

# The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, JAN. 16, 1941



### Disgraceful First

North Carolina has scored another 'first' this one termed a "disgraceful first" says Dr. Carl V. Reynolds, State Health Officer, who announces that this State continues to lead the nation in the number of diphtheria cases reported.

In the statement for the week ending December 21, furnished health officers by the United States Public Health Service, Dr. Reynolds pointed out, North Carolina was accredited with 28 cases of diphtheria, "that communicable, dangerous, preventable and inexcusable disease, an escape from which was made available by the Legislature of 1939, when it passed a law requiring immunization of all children during the first year of life, and as a requisite for entrance into any school, public, private or parochial.

"North Carolina leads, regardless of population, among the 44 states reporting," he went on. "New York, with its 13,379,152, according to the final figures of the 1940 census, reported only 20 cases, to give us 'another first'!

"However, there is a brighter side to the picture, when we consider that, during the corresponding week of 1939, we reported 48 cases.

"Parents: We are beginning another year. In the name of justice to your children, who cannot help themselves but are dependent on you, give them that protection to which they are entitled by both moral and statutory law. Let 1941 be marked by relentless war on diphtheria!"

### Ninety Per Cent

A poll was recently taken in Portland, Oregon, by the Oregonian, on the subject of strikes in defense industries.

Ninety per cent of the people queried said that the Federal government should take steps to prevent such strikes. Only ten per cent said No.

Of the union members queried, 83 per cent favored Federal action, as against 17 per cent which opposed it. A large number said they always had believed in labor's right to strike, but now thought the emergency justified temporary limitations of this right. National defense, they observed, overshadows all other considerations.

The poll also asked how strikes should be prevented. Seventy-nine per cent of those answering favored compulsory arbitration by the government.

This poll undoubtedly represents the collective opinion of practically all the people of this country, including thoughtful workmen. It is a bitter commentary that when the government is conscripting tens of thousands of young men and paying them a dollar a day, and offering their lives to the country, a radical segment of labor that is being paid the highest wages in history, and working the shortest hours, forces strikes for more.

Most significant fact produced by this poll is the attitude of union workmen. They, no less than the public at large, are overwhelmingly opposed to strikes in defense industries. This bears out the opinion that the majority of working men are sincerely patriotic, and want to work for their country's defense—and that the recent strikes have simply been forced on them by a small number of racketeers and malcontents. The labor leader who falls into that category—and there seems to be too many of them these days—is the worst enemy the honest worker has.

Jones' little boy sprang this one last night: "Pop, why won't the British put the lion on a postage stamp?" "I donno, son: why?" "Cause it can't be licked!"—Christian Science Monitor.

### Must Stop Slaughter

"It's going to take a lot of intelligent planning and coordinated effort on the part of a lot of individuals and organizations to check the current upward trend in traffic accidents in North Carolina," Ronald Hocutt, director of the Highway Safety Division, declared this week.

Reporting that provisional figures indicate a toll of approximately 1,000 killed and 9,000 injured on North Carolina streets and highways during 1940, Hocutt pointed out that accidents in the state since last August have taken an upward trend which appears liable to continue into the New Year.

"This slaughter must be stopped, and I pledge a more vigorous effort on the part of the Highway Safety Division towards reducing traffic accidents during 1941," he said. "But we can not do the job alone. The traffic problem is largely a local problem, and definite steps toward eliminating accidents must come, for the most part, from enforcement officials, educational leaders and interested organizations and individuals in each and every community in the state.

Hocutt said there was considerable safety activity on the part of many groups in the state last year, but much of this activity was of the flash-in-the-pan variety.

"Safety activity, to be most effective, must be carefully planned, assiduously carried out and well coordinated," he stated.

"Another thousand North Carolinians who are now living will be dead and thousands whose bodies are now whole will be maimed and crippled by the end of this year unless every person in North Carolina resolves to do something and then actually does something to make our streets and highways safer during 1941."

The safety director said his services and those of his field workers are available in assisting any groups sincerely interested in helping to reduce this state's traffic toll.

### Services Of Older Men

Through at sixty?

Not in these days when skill and experience and judgment are looked for in plants where defense materials must be produced in record quantities and in record time. Nor at 65 or even 70. Information beginning to trickle into Government agencies concerned in the development of the defense program indicates that age in itself is now no barrier to employment.

The files of the United States Employment Service already contains hundreds of reports of the re-hiring of retired workers; and information reaching the Social Security Board indicates the retention on the pay rolls of many who had declared their intention of applying for their old-age benefits. Hundreds of retired workers have returned to jobs calling for the skill and experience they have. Some of these workers are 61 or 70 years old. Others have been called back to serve as instructors in vocational training or in industrial plants where intensive training of young workers is being done.

What is regarded by Government officials as a clear indication of the growing demand of employers for the skill and experience of the aging workers is the slow rate of increase of the number of claimants for old-age insurance. Until the defense program was begun there had been a rapid increase in the number of insurance claims filed by workers reaching 65, the earliest age at which a worker becomes eligible for his monthly retirement payments. Officials of the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance attribute this falling off in the number of applicants largely to the insistence of employers that their workers stay on the job and aid them in meeting the demands for defense goods.

It's easy to be glad if you try. For instance, there are no mosquitoes now.—Boston Globe.

Prairie co-eds vote for suitors with brains, character, an adequate income and sense of humor. There is in all this a faint suggestion of bigamy.—Macon Telegraph.

Like a dazzling white light the thought has lately burst on Washington: How can the Jap throw rocks at us if we don't hand them to him?—Richmond Times-Dispatch

Adolf boasts of Germany's small crime rate, but naturally, that's where murder arson and blackmail are government monopolies.—Macon Telegraph.

When Italy entered the war last June, Mussolini solemnly promised that Greece need have nothing to fear from him. We begin to suspect that il duce had some thing there.—The New Yorker.

## Abnormal Absurdities

By Dwight Nicholson, et al.

### INTRODUCTION

Any similarity between characters portrayed in this column and actual characters, living or dead, is either accidental or intentional.

First thing to do in starting anything is to state its purpose. The purpose of this column is vague and the reason—well, the only reason it is in here is because the boss didn't see it before it got in print.

This column is not copyrighted and may be reproduced. No permission is needed for reprinting. In such case the only thing needed would be a padded cell. Opinions, if any, expressed in this column are those of the writer and should never be construed as forming any part of the policy of this newspaper.

The word "we" in this column means the author and the other. We shall not disclose the identity of the Other. The Other is the shock absorber. If there is anything you don't like about this column, the Other (identically a strict secret) is the one who did it. And it will be no use to ask for the "Other" because the Other will always be out.

This column is the dumping place for notes and comment beneath the dignity of the editorial columns and which could not be classified as news.

If, after the above introduction we have made ourselves clear, we shall proceed with the column but the introduction has taken up most all the space.

### ADVICE TO MISGUIDED

Recently it has been our privilege to talk to young people who said they were interested in journalism as a career. On one occasion we had to talk 20 minutes to a group about "Advantages of Journalism as a Vocation." Those 20 minutes were hard to fill; first time we ever talked so long about nothing.

What particular qualifications are necessary in order to be a reporter, editor or feature writer? That is one question fired at us.

Fact of the matter is, we don't know; unless it be "A gentleman, a scholar and a good judge of whisky" (by smell only).

To be on the staff of any newspaper you are supposed (be sure to construe this meaning properly) to know everything everybody wants to know. You should know everything from the inside of the war in Europe to whom Grampa Jones' great niece married on her third venture into matrimony.

If you don't know (and we don't) you should know a diplomatic way of saying so. First begin by saying "generally speaking," and then say something—just anything. "Generally speaking" covers a multitude of shortcomings.

Make yourself into a one-man information bureau and like it. If you don't like it start looking at some other vocation.

What does newspaper work pay? is another question frequently asked. Perhaps you would like to know what we will get for writing this column. We'll get something—probably get fired.

### ABERNETHY EXPOSTULATES

Arthur Talmadge Abernethy in his "Mostly Absurdities" column in the Charlotte Observer January 5 made the following comment:

"I believe I've discovered substantial proof that the original garden of Eden was over in the Brushy Mountains of Wilkes county. My life-long friend, Mr. H. H. Morehouse, sent me a box of his fine limbertwig apples, for a Christmas gift, and after eating a few of them I am convinced that Adam could never have resisted the temptation to taste such fine flavored fruit."

And in addition to the high praise in the paper Mr. Abernethy wrote Mr. Morehouse personally as follows:

Mr. H. H. Morehouse, Oakwoods, N. C. Fine Friend:

Appetizing apples allotted to Abernethy add admiration.

Best beautiful biting.

Cannot convey competently commendation in complimentary communication.

Delightful delicacies develop digestion, driving doctors desperate.

Eating enjoyable, every-one enthusiastic.

Finest favorite flavor for fastidious folks.

Grand, glorious, giving good graces to gourmets.

Healthful, hike happiness high. Invite incomparable impulse to innards.

Jincy joyfulness.

Keep kidneys from kicking.

Luscious, leaving lovely lingering longing on lips.

Masterpieces of mastication. Nothing nears their likeness. Only one objection—over-eat.

Perfectly picked and prepared, passing as preserves.  
 Quickly quell qualms.  
 Ripened right, rivaling royal repairs.  
 Savory sweetness suggests some and palvo's.  
 Taste tickles tongue.  
 Unswayed, uniform, unswayed.  
 Valuable vitamins for vim, vigor and vivacity.  
 Worth weight in wampum.  
 XXX of Xcellence.  
 Yuletide years around.  
 Zealful zealth of zymologic zip.

A million thanks and best wishes from us both.  
 Cordially yours,  
 Arthur Talmadge Abernethy,  
 (American and North Carolina Ambassador of Sunshine).

### HOLIDAY NOTES

Some school children in one large Wilkes school reported that their teachers asked them to take a nickel or dime each to school before Christmas to pay for their own Christmas treat of oranges, candies, nuts, etc. That's what you would call paying for a song and singing it yourself. Or is it?

We offer no criticism directed at the underpaid teachers. Merely suggest that if they didn't have to contribute (pay) to so many funds, etc., they could treat the children without the children paying for it.

Or wouldn't it have been the wise course to never have mentioned the subject?

### BRASTIC RESOLUTIONS

After getting this far down in the column it doesn't matter much what we put in because few will have read this far. But we'll close by a contribution by a reader who thought the following resolutions by a man who lives near Moravian Falls were worthy of some public notice:

1. Drink any intoxicating drinks. (Liquor, wine, beer, or soda pop).
2. Not to use profane or vulgar language.
3. Neither lie to anyone.
4. That I shall keep my hands

and eyes off of other men's wives.  
 5. That I shall stay daily with out ceasing until converted.  
 6. That I shall shun all bad company, black or white.  
 7. Should I lose my good temper, I must count ten before speaking.  
 8. I will not go to any notorious places, or lay out at night with such cattle as I have in the past.  
 9. That I shall attend religious services frequently and give liberal offerings to all religious and charity causes.  
 10. Tenth and last: If my time should come to die before I have made peace with my Lord and maker, may I fall into the arms of Satan an honest and sober man.

"If I take this water I think I'll be well enough to get up in the morning?"  
 "Yes—long before morning!"

**DOGS WANTED TO TRY CAIN'S DOG MEDICINE**

For worms, fits, and run-down condition. Endorsed by hundreds of users—found O.K. GUARANTEED BY T. E. CAIN At City Barber Shop North Wilkesboro, N. C.

**1% Penalty**  
 On 1940 County Taxes If Payment Is Not Made On Or Before February 1st, 1941

★  
 Pay Your 1940 Taxes Now And Save This 1% Penalty.  
 ★

**C. T. Doughton,**  
 SHERIFF OF WILKES COUNTY

**DOES FORD PAY GOOD WAGES?**

**HERE ARE SOME FACTS about Ford Labor.**

During the year ended November 30th, 1940, the Ford Payroll throughout the United States averaged 113,628 hourly wage earners, not including office employees, students, or executives. They were paid \$185,105,639.12. On this basis, the average annual wage was \$1,629.05.

According to the latest available government figures, the annual average wage of all workers in employment covered by old age insurance law was \$841.00.

If the 45,000,000 workers of this country received the same average wage as Ford employees, they would have had additional wages of more than \$35,000,000,000, thus increasing the national income about 50%. Think what such an increase would mean to the workers of this country and to the American farmer, whose prices are based on the national income.

Wage scales in the Ford Rouge plants are divided into three classifications:

Unskilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 75c per hour  
 Semi-skilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 80c per hour  
 Skilled . . . Minimum hiring wage . 90c per hour  
 Higher wages are in consideration of ability and years of service.

Minimum wage scales for unskilled labor at the Rouge plant are the highest in the industry. Top wages for skilled labor compare favorably with, or are higher than, wages in other automobile plants.

Now some facts on Ford labor conditions:

Not only are sanitation and other health conditions the best in the industry, but Ford also leads in safety devices for the protection of employees. Proof of this is found in the following comparison of compensation insurance costs:

The national average rate in automotive manufacturing plants as computed by the National Association of Underwriters is in excess of \$1.50 premium on each \$100 payroll. The Ford cost of workmen's compensation is less than 50c.

This indicates that the chance of injury in a Ford plant is much less than in the average automobile plant.

The Ford Motor Company has no age limit for labor, and in fact deliberately attempts to keep older workers working. The average age of Ford workers at the Rouge and nearby plants is 38.7.

A recent check-up shows that nearly one-half the workers at these Ford plants were 40 or over, falling into these age groups:

|        |                   |
|--------|-------------------|
| 25,819 | between 40 and 50 |
| 14,731 | between 50 and 60 |
| 3,377  | between 60 and 70 |
| 417    | between 70 and 80 |
| 12     | between 80 and 90 |

In addition to the so-called regular employees, the Ford Motor Company has hired, and now has on the payroll, at the same regular hourly wage, thousands of workers who are blind, crippled or otherwise incapacitated for normal productive work. They are not selected for their ability to build cars or to maintain the plant. They are on the payroll because of Henry Ford's belief that the responsibility of a large company to labor goes beyond the point at which the unfortunate worker can no longer produce profitably.

The above are facts. They are open to anyone who really wants to deal in facts. Anyone who wants to get a job . . . buy a car . . . or place a national defense contract on the basis of fair labor treatment must place Ford at the top of his eligible list.

**FORD MOTOR COMPANY**

**Yadkin Valley Motor Company**  
**Sales-Ford-Service**  
 Ninth Street Phone 60 North Wilkesboro N.C.