

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, DEC. 28, 1939



The New Year

Before another issue of this newspaper reaches many of its readers we shall have torn off the last sheet on the 1939 calendar and will have started a new year—1940.

The old year now reaching its last days has not been so bad. It is true that perhaps none of us went through the year without troubles of one kind or another, but looking at the year from an impersonal viewpoint, it has not been so bad.

But as we get ready to bid the old adieu and welcome the new, it is fitting that we pause to think about what lies ahead.

None of us know or want to know what the new year will bring. It is best that we cannot see too much of the future but that we take it as it comes. The all important thought is that we consider the new year a new opportunity.

When on Monday morning we begin the new year we have a clean sheet on which to write. The new year will not have a blemish and it is up to each and every individual as to what transpires during the year and the kind of record which will be made individually and collectively.

Of course the same can be said of every day in the year. Each day is a new opportunity. It consists of 24 hours of time to be spent as we would spend it.

But there is added significance to New Year's Day. It impresses us more deeply as a new opportunity, another chance to make good; another glorious year in which to accomplish something of real value to the world, our communities, our homes and ourselves.

The past is history. It is irrevocably written and cannot be erased or changed. There is nothing we can do about changing it.

Today and tomorrow are vastly different. Neither has been made and their accomplishments are yet to take their place among the records not to be altered.

The person who has not made a mistake during the past year can be no other than the one who did nothing—if such a person exists. Perfection is a splendid goal of endeavor but is not reached.

The new year may offer splendid opportunities to rectify any mistakes which have been made. It may be the year in which each of us can do something fine and good to prevent mistakes of our past lives and activities from doing irreparable harm. It certainly offers a glorious chance to put into practice teachings we have learned from experience and to avoid any pitfalls which may have been in the way heretofore.

As the new year greets you we extend heartiest greetings of the season, wishing each and every one a happy and prosperous year and with the pledge to do the utmost in our line of public service to make it just that for each and every one.

And without offering advice of our own, we quote from the pen of a great Apostle these words: "Let us lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us."—Hebrews 12:1.

Business and Neutrality

Neutrality, like many other things, has two sides. One is the determination to keep the United States out of war. The other is to keep war out of the United States.

This does not mean that we must mobilize our defensive forces on land and sea or that we must fortify our frontiers like other "neutral" countries close to the area of conflict. Our barricades are the oceans which separate us more effectively from dangers in other parts of the troubled world than "west walls" and "Maginot lines."

Broad as these oceans are, however, they cannot shield us altogether from the disturbing economic effects of war. The machinery of national, as well as international, trading is thrown off balance. Some industries are subjected to the abnormal stimulus of war demands. Others because markets are clogged or isolated by war activities.

A situation such as this calls for level-headedness, if we are to keep not only war but the disturbing effects of war out of the United States. It is important that individuals as well as nations, be not "stamped-

ed" into hasty and ill-considered action, either by the hope of gain or the fear of loss.

It is well to keep in mind at all times that the United States is not at war. Neither has it any intention, as things are, of getting into it. Although we have good reason for strengthening our defenses there is no reason for getting ready for war—of going on a war footing and disregarding the much more important job of developing our internal resources. The course we have chosen is one of peace. That means that we intend to follow the way of peace because we believe we can do more in that way, both for ourselves and for others, than we can by taking up arms. We believe in building democracy up, rather than in tearing dictatorships down.

Bothered Conscience

Just why the dictators try to justify their aggressive actions in Europe is difficult to fathom. They should have sense enough to know that the neutral nations of the world will not believe their claims and why don't they just admit their true aims. Their aims are more power.

Stalin says that Russia is merely trying to give freedom to the workers in Finland. The Finns have been a very peaceful and progressive people, intelligent, educated and apparently well satisfied with their government. Russia is trying to be a good neighbor by giving the workers freedom, says Stalin.

It seems that a destructive war is no way to give workers freedom. True, Russia is freeing many Finns, freeing them of all responsibilities of life by blowing them into kingdom come. Personally, we do not wish that type of freedom.

If accounts we get out of Russia are correct, Russian workers do not enjoy any freedom. Their wages are terribly low and what we call necessities are to them luxuries. No, we do not want any of Stalin's kind of freedom.

Hitler was going to free German minorities in Poland. Trying to make the world believe that some of his people were being oppressed, Hitler overrun the country and conquered it by destruction of war. Who wants that kind of freedom?

Stalin and Hitler may be world powers today. But because they must depend upon material force to hold that power their regimes cannot long endure. There are forces more powerful than armies and neither are backed by them. Their downfall is just as certain as tomorrow's sunrise.

Borrowed Comment

HINT TO ADVERTISERS

(Montgomery Advertiser)

Men and women are prone to make their bedroom slippers last longer than any other perishable article that they buy. Yesterday a man we know bought a new pair, and afterwards recalled that he had bought three automobiles since the old dilapidated pair that he used until yesterday were bought. This sort of thing will never do. Merchants should prod their customers more sharply and make them buy new bedroom slippers more frequently.

NEW FRIENDS

(Macon Telegraph)

Major Graham C. Gugas, owner of the Calhoun gold mine at Dahlonega, tells New York reporters he has several thousand friends he didn't know anything about until he hit pay dirt some weeks ago. A few thousand boomed up when news went out that ore in the mine was valued at 60 thousand dollars a ton and more thousands showed up when it was reported that it would run as high as 200 thousand a ton. One new friend who wanted to borrow a hundred dollars sent a turkey for the major to hold as security.

THE LAW

(Macon Telegraph)

Otto Higgins, who was chief of police of Kansas City during the reign of Boss Pendergast, pleaded guilty in Federal court to a charge which involved the acceptance of a thousand dollars a month from gambling house and bawdy house keepers. No court, local or federal, seemed to object to that, but Otto drew 2 years in Leavenworth and a hefty fine for not splitting the loot with Uncle Sam.

SYMPATHY

(Greensboro News)

We are that sympathetic by nature we can rejoice with President Ernest K. Norris that the Southern, after losing a half million dollars a year for nine years, is making five millions this year; and lament with the southern governors the adversity of discriminatory freight rates.

Welwel Warzower decided to call himself Robert Wiener when he applied for passport some time ago. Federal agents alleged he did it with intent to conceal his Communist activity. It is just possible that he couldn't make the customs officials understand his real name.—Montgomery Advertiser.

A western drugstore bandit asked for headache tablets before each holdup. The man's request for drugs in a drugstore should arouse a pharmacist's suspicions.—Chicago Daily News.

Rivers Enters Race Against Bob Doughton

Boone, Dec. 22.—Jim Rivers, Boone newspaperman, today announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Congress from the ninth district subject to the primary of May 25.

Rivers is the first Democrat to seek the seat held for 20 years by the veteran incumbent, Representative Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the House ways and means committee, since 1918. Rivers' formal announcement follows:

"With the usual nervousness of an amateur office-seeker, I am today announcing my candidacy for Congress, ninth North Carolina district, subject to the Democratic nominating primaries of May 25.

"The greater part of my adult life has been spent in the ordinary pursuit of an average citizen, and these passing years have imparted a certain knowledge of the problems which confront most North Carolinians. I would be unfair to myself and to the voters with whom the success or failure of my candidacy rests, were I to post as a technician in statecraft. I deem it the fair, American way to unfold my case during the months which are to come, and to uncomplainingly accept the judgment of a majority as to my probable worth in the national assembly.

"No political clique, patriotic or fraternal body has applied pressure to this, my initial public effort. The 'hundreds of letters and dozens of telegrams' usually mentioned by potential office-holders have not been received. In truth and in fact, no man or woman has 'urged' me to make this race.

"I am a Democrat, have always been a Democrat, and take justifiable pride in my party's glorious achievements. However, it hasn't yet occurred to my mind that we should make proud history our eternal dwelling place, or presume that we have attained perfection in government.

"As an unsponsored, hence unfettered candidate, a sort of political free-lance, I am addressing myself in this big undertaking to not only the preferred shareholders of democracy, but to those thousands of patriotic men and women whose participation in party contests is devoid of the profit motive. Their will be done."

The Boone congressional aspirant is a son of the late Robert C. Rivers, for 45 years publisher of the Watauga Democrat, and a brother of its present publisher, R. C. Rivers Jr. He was born and reared here, received his education at old Appalachian Training School, now State Teachers College, and has engaged in newspaper work since early manhood. He recently returned to The Democrat's staff after an absence of several months spent in the press division of a government department.

Four-H Club members in Caldwell county are electing their 1940 officers, planning future club programs, and starting project activities for the new year.

The current trend toward more livestock in North Carolina has hit Yadkin county where registered Guernsey heifers are growing in popularity as a 4-H Club project.

Happy New Year To All Our Patrons and Friends

And thanks a million for your patronage in the past. May we continue to serve you.

"RED" FELTS
TURNER CHURCH
PERCY SPRINKLE
JAKE CHURCH

—at the—

Wilkes Barber Shop

Hotel Wilkes Building

Higgins Mentioned As Candidate For Attorney General

U. S. District Attorney Has Little Comment Concerning Rumors

Carlyle Higgins, of Sparta, United States district attorney for the middle federal court district, is being prominently mentioned as a candidate for attorney general of North Carolina.

The following article concerning his possible candidacy appeared in the Twin-City Sentinel Monday:

"Carlyle Higgins, United States district attorney for the middle district of North Carolina, is being groomed by friends for the office of attorney-general of North Carolina, according to rumors heard here over the week-end.

"Higgins is being urged, it was learned, to run for the office now held by Harry McMullan in the May Democratic primary.

"Higgins has made no statement, it was said, regarding his intentions or desires in this connection. He said he had no statement to make concerning the rumors but said a number of persons had questioned him on the matter.

"He said he knew of no political group interested in his candidacy but said that rumors that he was being urged to run were abroad.

"Under the Hatch bill it would be necessary for Higgins to resign his position as district attorney before announcing for any office. He said he was not quite ready to do that."

CONTINUOUS

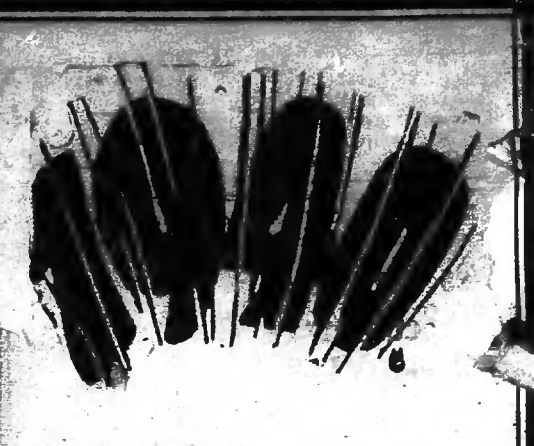
Favorable weather conditions have enabled the Cabarrus county terracing unit to operate almost continuously since last March, reports Assistant Farm Agent W. H. Williams.

INCREASE

Forty-eight out of 50 Henderson County growers report that they have increased their crop yields since becoming unit demonstration farmers.

HOME-KILLED

Fewer hogs are being fed to maturity this year than usual in Bladen county, since farmers are killing and selling their pork at a profit because of the currently low market prices for hogs.



The chick just hatched from an egg chirps, merrily anticipating a happy existence in which it will learn the use of its wings, and to become an independent fellow, making progress every day.

The new year, 1940, is like a new born chick—it shall soar forward on powerful wings, and it shall be another year of American progress.

HAPPY NEW YEAR—to you—our patrons and friends—and those you hold dear.

Wilkes Hatchery



Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Gambill, Owners

10th Street

North Wilkesboro, N. C.

TAX LISTING

In The Various Townships In Wilkes County

Begins On January 2nd



The Machinery Act of 1939, Section 302, passed by the 1939 Legislature, requires that all property, real and personal, shall be listed, or listed and assessed, as the case may be, in accordance with ownership and value, as of the first day of January each year.

All County Taxes Must Be Listed In January!

It is urged that all taxpayers list their property during specified period and avoid the penalty of the law!



C. G. Poindexter,

TAX SUPERVISOR, WILKES COUNTY.