

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1937

More Murders By Motor

If anyone had predicted at the beginning of this century that within less than forty years the nation would be crisscrossed with wide, paved streets along which automobiles would scoot at speeds up to eighty miles an hour, most people, if they listened to the prophet at all, would have said he was crazy. And if he had added that practically anyone, child or ancient, sound or crippled, drunk or sober, would be permitted to drive an automobile at such speeds, intelligent listeners would have said that could not possibly be allowed. It would be too dangerous to put such engines into irresponsible hands. Why, a lot of people would be killed.

We all know that that is just what has happened. Last year we killed nearly 37,000 people on our highways, most of them not the drivers of the cars, but their passengers, people in other cars, pedestrians and children. This year, so far, the death toll is nearly a quarter as large again. The National Safety Council reports that up to the end of February motor fatalities were 24 per cent higher than in the same period last year. The open winter in the East accounts for most of this increase in motor murders. More cars on the roads, more killings.

Where is this slaughter going to end? How can it be stopped? How many more Americans must be killed before outraged public sentiment rises to the point of indignation and forces action by the constituted authorities? A hundred or more groups and organizations have been giving intensive study for years to the causes of motor accidents and ways to prevent them. They all agree that the guilt lies at the doors of irresponsible, careless, "take-a-chance" drivers. The solution lies in tightening the restrictions upon drivers of cars and punishing severely every motorist whose recklessness or incompetence causes an accident.

There are limits beyond which the rights of the individual cease and the right of society to protect itself takes command. We no longer tolerate, in most American communities, what used to be regarded as the inalienable human right of every individual to carry firearms and shoot them off when and where he pleased. Even under that scheme of things, the shooter was held responsible if he hit anybody. Now the automobile has displaced the revolver as the universal American weapon of homicide. It is time we restricted its use to those who can be trusted not to abuse it. Driving a car should be regarded as a privilege, not a right which everybody is free to exercise without restriction.

Regrettable

The fact that officials found it necessary to warn people to refrain from dumping rubbish along a state highway within the city limits is regrettable and certainly does not speak well for the persons of unknown identity—who have been creating another eyesore on the landscape to greet the eyes of visitors and home folks.

But for thousands of years people have been wondering why there is such a lack of civic pride among some people who fail to recognize the value of good impressions or the disastrous effect of bad impressions.

The best evidence that good advertising sells is the fact that the most successful firms in this country advertise. They advertise because it sells their merchandise. If it didn't, they would not spend a dollar in advertising. To sell, an advertisement must have thought put into it. It must tell something that interests the reader. If the reader is interested, he will read, and if he reads he will buy.

Highway Equipment

While the Works Progress administration has been hard pressed to find suitable types of work at all times for the men that must be given jobs, the state highway commission has been lacking in equipment to provide the men with tools with which to carry on beneficial work.

At present the men are making some headway placing crushed stone surface on the leading secondary roads, but much more work could be done with two more crushers and the necessary trucks. Apparently that is not a great obstacle to stand in the way of necessary improvement.

The statement by Highway Commissioner J. Gordon Hackett that he will use his efforts to secure a machine shop for his district and that he has committed himself to improvement of school bus routes to the fullest possible extent is indeed promising and comes as good news to the many people who were practically shut in last winter because of road conditions.

The opinion has been freely expressed that if the state had cooperated with WPA during the spring and summer of 1936 by furnishing equipment that much of the road trouble experienced during the past winter could have been avoided.

Vocational Education

A million and a half youths will follow the ways of progress that lead to the development of men by enrolling in institutions for vocational education in the coming few weeks.

A half century ago witnessed the beginning in universities and colleges of "book learning" in farming. There soon followed courses in manual training in the public schools. Last year more than half a million youths attended classes in Federally-aided schools and received instructions in trade and industrial subjects.

Civilization has come a long way since parents apprenticed their children to the masters of different trades. How lucky it was that the arrangement of George Washington's uncle to apprentice the boy to a tinker in England was vetoed by the mother of the eleven-year old boy who had just lost his father.

The Man Who's Square

There is something in the twinkle
Of an honest fellow's eye
That can never be mistaken
And can never be passed by!
Be his station high or lowly,
There that dauntless upright air
That convices all beholders
That the man they see is "square."
Heaven gives such men influence
Over those they daily meet;
If they see a fallen brother
They will help him on his feet.
Make the "speaks" a bit uneasy,
Make the "false" act kind of fair,
For the greatest rogue on record
Will respect the man who's "square."
—By John Link.

Sunday School Lesson

By REV. CHARLES E. DUNN

ABRAHAM A MAN OF PRAYER
Lesson for May 9th. Genesis 18:17-32
Golden Text: James 5:16

The age in which we live is not enthusiastic about prayer. Yet we all recognize the necessity. Everyone prays in a time of grave emergency. When Dr. Grenfell, the famous Labrador physician, was trapped on an ice-pan nearly 30 years ago, and found himself drifting toward the open sea, with death from exposure as his apparent fate, he kept reciting to himself the words of a familiar hymn, "My God and Father, while I stray far from my home in life's rough way, O teach me from my heart to say, 'Thy will be done.'"

We are reminded too of the case of prayer. One can talk to God at any time in any place. "The Practice of the Presence of God" contains the conversations and letters of Nicholas Herman of Lorraine, a humble, unlearned man, who was known as Brother Lawrence, and served in the kitchen of a monastic community. Brother Lawrence found God as he fulfilled the menial tasks of a scullion. He did all his disagreeable duties there with prayer. And God answered his prayers, inspiring him with the contagion of a good courage during the fifteen years of his hard service in the monastery.

But we must never forget that true prayer is not a superficial gesture. He always answers the sincere, earnest petitions of the soul. Our lesson is a case in point. Abraham was genuinely concerned over the plight of the righteous remnant in wicked Sodom. We may deplore his bargaining technique, his shrewd diplomacy. But we can admire his persistence in prayer. Our Golden Text tells us that "the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." Abraham discovered the truth of this declaration. He pleaded with his God with undimmed ardor, and was rewarded by the assurance that even though only ten good men should be found in the doomed city it would be saved.

Dellaplane and Roaring River Route 2 News

ROARING RIVER, Route 2, May 3.—Rev. J. W. Moore preached at Antioch Saturday and Sunday, using as a text Sunday, "Behold the Lamb of God."

It was about decided that the revival at Antioch will begin the third Sunday in August, and Rev. Mr. Groce, of Iredell will assist the pastor, if he can be secured. The pastor, Rev. A. W. Lynch, held services Sunday at the Roaring River Methodist church.

The Antioch people gave their pastor, Rev. J. W. Moore, a pious and useful gift, and a small cash collection. Four nice quilts have also been made for him recently.

Robert Sparks and his grandmother, Mrs. Ida Call, have both been quite ill, according to reports.

Rev. J. W. Moore, of Gilreath, was the dinner guest Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. Ransie Staley.

The congregation was so large at Antioch Sunday that practically every seat was filled. Miss Lucy Benton, of High Point, called home because of the tragic death of her brother, Hayes Benton; and Mr. Troy Foster, who was visiting his father, were among those from a distance. Many of the Fishing Creek Arbor or Call people, including Mr. and Mrs. B. L. Combs, Mr. Nathan Williams, Miss Vertie Williams, and Mr. Dick Smithley, were present. Mr. and Mrs. Luther Glass and children and Mr. Winfield McCann, of Brier Creek, were there also.

Mrs. Laura Linney, Rev. N. T. Jarvis, and some of his family spent a day or two the early part of last week in North Wilkesboro with their sister and aunt, Mrs. Celia Lane, whose husband, Mr. Stokes Lane, had just died. Miss Ruth Linney also attended the funeral.

Taxes are being listed this week in Antioch on Monday at Shepherd's Garage; Tuesday at Cranberry school; Wednesday at Dallaplane; Thursday at the old Lee Martin place; and Friday at the old Tilley place. Those with only a poll or personal property can give it in any time before May 15; but anyone with real estate should not come later than May 7, as it is unlikely that the lister and assessors will be together after that date.

Rev. N. T. Jarvis attends two Bible readings each week—one at Union on Thursday, and one at Walnut Grove on Friday.

Mrs. A. H. Roberts spent last Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. J. B. Ray, who assisted her with some sewing.

The new pulpit at Oak Forest has been completed; but the painting has not been finished.

Rev. N. T. Jarvis will preach at Fishing Creek Arbor next Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

Miss Ruth Linney spent last Wednesday with Rev. N. T. Jarvis and Mrs. Lols Roberts and

shopped at Mr. A. H. Roberts' store.

The frost and ice these wintry April and May mornings seem to have benefited the lilacs that are often blasted in the south by heat and drought, and they display unusually fresh and lovely panicles of rosy-purple bloom. Dogwood and jonquills bloomed in greater profusion than any spring since 1931; when the late David B. Mastin said everything in Wilkes had bloomed for him. As he died on Decoration Day 1932, it was the last summer that a wealth of blossoms were poured out for him.

Ferguson News Of Past Week

FERGUSON, May 3.—This community will be represented well in the graduating class of the Wilkesboro high school this year. The following students will graduate at the commencement exercises which will take place the last of this week: Misses Emsy Hartley, Connie Edminsten, Mrs. Lexie Hayes Wals, Junior McNeil and James Allen. It is very commendable in these girls and boys to attain to this distinction.

The final exercise of the local school will take place this week. The Operetta will be given Tuesday night and other exercises following this. The Parent-Teacher Association met last Wednesday night with a fair attendance and after a business session, the Association had the pleasure of having Prof. C. B. Eller present, who gave a very interesting and instructive address. He presented a lot of statistics on schools of the state from which he drew some very striking conclusions.

We are in receipt of the first two issues of the Literary South, publication of the poet Laureate James Larkin Pearson, who by the way is a former resident of Ferguson and the old Beaver Creek section. This is a very unique publication and differs to some extent from anything we have seen from a literary standpoint. It was particularly interesting to many of us, especially the articles pertaining to people and incidents of local origin. It also reflects the literary genius of its editor and brings out much of the originality characteristic of North Carolina's Poet Laureate. This community is proud of the achievements of Mr. Pearson and his literary venture.

Messrs. A. M. McEwen, W. A. Profit, L. N. Hall, John Shuford and others were business visitors in the Wilkesboro for several days last week.

Jack Ferguson, student at Davidson College, visited relatives here over the week-end.

Our section of the county is pleased to note the appointment of Mr. J. Gordon Hackett as a member of the state highway commission, who we feel sure will see that Wilkes gets a square deal in road matters.

Friends of Mrs. Enoch Perry will regret to learn that she is

confined to bed on account of illness.

The local Grange met Friday night with a fair attendance and conducted quite a bit of business. The Ladies' Missionary Society of the Advent Church met with Mrs. H. C. Wheeling Tuesday afternoon.

125 Pounds Now—But Wait Till He Grows!

Gloucester, Mass. — Joseph Handaga Jr. of this city some day will make quite a hefty gent. He is but 3 years old now and

weighs 125 pounds. He weighs but seven and one-half pounds at birth, but has now acquired enough weight to challenge England's baby who claims title of world's heaviest child at only 105 pounds.

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