

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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The Summer School

North Wilkesboro city schools are to be commended for the operation and maintenance of a summer session.

The summer session in the school here is something more than a place where delinquent students can cram for a few weeks to make up failures.

An opportunity is provided for students and out-of-school people to take commercial subjects and thus increase their efficiency on business jobs or to prepare for secretarial, office or stenographic work.

The school also provides band instruction and it is interesting to note that eight students are in that class for the summer session.

It also provides opportunity for any person to study academic subjects, regardless of whether or not they are students of the school.

Such a school during the summer months in an asset to the city and community.

School Needs Water

According to a recent statement by the Millers Creek Parent-Teachers association, Millers Creek school is badly in need of a water supply.

There they have one of the largest schools in the county, a magnificent building well equipped and not enough water for the children to satisfy their thirst, to say nothing of water for the heating plant and for the sewage system.

It is not exactly the fault of any school or county authorities. Two wells were drilled to great depths but the water supply was meager.

But because two wells failed does not mean that such a bad situation must be tolerated. Children must have water and plenty of it. The school plant must have water.

It is indeed encouraging to note that school authorities have engaged a geologist to try to locate a well site and that surveys have been made of nearby springs to ascertain whether or not it would be practical to pump one or more to the school.

Before three months pass it will be school time again and we sincerely hope in behalf of the school and the hundreds of children who gather there that an adequate water supply for all needs can be provided. Any efforts on the part of the county superintendent of schools, the county board of education and the county board of commissioners to remedy the situation before another school term begins are commendable and we wish them every success.

Driving School

The WPA driving school which opens today in this city deserves the support of the public spirited people in this city and vicinity who are interested in promoting safety.

It is alarming to know the number of people who drive automobiles and who have such a limited knowledge of the rules and regulations for driving. A cross section of the situation can be obtained by listening to examinations put to applicants for drivers' license.

Once we heard a prospective school bus driver questioned relative to the simplest rules of driving that every amateur should know. But that person who was to drive a school bus and have the responsibility of the safety of more than a score of children did not even know the signals for a left turn, right turn, stop, etc.

An alarming number of drivers cannot tell you the things that the law says a car must have and in good working order. Many do not know that it is dangerous to try to pass another vehicle on the crest of a hill or on a curve.

The safe driving school offers a good opportunity to learn something about driving. Even the best drivers would profit by attendance.

Fair Premiums

According to information gained from officials of the Great Northwestern Fair to be held here again in September, the premiums this year will total about \$3,000, an amount which will compare favorably with premiums offered at many larger shows.

The increase in cash premiums for excellence of farm and home products has been made in classes where it was thought more encouragement is needed.

The increase in premiums should mean an increase in the number of exhibits and we sincerely hope that it will mean encouragement to farmers and home makers to produce more excellent products and a greater variety.

"Beating Back" At 82

How old does a man have to be to be too old to be of any more use in the world?

It was reported not long ago in the daily papers that S. S. McClure is about to receive the magazine which made his name famous around the world. Mr. McClure is only 82 years young. He has never stopped writing and lecturing and teaching people how to be good Americans, since he came to America.

Sam McClure has no old-age pension. He has nothing, and never had, but what he has earned by his own work. A boy on an Indiana farm, he wanted to go to college. There was no money in the family to send him to college, so he set out to earn it any way he could. He tramped the country roads with a peddler's pack on his back, selling everything from cheap miscroscopes to books. He found people eager for good reading, and tried to get them the books that would do them the most good.

He earned enough in this way to go through Knox College; then he married the college president's daughter and she shared his poverty until he had gained the top of the ladder.

He got the idea of buying the newspaper rights to the best current and popular literature, and established the first newspaper syndicate. He became a friend of the great writers of forty, fifty years ago. He thought there was a need for a popular, low-priced magazine, and started the first of its kind, McClure's Magazine. It made a great and immediate success. For many years it earned great profits and Mr. McClure enjoyed a huge income.

He was not a good business man, however, and the competition of new magazine modeled upon his own was too much for him. By 1914 he was broke, and had to take a newspaper job at an age when most men would have felt that the end of all things had come for them.

Now, at 82, S. S. McClure feels young and has gained the confidence of a new generation who are backing him in getting a fresh start.

WHEN PRISONS BECKON

(Statesville Daily)

Oscar Pitts, State Penal Superintendent, reports a number of prison escapes from State highway camps during the past few weeks. Several of them, by the way, are reported from Iredell.

Superintendent Pitts attributes the crave for freedom to the warm weather, which annually touches off a number of prison breaks.

Any prison official will tell you that when winter begins to pinch the prison population increases, by the proverbial "leaps and bounds." Likewise when the buds begin to swell in the spring the longing for the wideopen spaces makes the prisoners very, very restless.

If in the past wistful offenders have found the prison accommodations so appealing, one wonders what the result will be when word gets around that the new prison hostleries are regular dreams.

Take the new prison plant that is nearing completion out on the Harmony road! Everything is spick and span: Modern kitchen equipment, comfortable dining room facilities, shower baths; provisions for adequate medical attention, all the grub that actually is needed to keep a fellow fit for work. Only that word "work" mars the picture. Otherwise the accommodations that State provides are much better than ninety-nine of every hundred prisoners ever had in their homes. If it wasn't for the work, don't know if we wouldn't try for a bunk out there.

Don't get us wrong. We're not saying that the State should shove its prisoners into a barren shack and make them like it. This new way is defensible as the best way. No question about that. What we are concerned about is whether these attractive camp's wont make somebody's hen house more appealing as a means of official entre.

This Week In Washington

Washington, June 11. (Associated Press)—The Townsend Plan for Federal pensions of \$50 a month to everybody over 65 years old was finally brought to the floor of the House of Representatives and knocked on the head, as everybody expected it would be once it came to a vote.

Dr. Townsend and his followers had been trying for several years to get Congress to act on the project, and many members elected last Fall had given pledges to bring the measure to a vote. They kept that pledge, but only a few of them voted for the Townsend Plan, which was beaten by a vote of 302 to 97.

As an offset to the defeat of the Townsend Plan, the House Ways and Means Committee brought out a proposal to amend the Social Security Act so as to make it possible for the dependent aged people of the nation to receive old-age pensions up to as high as \$40 a month if the states will carry half the load.

Now both parties are trying to put the blame on the other for the defeat of the Townsend bill. Nobody knows how many votes there are behind the Townsend program, but all the politicians are afraid there are more than they know about.

Therefore the Democrats are trying to make capital out of the fact that two-thirds of the House Republican members of the House voted against the bill, while the Democrats are saying that 85 per cent of the Democrats opposed it. Both statements are true; the vote was 107 Republicans, 194 Democrats and one Farmer-Labor member against the bill.

Such tempest-in-a-teapot disputes are the sort of things that indicate to experienced observers that a national political campaign is approaching and that politicians of all parties and shades of opinion are grasping at straws which may help their own causes or hurt the other fellows. Nothing that is done in Washington these days, by Congress or the White House, is done without an eye on the Presidential election of 1940.

The belief is growing that President Roosevelt will put himself forward as a third-term candidate, though no prediction about the President's actions can be certain. The opinion of practical, professional politicians, is that Mr. Roosevelt cannot be nominated unless he personally insists upon a renomination, positively and definitely.

That point of view suggests that Mr. Garner stands a better chance of becoming the Democratic 1940 candidate than does Mr. Roosevelt, even if the latter wants it. But with the President in opposition to the Garner candidacy, talk is swinging around to some candidate whom the President would be morally obliged to support, and who could also get the whole-hearted support of the Southern wing of the party. The man most talked of in that connection is Cordell Hull of Tennessee, the Secretary of State.

Hull Respected
Mr. Hull has been growing in stature as a statesman, and gaining increasing respect from leaders of both parties. In the past year or two. He does not "play politics" in the usual sense, and there has been no suggestion of any political implications in his proposal of a way to settle the vexed question of American neutrality in case of a European war.

Mr. Hull's proposal is that American neutrality legislation should enable our government to keep a free hand where our national interests are concerned and should not put the United States in a position where it might injure its friends and help its enemies.

Mr. Hull's program, which he has suggested to Congress, would prohibit American vessels from entering combat areas, and American citizens from traveling in those areas. There would be no restriction on any sales of any kind of goods to any belligerent nation except that the Munitions Control Board might decide that certain types of military equipment should be reserved for our own use. All purchases by foreign nations should be paid for in cash and taken away by the buyers in their own ships. No loans or credits of any kind to any nation at war should be given, and no one should be permitted to solicit funds in America to aid any nation at war.

The demand for some amendment of the present neutrality law is so strong and increasing that it now seems certain that Congress will not adjourn until some such law is passed.

Nothing of consequence seems to have come out of the macher-led dinner party which the President gave to a group of business leaders. They talked about

the Labor Relations Act, and told the President how they thought it should be changed. According to Secretary of Commerce Hopkins, the President didn't say a word or no to their suggestions.

Vandenberg Will Run
Politically the sensation of the hour is the open avowal of his Presidential candidacy by Senator Vandenberg of Michigan, coupled with the declaration that the 1940 candidates of both parties should be pledged to a single term, so that whoever succeeds Mr. Roosevelt will be free to act regardless of the political consequences to himself.

All Washington agrees that the next President is going to have a tough time of it, especially if he tries to cut down Government spending and increasing taxes, which would have to be done if the public debt is not to keep on growing. Only a man with no further political ambitions could afford to tread on the number of corns that would have to be trod upon to carry out any such program.

Works Half-Time, Making Money

J. R. Barger of Salisbury, Route 2, has found a way to work half as much as the average farmer and make more money than he would working full time. Mr. Barger developed the system in cooperation with D. H. Sutton, Rowan county farm agent of the State College Extension Service, and both men recommend it to all farmers in the State.

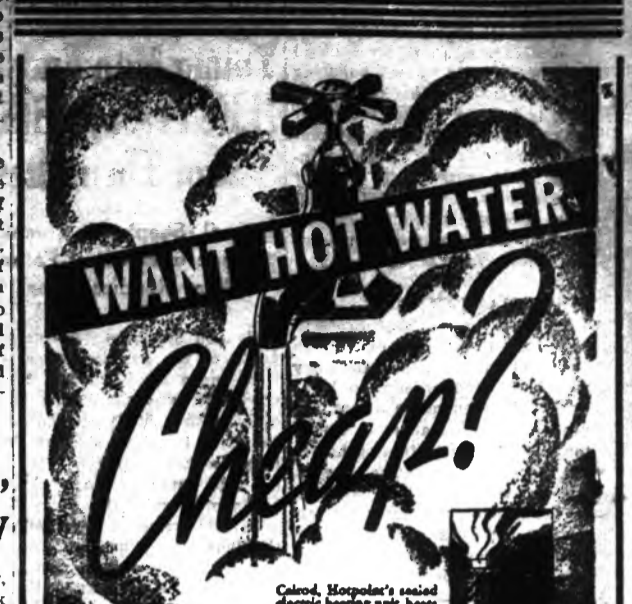
Here is the way the Rowan farmer does it: He plants his fields to clover one year and rests. Then he dons his overalls, turns under the clover, and produces a crop of wheat the following year. He makes twice as much wheat in the rotation as he does when he follows cotton with wheat. Therefore, he cultivates a crop only every other year and makes just as much grain.

To demonstrate his system, Mr. Barger planted one field to red clover, another to sweet clover, and a third to cotton. The first crop of red clover was mowed for hay and the second crop turned under. The sweet clover was pastured last spring and turned under. The cotton was harvested and all three fields planted to wheat. The red clover field yielded about 35 bushels of wheat per acre; the sweet clover field yielded between 35 and 40 bushels of wheat per acre; the cotton field yielded only 18 bushels of

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my land lay out every other year in clover and make more money than I can tend it every year. I like the shade in the summertime. Hoeing cotton is hard work."
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