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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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Home Accidents

It is fitting that the press, radio and other agencies of public information should turn much attention to the task of educating people in the hazard of automobile accidents and it is also essential that we should give a thought occasionally to home accidents.

About the same number of people are killed in accidents about the home each year as die in auto wrecks along the highways.

On Saturday morning a fourteen-year-old boy in Wilkes was happy and enjoying life. Within the space of a few seconds he had accidentally stabbed himself with a pocket knife and his life had departed, which shows how easily and quickly fatal accidents can happen.

Each year hundreds are killed because they fall in bath tubs. Hundreds are killed while working on farms. Kicking mules annually take a big toll. Falling timber kills workers in the forests. Falls from buildings take many lives. Many falls down stairways in homes prove fatal. Fires take a big toll in human life. Children and aged compose the majority of home accident fatalities but often active people are victims of carelessness.

Practically all accidents can be classed as preventable and due diligence on the part of all will reduce the death list.

The Helpless Match

Fire menaces the preservation of society's most cherished things; property, jobs and family. When you hold a match in your fingers and the clear flame points toward the ceiling in silent beauty, it is hard to believe that with a little help from its allies around the room—cigarettes, waste paper, curtains—it could consume the house in which you are sitting.

All these allies seem far from dangerous; but every day a match or cigarette is dropped into waste paper, or bed, and loss, and perhaps death results. Every day a stove with a faulty flue is setting fire to a dwelling. Every day an unscreened fire in the fireplace shoots a spurt out into some inflammable object in the room and sets fire to it—maybe in the daytime, maybe at night when everyone has retired. Every day brings new evidence of how that peaceful little flame on the match works with its allies to wreak havoc on the whole community.

So the next time you watch the tiny flame of a match and tip it down to give it another lease on life, remember that it is helpless only while you hold it in your fingers or when its charred remains are cold.

Respect fire for the utility it has to offer, and respect fire also for the power it has to destroy.

Youth Has Its Eyes Open

"American young people have confidence in themselves, place real value in their talents, and have faith in the future of their country."

In these encouraging words, "Scholastic Magazine" announces the results of a survey it took recently among more than six thousand representative high school young people throughout the country. The conclusion should be heartening, but not genuinely surprising to anyone who has observed the American spirit in operation before.

Some of the answers, indeed, point to a courageousness and belief in the future that we older folk would do well to emulate. For instance, only 10 per cent of those questioned expressed the belief that government jobs should be provided for young people until times improve, and 61 per cent said that if they had trouble finding jobs they would blame themselves.

As a further comment, 90 per cent of the young men and women questioned believe that the best cure for unemployment among youth and for young people in jobs they don't fit is more preparation for specialized jobs.

This note of encouragement comes at an apt moment. For with industry once again on the move and already reporting serious shortages among the applicants for skilled jobs in some brackets, youth is shown displaying a confidence that will take advantage of these new opportunities, and that augurs well for the future of America.

Read The Newspapers

In testifying before a House committee, J. Edgar Hoover, justly famed head of the "G-Men," said: "I have been very much surprised at the absolute lack of protective measures in many of our larger industrial plants. Some of the great plants in the country have utilized no measure against sabotage or destruction of property."

Commenting on this, the Wall Street Journal observed: "It is disconcerting to find that Mr Hoover can be surprised. It is particularly so when by merely following the news reports he could find that industrial companies which took steps against sabotage in a good many instances have been accused of trying to suppress legitimate union activities. And if they dared to defend themselves by mentioning Communists or sabotage, they were smeared with that devastating appellation, 'red-baiter.'"

A new and revolutionary principle seems to have come into effect in this country. Under it, the employer is always wrong and the agitator always right. A labor organizer can actually wreck an industry by the strike, sit-down, slow-up or coercive technique used today, and the law will protect him. An employer who dares to express to his employes even mild disapproval of such methods may be hauled up before the National Labor Relations Board and charged with coercing defenseless workers.

The fact that we need employers to supply labor with jobs and opportunities, is disregarded. So in the fact that invested savings of millions of citizens have been responsible for giving the American workmen the best jobs, the highest wages, the best working conditions and the finest standard of living in the world.

The surest way to injure labor is to cripple industry.

Borrowed Comment

OUR SHOCKING ACCIDENT TOLL
(Reidsville Review)

Accidents in the United States last year amounted to 93,000 deaths and 8,800,000 injuries. Property damage is estimated at \$3,300,000,000. All figures are a trifle below those of 1938, the preceding year, but their size is still terrible to contemplate.

Traffic accidents on streets and highways are responsible for a majority of the death and injuries. But don't be too sure of your own safety just because you do not travel the highways much. Once more the supposed "safety" of the home is disproved by the record of 32,000 persons killed and 4,700,000 injured in home falls, fires, and other accidents.

It would seem that there is nothing cheaper in the United States than human life. We refuse to take a back seat even for war-torn Europe in the matter of deaths and injuries. With sweet peace enfolding us, we kill and injure as many in six months as our entire casualty list while we were in the World War. Is it possible that America will ever learn the lesson of safety? Must we always remain careless and reckless where human lives are concerned?

PHOTOGRAPHIC IMPRESSIONS
(Oxford Public Ledger)

An increasing percentage of one's knowledge is being obtained through impressions of the eye instead of through sound impressions on the ear. Visual education is coming to its own.

And with the trend toward visual education there also is developing an increased interest in visual entertainment. Pictures are occupying more importance in one's work and play. Picture magazines are rising in popularity and newspapers are using an increased number of pictures to catch and to hold reader interest.

The radio industry is making a desperate effort to come into the picture field with television, and some success has been achieved by electrical engineers. However, until some of the present handicaps are surmounted, television can hardly be called practical.

Camera manufacturers, endeavoring to capitalize on the interest in pictures, are exploiting their business by placing on the market a wide assortment of cameras, ranging in price from half a dollar upward. As a consequence, more people are making more pictures.

Hollywood has taken up the challenge and is producing some of the finest shows ever screened on the silver. The screen version of "Gone With the Wind" is being acclaimed wherever and whenever it is shown, not only for the fine acting, the fine drama, but also for the fine photography.

Photography is finding new uses in libraries, in banks and in other places where photographic copies are of value. Photography is one of the most effective weapons of police in tracking down criminals, too. There seems to be no end of uses for photography.

Out of all this picture snapping in which this generation is indulging in, either behind the lens or viewing the work of the lensmen, will come a better record for the future of the life of today. And this generation will be the wiser for it, too.

A news item says a group of high school boys cooked a full-course meal as a mid-year examination in a cooking class. The report tactfully omitted to say whether they passed.—Christian Science Monitor.

Violent Deaths, Serious Hurts In Auto Accidents

Raleigh.—Violent deaths and serious injuries are always horrible to a certain degree, but they reach their peak in highway accidents, judging from records of the Highway Safety Division.

During 1939, for example, of the 8,133 persons killed and injured on the streets and highways of North Carolina, 685 suffered fractured skulls, 189 sustained fractured spines, 3,258 suffered severe general shock with contusions and lacerations, 301 had internal injuries, and 284 suffered from concussion of the brain. Those are violent deaths in the strictest sense of the word; those are injuries more painful in some instances than those of the medieval torture chambers.

Of course, lots of the North Carolinians involved in highway accidents last year suffered no pain at all, because they were killed instantly or died without regaining consciousness and never knew what had hit them. A majority of them, however, suffered untold agony and dire torture before their ultimate death or recovery. And some will be marked or maimed for life as a result of the accidents in which they were involved last year.

The automobile, in other words, is a deadly weapon, especially in the hands of an incompetent, reckless or drunken driver. It is, in fact, the deadliest weapon now in common use. Confirmation of this statement is to be found in the fact that motor vehicle deaths in North Carolina last year were 50 per cent above all the homicides and suicides combined.

For every person shot down by gun fire in the state last year, two or more pedestrians were mowed down by automobiles. Bullets are faster than automobiles, but they don't hit as many people. For every suicide in the state last year, there were three motor vehicle fatalities. Stepping on the gas is more deadly than inhaling it.

It should not be necessary, and yet it seems to be, to remind anyone who takes the wheel of an automobile that self-preservation is the first law of nature and neglect of the commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Kill" is murder. "The automobile," says Ronald Hocutt, Director of the Highway Safety Division, "is a highly potential deadly weapon, and the sooner drivers recognize this fact and drive accordingly, the sooner will it be safe to ride and walk upon the streets and highways of North Carolina."

Nazis Approve Red Cross Plan To Assist Poles

Berlin. — Germany Monday night approved an American Red Cross plan to relieve distress amongst the people in occupied Poland.

American Red Cross officials will be permitted to enter the region, which is closed to ordinary travel. They may receive materials sent from the United States free of duty and will co-operate with the German Red Cross in distribution of these goods.

They also will have an opportunity to freely observe the manner in which American contributions to Polish relief are spent.

Pitt Boy Is Drowned

Greenville, Feb. 26.—Roy Dupree Dixon, seven-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy L. Dixon, who reside in the Black Jack section of Pitt county, was drowned about 2 o'clock this afternoon when he accidentally fell in a well in the yard of his home while playing.

German Activity Is Noted, Luxembourg

Luxembourg, Feb. 26.—Great German transport activity was reported tonight across the border from this grand duchy.

Trains were numerous and long columns of trucks, infantry and cavalry could be seen.

There were reports that Field Marshal Hermann Goering and four generals visited the fortifications opposite Echternach Saturday.

Let the advertising columns of this paper be your shopping guide.

WILLIAMS MOTOR CO.
TELEPHONE 334-J
T. H. Williams, Owner

Oldmobile Sales-Service
Bear Frame Service and Wheel Alignment

General Auto Repairing
Wrecker Service—Electric and Acetylene Welding

USED PARTS—For all makes and models of cars and trucks

Boomer News Items In Brief

Rev. E. V. Bouslogar, of Taylorsville, filled his regular 47-pointment here Sunday and as usual preached a fine sermon.

Rev. S. I. Watts filled his regular appointments at Dover and Lilledown Saturday and Sunday.

Miss Hassie Wall, a member of the school faculty of Newton, visited her mother, Mrs. Vick Wall, over the week-end.

Mrs. M. J. Kimbol has a burn on her hand and arm received when she fell with her hand in hot water. We hope she will soon be all o. k. again. Mr. Kimbol is not able to be out yet on account of a severely sprained ankle.

Mr. J. E. German, who has been in poor health, is much improved, we are glad to note.

Mr. Earl German is just recovering from an attack of flu. We hope he soon gets strong again.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl McGee and children, of Kings Creek, were visitors in this community Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Parks Lackey and son, Pearl, and daughter, Virginia, all of Hiddenite, visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lackey, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eveleth, of New Jersey, visited Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lackey, Sunday. Mrs. Eveleth is Mr. Lackey's sister.

Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan H. Swanson, of Roanoke, Va., are visiting Mr. Swanson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Swanson, a few days this week.

Mr. A. F. Greer is just completing the building of a large truck body for Mr. Dick Cashion, of North Wilkesboro.

Mr. Clyde Swanson, who has had a serious operation, is able to be out again, his many friends will be glad to know. Mr. Swanson has gone this week to Williamson, W. Va., to look after business matters.

Mrs. Everett Jarvis, of Wilkesboro, visited relatives in this community, Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wall, of Kannapolis, visited the home, of Mr. Claud Howell over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowles Walker moved into their new home which is just completed last week.

Despite the cold weather many people attended church and Sunday school throughout the county last Sunday.

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.

The Week's News Of Millers Creek

Pleasant Home Woman's Missionary Union met last Sunday night with Mrs. Buren Yates. Thirteen members were present.

A most interesting and profitable program was given under the direction of Mrs. Clate Bumgarner. A week of prayer program will be given in the church March 3 at eleven o'clock. The meeting adjourned to meet with Mrs. A. T. Nichols the third Sunday evening in March. Delicious refreshments were served to the guests during

the social hour by the hostess assisted by her son, Master Carl Hoff Yates, and Mrs. Clate Bumgarner.

Mrs. D. J. Brookshire, accompanied by her daughter, Mrs. Pearl Bentley, visited with her sister, Mrs. Collier Kibby, last Thursday.

Mrs. D. H. Friend and Mrs. Howard Cannon, of Winston-Salem, with their families, visited last Sunday evening at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Bumgarner. They were accompanied also by Mr. Clifton Brown, of High Point.

Use the advertising columns of this paper as your shopping guide.

The BIG Thing To Know in BUYING USED CARS

Of course you want the best value your money will buy when you purchase a Used Car. And you'll find your FORD DEALER just the man to do business with. Backed by a fine organization and reputation he'll give you: • A Better Deal • A Better Car • A Better Guarantee. So don't buy any Used Car until you've seen us! We've got the models you want—at rock bottom prices!

CHECK THESE SPECIALS!

- 1-1936 Chevrolet Sedan, A-1 Condition... \$395
- 1-1937 Deluxe Plymouth, Only... \$495
- 1-1931 Chevrolet Coach, Only... \$95
- 1-1937 Ford Tudor, With Trunk... \$425
- 1-1937 Dodge Sedan, New Paint, Only... \$395
- 1-1937 Ford Sedan, Good Tires... \$395
- 1-1933 Chevrolet Coach—Runs Good... \$195

YADKIN VALLEY MOTOR CO.
SALES—FORD—SERVICE
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NOW Pre-Season CLEARANCE SPECIALS

GET UP, MULE!

LIMBER UP THOSE OLD LEGS... WE'VE GOT TO GET BUSY—IT'S

Planting Time Again

and, of course, we're going to follow the time-honored custom of hundreds and hundreds of farmers in Wilkes and adjoining counties and use that old-reliable

V.-C. Fertilizer

—and—

Wood's Field And Garden Seeds

again this season!

— Fresh Shipment Of Both Just Received! —

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