

The Journal - Patriot
INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

Published Mondays and Thursdays at
North Wilkesboro, N. C.

D. J. CARTER and JULIUS C. HUBBARD
Publishers

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year\$1.50
Six Months75
Four Months50
Out of the State \$2.00 per Year

Entered at the post office at North Wilkesboro, N. C., as second class matter under Act of March 4, 1879.

MONDAY, SEPT. 23, 1940



Erwin's Recommendations

Dr. Clyde A. Erwin, state superintendent of public instruction, is going to make some very important recommendations to the next legislature. Here on Thursday night before a banquet of educational leaders he outlined four major recommendations for improvement in the public school system in the state.

The first of these he mentioned was a retirement fund for teachers. He argued that a government which demands private employers to provide for retirement payments cannot longer ignore its own responsibility to school teachers.

The next he mentioned was tenure and perhaps that is an interesting to the teachers as any proposal, salary increase notwithstanding. Tenure law means that a teacher cannot be discharged for political, petty or personal reasons. In other words it is protection against the ward heeler politician and the ones who would employ their personal friends and neighbors regardless of qualifications. To put it in a few words, tenure protection for the teachers would mean that innocent children cannot be made the victim of personally ambitious and selfish school committee and school authorities. The public knows show great the need is for a tenure law and going further into the needs of such a measure would be a waste of time and space.

Salary increase—Dr. Erwin mentioned that teacher salaries have not been restored to pre-depression levels, that salaries generally are going up because of stimulation caused by defense activities and more work. He predicted that unless teachers are better paid that the day may come when personnel cannot be obtained to ADEQUATELY operate the schools. There would be enough teachers if the pay averaged only \$50 per month but any person can figure out that all the most able teachers would quit the profession in order to get jobs which would make a decent living possible. Any person in touch with the school system in North Carolina can without hesitation name scores of men and women with ability who have quit the teaching profession to take jobs with private industry because the financial remuneration was greater. We don't blame them. We would do the same thing, especially in view of the fact that we wouldn't like teaching anyway.

Enriched Program For Schools—On this phase Dr. Erwin touched on something which is of vital interest to all. In this modern age many of us have long felt the need for a more flexible curriculum with emphasis on subjects which would better prepare students to earn a living and to be more useful citizens in ways other than being able to translate Latin into "All Gaul is divided into three parts."

Another thing he mentioned was emphasis of democracy. In the school is a wonderful place to teach democracy and to instill in the minds of children the everlasting truth that no other form of government is nearly so good for mankind. And while we are on the subject, let us take time to pay our respects to some big-wigs of the so called higher institutions of learning who are spreading such subversive doctrines as communism among students. Don't ask how we found out such things are being done. We didn't. We are merely taking the word of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which has repeatedly charged that some professors in some few universities and colleges have been engaged in such dastardly work while being paid in whole or in part by units of our democratic form of government.

Wilkes People and Draft

Men of Wilkes county, when once again the security of the country seems threatened, are again willing to serve their country.

It is true that enlistments in the three branches of service from Wilkes have not been unusually large in numbers, but there is a spirit of willingness among the young men to serve if needed.

The conscription bill has not thrown our young men into fear. With but very few exceptions young men express a willingness to go if called and we have heard of no instances of making advance arrangements to try to avoid conscription.

According to the newspapers, there has been a grand rush on the marriage license bureau in New York City of young men seeking to get married in order to keep out of service. In Wilkes county there has been no increase in number of marriages since conscription was talked. Conscription talk and even the passage of the act has not caused any abnormal increase in the number of cupid's victims.

The army, navy and marine corps offer a good opportunity for volunteers now. If there is a war in the next few years the eligible young men will have to serve their country anyway and some of those who look ahead are going to enlist and be in line for promotion which will make life in the service worthwhile in more ways than one.

Borrowed Comment

GOOD DESCRIPTION

(Skyland Post)

One of the words that is commonly used by different people to express different meanings is "democracy." To many it means a particular form of government. To many others it means government by the will of the masses, unchecked by any restraints whatever. To others it means the rule of the majority without regard to the rights of the minority.

One of the greatest democrats of modern times was John Buchan, son of a poor Scottish clergyman, who mingled a career of politics with writing good literature. He was appointed Governor-General of Canada as the King's personal representative. given a title, Baron Tweedsmuir, which he took from the name of the little village where he was born, and died early this year. He left behind him a book, lately published, called "Pilgrim's Way," in which he set forth one of the best definitions of democracy ever put on paper.

"Democracy," he wrote, "is not a form of government but an attitude of mind, a spiritual testament, involving certain basic beliefs. One of those beliefs is that the personality is sacrosanct, which is the meaning of liberty; another that public policy should be settled by free discussion; that normally a minority should be ready to yield to a majority, which in turn should respect a minority's sacred things. It seems to me that democracy has been in the past too narrowly defined and has been identified illogically with some particular economic or political system."

Many people are asking whether democracy can be made to work. John Buchan has set a formula which, if followed, would insure the survival of democracy.

AMERICAN-BRITISH FRIENDSHIP

(Mount Airy Times)

In 1832 Thomas Jefferson wrote to President Monroe:

"Great Britain is the nation which can do us the most harm of any one, or all, on earth; and with her on our side we need not fear the whole world. With her, then, we should most sedulously cherish a cordial friendship."

Former President James Madison, to whom President Monroe referred Mr. Jefferson's letter, wrote:

"With the British power and navy combined with our own, we have nothing to fear from the rest of the world."

Then, as today, Britain was standing alone against all Continental Europe, leagued in the so-called Holy Alliance. The threat of European domination of South American and ultimately of this nation was as imminent then as now. Therefore, with Britain's complete acceptance and assurance of cooperation, President Monroe promulgated the doctrine which still bears his name.

Today, as then, the cooperation between the United States and Britain is close. Americans realize that if Britain's navy falls into enemy hands, nothing will stand between us and the dictatorships of the Continent.

History is being made before our eyes.

Beauty Reaches All-Time High in New '41 Chevrolet



Thousands have admired the 1941 Chevrolet automobiles, which went on display at Gaddy Motor company here and throughout the country Saturday. Complete new styling joins with numerous mechanical improvements to make the new 1941 Chevrolet a worthy successor to the cars which have earned first place in public favor year after

year. The greater size and roominess of the new models, as well as their sleek new beauty, are apparent in the Special De Luxe Sport Sedan, shown above. There are numerous improvements throughout the new models. Several refinements have been made in the motor and horsepower has been stepped up from 85 to 90.

Wilkes Man Must Pay Board In Jail

Elkin.—Arel Pruitt, young white man of North Wilkesboro, found out in Surry Superior court Wednesday that drunken driving, especially when it's a second offense, doesn't pay.

Pruitt was arrested here about two years ago following an accident in which the car he was driving at reckless speed, turned over on Elk Spur street. He was charged at the time with driving while under the influence of whiskey.

The case was continued time after time, and in the meantime Pruitt was arrested and convicted in Wilkes county for a similar offense.

Wednesday Pruitt came to trial in Surry, with J. L. Darnell, Elkin policeman, the sole witness against him. But Mr. Darnell's testimony, plus the fact that Presiding Judge Rousseau is also from North Wilkesboro, and knows something of Pruitt's past history, resulted in a fine of \$50 and costs, a suspended sentence of two years, loss of his driver's license for 18

months, and 10 days in jail. To make matters worse, the young man must pay his own board while serving as the county's unwilling guest.

New AAA Farm Program Follows Defense Idea

With national defense the paramount issue in the country today, the 1941 AAA farm program has been designed to tie in closely with defense aims, says E. Y. Floyd, AAA executive officer of State College.

The new program, which has just been announced, will emphasize conservation of the soil and the maintenance of abundant supplies through an ever-normal granary plan.

Based on recommendations of farmer-committeemen who met in Washington earlier in the summer, the 1941 program will follow the same general lines of the 1939 and 1940 programs.

Small farmers' needs have been given further consideration in the new program, Floyd said. For instance, the provision under which at least \$20 may be earned

on any farm through conservation measures will be continued in 1941. If as much as \$15 is earned by planting forest trees, any farm may receive as much as \$35 under the program.

The program also provides that on small farms where the maximum payment is not more than \$20, any part of the soil-building allowance may be earned by carrying out locally adapted conservation practices not included in the National program.

This provision will be applicable in designated areas where needed, and the practices for which payment will be made in this special group will be recommended by local committeemen.

Likewise, Floyd said, in areas where feed crops are not generally produced for market, any farmer may grow as much as 30 acres of soil-depleting crops without incurring a deduction for exceeding the total soil-depleting acreage allotment.

In North Carolina there is a 1700 average daily county jail population, cared for at a cost of 65 cents a day, or about \$400,000 a year from the county treasuries.

At present there are over a million persons eligible for public work but cannot be employed because funds are not available. WPA does not have an unlimited amount of money. It must operate within a specified appropriation of Congress. It can furnish only those jobs for which it has funds.

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