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 INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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More Education

The legislature of North Carolina is debating the addition of a 12th grade in the public schools and a possible ninth month. Standing wholeheartedly for better educational advantages for children in North Carolina, we endorse whatever can be done efficiently to broaden the scope of educational endeavors.

But first of all we would like to see the public school system throughout the state operate efficiently for eight months. Before going farther in this comment let us pause to say here that North Wilkesboro has a splendid nine-months schools efficiently carried out in all departments. The high ranking of the school here is possible because the city levies taxes to supplement funds paid by the state.

We are talking of the public school system as operated in North Carolina without local supplements.

The state has not yet reached the point where it is operating schools for eight months with any reasonable degree of thoroughness and efficiency.

Here are some things which should be accomplished in justice to the children.

1. Pay teachers enough to make it profitable to teach instead of making it almost expedient that the most capable of them leave the profession to obtain incomes sufficient to maintain a standard of living at least equal to skilled industrial workers.

2. Provide school buses and transportation facilities sufficient to prevent the necessity of hauling more than 100 children on a bus built to haul half that number and eliminate the necessity for buses so many trips each that some children have to leave home before daylight and not return until after dark.

3. Set the wage for school bus drivers high enough to make it possible to hire responsible drivers.

4. By all means lower the teacher load in order that teachers may not have to try to teach 50, 60 or more children in one room. Under present conditions teachers find it impossible to give children the individual attention they must have in order to make satisfactory progress.

5. Add more practical subjects to the high school curriculum, teaching students how to earn a living as well as academic knowledge.

6. Stress health and physical education among the entire student body (in many schools now only those who are taking part in school athletics receive physical training essential for best physical development.)

These are only the reasonable objectives which the public school system in North Carolina has not reached. We could name numerous other ideals.

Dr. Clyde Erwin, state superintendent of public instruction, told the appropriations committee of the legislature that the teaching profession is losing good women and good men because private employment is more profitable to the most capable. Any person who can see with his eyes and think with his intellect can understand the need for improvements in the public school system of North Carolina. It is true that these improvements will cost money. But in our opinion, the state would be rendering its children—its most important products—a greater service now by increasing the thoroughness and efficiency of the school system for eight months than by addition of a ninth month, which would probably aggravate the hap-hazard operation of the school system.

Sherman wasn't altogether right. In Vernon, Calif., an ice cream war has resulted in a six-dip cone.—Louisville Courier Journal.

Borrowed Comment

A WISE CHOICE

(Morganton News-Herald)
 This section of the State has occasion to feel very much gratified, our neighboring county of Alexander in particular, in the choice made by the Board of Trustees of Duke University of Dr. Robert L. Flowers as president of the University, succeeding the late Dr. W. F. Few. Dr. Flowers has the ability as well as the experience to head this great educational institution and it was both wise and logical that he should be advanced to serve as head of the University. In the interim since Dr. Few's death a number of nationally-known names had been suggested for the presidency, but it did not seem possible that the trustees would do anything but what they have done—select Dr. Flowers. He has been administrative vice-president for several years and immediately after Dr. Few's death was named acting president.

Dr. Flowers is a native of Alexander county, a product of the red hills of piedmont North Carolina. In his youth he attended old Rutherford College in this county and has always been a great admirer of the late Dr. R. L. Abernethy, who founded that institution. A personable, friendly, democratic "man of the people" Dr. Flowers will give the presidency of Duke a very desirable combination of commonsense and academic training.

At the end of the present school year, Dr. Flowers will have completed 50 years in the service of Trinity College and Duke University. During this half-century as teacher and administrator he has seen the small college, to which he went in 1881 as instructor in electrical engineering, grow to one of the South's and the nation's foremost universities.

GOVERNOR MAKES A DATE

(Oxford Public Ledger)

Thanksgiving in North Carolina will be celebrated in 1941 a week earlier than has been customary in the state but on the date that majority of states in the union have designed for their day of Thanksgiving.

Governor Hoey, in revealing his plans to follow the popular trend in designating an earlier Thanksgiving, stated that he was yielding his personal preference "to what seems to be an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the newly designated day."

Action of the Governor in indicating the course he would follow in proclaiming Thanksgiving will serve to eliminate much of the doubt and uncertainty about Thanksgiving and the making of plans for events and celebrations on this occasion.

None will deny that the "commercial element" has entered into the gradual shift that began in 1939 when President Roosevelt acceded to urgently made requests that he designate the third instead of the fourth Thursday in November for Thanksgiving. The earlier date allows the public a longer shopping period between Thanksgiving and Christmas and allows merchants a longer period for displaying and selling their merchandise.

After all, Thanksgiving is not a day, but a state of mind, an event that can come on one day as well as another. The principal difficulty for the past two years has been the disagreement on the date of the event—a disagreement that has brought a certain amount of confusion. Governor Broughton has contributed his bit toward eliminating that confusion.

SAVINGS INCREASING

(Kernersville News)

For the seventh consecutive year, savings deposits of the banks of the United States have increased.

Last mid-summer they reached the stupendous total of \$25,750,000,000. There were 45,791,265 accounts, and while that does not mean the same number of depositors, since some people have more than one account, it certainly suggests that savings are more widely distributed among the people than some would have us think.

This gives a clew to the funds the government proposes to tap if it begins to float war loans in the manner of 1917-19. For this is money on deposit, actually in existence, and if borrowed by the government for bonds, it does not increase the amount of money and thus tend toward inflation, as would borrowing from bank which simply create a bookkeeping credit. It is another glimpse of the defensive sins of this great country.

Our hope for flu is that it's taken wings.—Greensboro Daily News.

In general terms, Japan's policy toward us seems to be the effusive expression of good intentions so long as they will serve.—Kansas City Times.

Abnormal Absurdities

By DWIGHT NICHOLS, et al.

Today Abnormal Absurdities breaks its eight readers to a column by a guest writer. No doubt it will be a relief for them to get away from absurdities from the above named authors and to enjoy this column.

By BILL ROBERTSON
 (Guest Columnist)

Although we hardly regard ourselves as bona fide residents of North Wilkesboro, neither are we to be classed as one of the proverbial Visiting Firemen. In our two months here, we have come to the conclusion that this town is strangely different from any other in which we have ever lived.

We have been impressed by the friendliness of the people here, particularly that of the permanent residents to newcomers in the town. We like to recall our first visit to church and the lady that met us on the way out and said, "You're new here, aren't you? We're glad you came. Please come back." And she meant it! Then, too, we like the tradesmen of the town. Their slap on the back is friendly and not a search for your pocketbook. We like the absence of the many stupid little cliques found in most towns; and we are glad to see that marital status is not regarded as a dividing line in social activities. In short, here everyone is accepted until he is proven to be a heel—instead of vice versa.

We like it that way.

The fact that Margaret Mitchell and David O. Selznick's stupendous, colossal, super-super movie, "Gone With The Wind," is playing a return engagement at the Liberty Theatre this week reminds us of the numerous gags that accompanied its premiere at Atlanta last year. The one we liked best was Bob Hope's version of the two old confederate soldiers that saw the picture and got so mad that during the intermission they went outside and beat up a BLUE Chevrolet.

Then, too, we could mention the man that didn't get to see the ending of the picture because the boy sitting in front of him grew up.

Since no column can be complete without some comment on the present war, our offering concerns the Greeks and Italians. From latest reports, it was learned that the Italians were holed-up in some unnamed Greek town and were unable to advance further because of a Greek sniper. There was only one gate leading out of the city and everytime an Italian showed his face, this lone Greek sniper would drive him to cover. This kept up for about five hours. Finally the Italian general could stand it no longer. He called out his entire army of 5,000 soldiers and gave the order to get that man dead or alive. The soldiers saluted smartly and marched out. Inside two minutes they came running back in full retreat. They didn't even stop to report to the general. He, in turn, tried to stop several of them but they all kept running to the rear. One soldier tripped and fell. The general rushed to him and asked, "What in the blankety-blank has happened?"

The soldier looked at him with wide, frightened eyes. "General!" he answered, excitedly. "There's TWO of 'em!"

We countered our first blows with Old King Winter last week when our little transportation unit, affectionally known as "Buluah" and laughingly known as a c. r., skidded a full forty feet down the main street of Boone and then proceeded to climax the act with a complete directional about-face. Although this was very gracefully done on the part of "Buluah," it unnerved us somewhat for the rest of the day. Thereafter, we crept around curves at a snail-like pace, crossed ice patches in low gear, and hugged all inside curves around the mountains. That is, we hugged inside curves until a nice little sign warned us to beware of falling rocks. Then we really became worried. Hadn't we seen evidence of numerous rock slides on the road to Boone? Should we drive on the inside and take a chance on falling rocks, or should we take a chance on the outside?

Beware Coughs from common colds That Hang On

Creomulsion relieves promptly because it goes right to the seat of the trouble to help loosen and expel germ laden phlegm, and aid nature to soothe and heal raw, tender, inflamed bronchial mucous membranes. Tell your druggist to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you must like the way it quickly allays the cough or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION
 For Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

and maybe all off the great ent pace. Then, as if we were not already in a state of mental collapse, we passed another small sign that cheered us immensely. Printed in large black letters against a white background, it read "PREPARE TO MEET GOD!"

The Bureau of Unions Information: Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th president, met his wife through a "Lonely Hearts" club—Pocahontas did not save the life of Captain John Smith—There has never been a single case of scarlet fever among the Apache Indians—Andorra, the world's smallest republic, sent nine soldiers to help save democracy in the first world War—Wedding rings are used in the marriage ceremony because a circle in hieroglyphics means eternity. . . .

Next week, East Lynne. . . . (Abnormal Absurdities editor's note: We hope that you nine readers (gained one this time) have enjoyed the guest column as much as we have and with every good wish for Mr. Robertson, we hope he will do a column for us again sometime. Mr. Robertson is a new comer to North Wilkesboro, where he holds an executive position in the district WPA office, where he holds an executive position and we gladly welcome this literary talent into our midst.)

Ethiopian Natives Aid British Push

London.—British forces advancing into Ethiopia have established "direct communication" with native "patriots" under former Emperor Haile Selassie, a military spokesman said today, and with their help are forcing the Italians back in "an extremely successful action."

"We are able to reinforce the patriots at our pleasure," this source said, "and all the Italians can do is retire through hostile surroundings into the interior in the hope they will be able to make a stand at some point."

The spokesman said, however, the British could not expect to continue the advances at the present

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 Buy a bottle... Use it... If not entirely satisfied your money will be refunded.
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MATTRESSES

These mattress centers in the county have been averaging a total of 22 mattresses daily for the past two weeks, reports E. H. Grooms, Area Agent of the N. C. State College Extension Service.

Ads. not attention—and results

YOU KNOW HOW WOMEN ARE!

Lovely creatures — but talking is their weakness. Let your housekeeping become something less than perfect, and somebody sooner or later will hear about it . . .

In these times it is so unnecessary to become the subject of such conversation, for with model appliances so inexpensive and with electricity so cheap, your home-making can be just about faultless.

You have plenty of electrical servants, you say?

Ah—but shouldn't some of them have been pensioned long ago? Take that out-moded range for example. Of course it isn't giving the service it once did! And of course it can't compete with the marvelous efficiency of electric ranges today. You owe it to yourself to investigate electric cooking as it is done **this year!**

Visit any reliable dealer's next time you go down town. Then you'll have something to talk about!

Duke POWER COMPANY

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It's the only low-priced car with a 90-h.p. Valve-in-Head "Victory" Engine . . . the only low-priced car with exclusive Body by Fisher and all the other features listed here. . . . It out-styles, out-accelerates and OUT-VALUES all other biggest-selling low-priced cars!

The U.S.A. has given its verdict on motor cars . . . given it unmistakably by awarding Chevrolet sales leadership over all other makes of cars for nine of the last ten years . . . and now the U.S.A. is giving this same verdict again: by showing clear-cut preference for the new Chevrolet for '41!

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CONCEALED SAFETY-STEPS	YES	NO	NO
UNIQUE-POWER SHUTTLE AT THE EXTERIOR CASE!	YES	NO	NO
BODY BY FISHER WITH UNIQUE FINISH!	YES	NO	NO
UNITIZED TIRE-ACTION	YES	NO	NO
ROCK-GUARD FRAME	YES	NO	NO
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