known as the Ell Johnson homestead, adjoining the lands of Walker heirs, C. W. Wilcox and Hubert Johnson; Beginning at a stake in the Spring branch running north 18 degrees west 46 1-2 poles to a white oak, the N. S. Myers corner; thence north with the Myers line 24 poles to a white oak south 81 1-2 east crossing and down Turner's Branch 53 1-2 poles to a white oak on bank of said branch; thence south 62 poles crossing a small branch to a spanish oak; thence west with the C. W. Walker line 5 poles to a white oak, west 33 poles to a stake, north 18 degrees west one pole to the beginning, containing 30 acres more or less.

This the 11th day of December, 1935. J. W. WALKER, Administrator. 1-9-36. By John R. Jones and J. M. Brown, Attorneys.

every organized raid on the Treasury which has important voting strength behind it will find support. Veterans' Bonus, Townsend Plan, "Look-the-Rich" tax schemes, the Federal-Labor Farm Mortgage Refinancing bill, and almost anything that criminal labor is solidly behind, will provide at least a chance for the boys to go on record, whether or not they succeed in enacting any of these and other projects into law.

The signs are that opposition from the White House to all such drafts on the public purse will be more stubborn than in the past. There is no inclination here to question the genuineness of Mr. Roosevelt's desire to cut Government expenses and make at least a step toward balancing the budget. He will have to meet, however, not only demands emanating from Congress, but the desires of many in his own official family for more money to spend.

Manufacturer's Stand

It can be stated definitely that the President's plan to place Frank C. Walker in the Cabinet, as Postmaster General, will not be carried through. Members of the Cabinet must divest themselves of all private business connections. Mr. Walker was in a position to do that, until the death, a few days ago, of his uncle, Michael Comerford, the management of whose very extensive motion picture interests now devolves upon Mr. Walker. The action of the recent Convention of Manufacturers in uniting upon a definite declaration of opposition to the Administration widens the breach between the Government and business beyond any likelihood of its being bridged over. Democratic leaders are inclined to halt this as providing good campaign material, while Republican wheel-horses look upon it as at least assuring an ample campaign fund for 1936.

Raleigh Boy, 12, With 5-Year Court Record, Held

Raleigh, Dec. 16.—A "big" bad man from Raleigh's west side, who is all of 12 years old and has a five-year court record, was found in a Raleigh store window late last night by police after he had cracked the plate glass and crawled in. The boy is Milton Haire, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Haire, of 214 South West street.

HIGHWAY DEATH TOLL DECLINES

Raleigh, Dec. 17.—Death's toll of North Carolina highways was cut sharply in November.

Capt. Charles Farmer of the state highway patrol said there were only 92 fatalities last month as compared with 181, a record monthly high, in October and 117 in November, 1934.

Although the decrease was significant, the year's total of 989 to December 1 was only less than the 934 reported for the 12 months of 1934.

Strict enforcement of traffic laws was cited by Captain Farmer as chief contributing cause for the decrease in accidents and deaths last month. Farmer estimated the year's death total would be "well over 1,000."

Winfall Man Killed When Crushed By Falling Tree

Hartford, Dec. 16.—Thurman Whedbee, 20, of Winfall, was killed today by a falling tree while logging in a woods near Whiteston. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elsbury Whedbee, and several brothers and sisters survive.

FOUR SLAIN BY WPA EMPLOYE

Los Angeles, Dec. 16.—An apparently demented man killed four WPA workers with rifle bullets today at a project where his job had been reduced to "water boy."

Two of the three others he wounded were in a serious condition.

The gunman, Charles N. Layman, 46, told police, "I shot them because they had been abusing and browbeating me." Officers expressed belief he was a "mental case."

Bethel Girl Missing

Kinston, Dec. 17.—Police here disclosed today that search had been started in this section for Helen Jones Padgett, 17, of Bethel, missing since Thanksgiving day. A reward has been offered for information as to her whereabouts.

At 89, Ambrose Keane, of Dundee, Mich., boasts that he is one of the town's strongest men. He chins himself, and can touch the floor with his fingers without bending his knees.

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