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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1938

**New Bus Service**

All northwest North Carolina is happy over the new bus schedule and Greyhound franchise which will make possible daily round trips to Raleigh and immediate connections with points in the eastern part of the state.

Aside from being a great convenience, the new set-up will place this section in closer contact with the eastern part of the state. It should prove advantageous in several ways, and we congratulate the Greyhound lines on being able to obtain the franchise.

**Should Clean Own House**

Senator Minton, of Indiana, went on a rampage Thursday against the press. He wanted a law passed providing fines of \$1,000 to \$10,000 for publication of false statements and he said in effect that many big publishers publish many things which they know is not true.

Referring to a resolution by a press association for a curb on the use of radio for political means, he said that the press should clean its own house before trying to clean up radio.

The people of America do not believe Minton's charges. News of his rampage was spread on the front pages of many leading papers throughout the country. Would a prejudiced press give his ravings such prominence?

The people of America know that the press keeps them informed of current events and developments in a manner that provides more accuracy than any other medium.

And in the same address in which he said newspapers should clean their own house, Senator Minton said that Senator Burke had sent out a million letters attacking an administration measure. It was learned only a few minutes later that the senator in question had not sent out over 40,000 letters and that instead of being attacks on the Wagner Labor Relations Act that it was letters asking suggestions as to how the act could be improved.

From the facts it appears that the house cleaning could very well begin with Senator Minton. The difference in a million letters and 40,000 letters and it also appears that there was a vast discrepancy in the nature of the letters in question.

If the press were as inaccurate in accounts of current events as Senator Minton was on the floor of the senate, someone would have a right to suggest a cleanup.

**Publicity For Crime**

A Public Pulse contribution in The Journal-Patriot Monday by Miss Thelma Whittington, Wilkes native now residing in Winston-Salem, was very interesting. Her article, which doubtless a great majority of readers of this paper learned, was in the form of an attack on reporters who gather news in Wilkes county or an attack on the practice of reporting crime news.

We admire the writer of the contribution for the stand she takes unhesitatingly, and although our opinions differ she put forth some very strong argument.

She said in effect that news of liquor manufacture and raids on the illicit business of making "moonshine" in Wilkes county was getting too much publicity and that such publicity was hurting the county. With that stand we take issue. Having done much of the reporting and being familiar with conditions as they are and have been in Wilkes county we say without hesitation that news of the deplorable liquor business has not been exaggerated.

We do say, however, that three-fourths of the liquor news has its origin in a few communities which comprise

less than one-fifth of the area of the county and that less than two per cent of the people of the county are directly responsible for liquor manufacture, distribution or sale.

We take pleasure in making the declaration that the citizenship of Wilkes county, generally speaking, is sober, intelligent and industrious and we believe that less liquor is actually consumed in Wilkes than in many counties where discovery of a still is a rare occurrence.

But to get back to the subject of crime publicity, we invariably have in our minds a comparison of the subject with other maladies.

Not many years ago people afflicted with tuberculosis would not admit the fact because it caused other people to shun them. Today, it is different. The disease was brought out into the open by medical science backed by a slowly responding public opinion. The first thing a person who suspects he or she has the disease is to find out the facts and then act according to the findings.

If you have a cancer and do not learn what is the matter in its early stages it is sure to kill.

If kidnappings had not been publicized widely throughout the newspapers we would not today have the federal laws against that crime and murderous scoundrels would continue to snatch babies wantonly. Let us suppose that news of kidnappings had been suppressed because people of communities where such crimes occurred were ashamed to let the world know what had happened.

Several years ago there occurred a bad homicide wave in Wilkes county. The New York Times gave the fact publicity. Wilkes people, preponderantly sober and law abiding, did not like the unfavorable publicity given the county, but were unable to challenge the facts. What did they do?

A largely attended mass meeting was held. An organization was formed. Officers, ministers, teachers, professional men, farmers, mothers and even young people began to talk law observance. Result: the crime wave subsided.

Suppressing unfavorable news is dangerous in that it lulls otherwise active people into complacency and a false sense of well being. Reforms are brought about by people who realize the drastic need of reformation.

**Inconsistency**

In formation of a wages and hours bill some leaders among the national administration insist on blanket wages and hours for all sections of the country.

At the same time they advocate the same minimum wage for the north and south a comparison of the wages being paid WPA workers in the north, and especially New York state, with the WPA wage in North Carolina and the remainder of the south would be especially interesting. In North Carolina it is a bare existence stipend. In New York, granting that living costs more there, the wage is enough to provide something of decency in excess of mere existence.

If it is right, just and proper to establish the same minimum wages for industry in the north and south the same would apply to WPA wages.

**Food For Thought**

The value of a good name was told by Federal Judge Johnson J. Hayes before a graduating class recently at Jonesville high school. Excerpts from his address, as reported by The Elkin Tribune, follow:

Four things were suggested as being essential to the making of a good name. They were, first, Intelligence, second, Industry, third, Honesty, and fourth, Character. Referring often both to the Scriptures and to his experience as a judge he drew graphic pictures of the tragic experiences of those who had failed in life because they had failed to make themselves a good name out of the above named materials.

In conclusion he said: "If you will build for yourselves good names that will signify intelligence, industry, honesty and character, I will guarantee that you will not have to receive money from the federal government, that you will not have to go to the poor house and that you will not have to go to jail."

By applying the above statement by the eminent jurist to people you know you will discover that the statement in full is justified. Some who are intelligent have failed, some who are industrious have fell by the wayside, some honest people become objects of charity, some who have character land in the poor house or on relief rolls. But it would be a good pastime to try to think of some person who builded a good name signifying the four essentials, intelligence, industry, honesty and character—and who failed to such an extent that he or she had to receive money from the federal government or went to jail.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON**

TESTING DISCIPLINE BY SERVICE

International Sunday School Lesson for May 16, 1938

Golden Text: "Come, follow me."—Mark 10:21.

Lesson Text: Mark 10:17-31

As Jesus passed from Galilee on his last journey to Jerusalem, he took the usual route through Jerico, east of the Jordan. After discussing with the Pharisees who met him the question of divorce, he crossed over into Jerico and here little children were brought to him for the blessing. While here, a young man, wealthy, attractive in person and religious in intent, rushed up to him and asked the renowned question, "Good Teacher, what shall I do that I may inherit eternal life?"

From the brief description given us of this "rich, young ruler," there are some things that we learn about him. (1) He was interested in religion; (2) he was honest and frank; (3) he was courageous; (4) he was "morally clean"; (5) he was ambitious for the best; (6) he was earnest; (7) he had had knowledge of Jesus; (8) he was conscious of a lack in his life; (9) he was lovable. But in spite of all of his excellent qualities, Jesus declared, "One thing thou lackest."

Just what was this "one thing" that was lacking in the life and personality of this admirable young man? One writer suggests the following: "He had the wrong conception of Jesus. He regarded him as a great and good teacher, but did not accept him as the Son of God." We learn this from the first statement which Jesus makes after his question: "Why callest thou me good: none is good save one, even God." On this statement are based the claims of those who refuse to accept the deity of Jesus and claim that he was and is no more divine than any other person is divine. However, Jesus is simply pointing out the young man's inconsistency in calling him (Jesus) good, and at the same time denying or refusing to accept him as the Son of God. Jesus is either God revealed in the flesh, or he is the greatest imposter the world has ever seen.

Then, too, this young man, while following the commandments of God to the last letter had failed to grasp the spirit of all of God's commandments—love. Apparently, his was a negative religion, a religion of don'ts instead of do's. He admitted readily that he knew and had kept all of the commandments, and, Jesus looking on him, "loved him." What a chance this young man had to have made a name for himself here. However, instead, we know of him only as "the rich young ruler." Jesus realized that the young man needed to surrender his heart, his entire being, in order that he might be really used of God. Therefore, he put his finger on the sore spot in the youth's life when he told him "One thing thou lackest: go, sell whatever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." That he was not willing to do. He was unwilling to use his possessions in unselfish and consecrated work for mankind. He has many like him today—many whose selfish worship of money hurts society and postpones the coming of the kingdom of heaven.

The sacrifice asked was too great for the young man to make. His "countenance fell at the saying, and he went away sorrowful: for he was one that had great possessions." We do not interpret this advice of Jesus to this young man as applicable entirely to every man, for wealth has its missions to perform and the conscientious realization of this truth by rich men often create great and lasting beneficial agencies for mankind. However, Jesus knew the heart of the rich, young ruler, and he knew that he, like many moderns, gauged every man by his



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wealth, not by intelligence, character, or service. How hard, Jesus said, is it for a man obsessed with the supremacy of wealth to appreciate the value of the soul or the spiritual assets of life. The poor widow, casting her two mites into the temple treasury, was said later to emphasize to his disciples that it was not the size of the gift but the spirit of the giver which indicated the amount of blessing to be received.

Never was there a time when the truths of this lesson were needed more in the world than today. The selfish grasping for material possessions is all but crowding out the desire for heavenly treasures. Surely Emerson was right when he declared, "The worst thing about money is that it so often costs so much."

**News Items From Summit Vicinity**

SUMMIT, May 9.—We have been having some very nice showers in this community for the past few days.

Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Mical, and children, visited friends and relatives in Deep Gap community, Sunday.

The people of this community are very busy planting this seasons crops.

Rev. Lee J. Church filled his regular appointment at Bridgeport church near the Wade Harris bridge Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Nina Church and little brother, Johnson, spent Saturday night with their aunt, Mrs. Mattie Church, of Stony Fork.

Mrs. Sherman Beshears, of Stony Fork, and Mrs. John Welborn, of Pattons Ridge, visited in the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Beshears.

There were singing and prayer meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Beshears, Sunday afternoon, quite a few from this community attended.

Miss Ruth Fleenor visited Miss Winnie Perkins, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Church and children, of Stony Fork, visited in the home of Mrs. Church's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Greene, Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Pressley Church and little daughter, Novella, spent Saturday night in the home of Mr. Church's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Church.

Rev. J. W. Church, spent Saturday night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Blackburn.

A tree overhanging a clear stream casts a reflection, but over a muddy stream it casts a shadow.



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