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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MAR. 5, 1942

Commissioners' Cases

Action on the part of the superior court Monday in granting a nol pros in the five cases against Wilkes county commissioners and two former members of the board has met with the approval of the people.

Many factors enter into this approval. The three present members of the board and two former members were indicted on a charge of failing to perform their official duties. The indictment did not come about by any public demand. So far as is publicly known, no private citizen of the county asked that the indictments be made.

Judge F. Donald Phillips ordered from the bench that the solicitor draw the bills of indictment. We do not believe that anyone expected that the commissioners or former commissioners would ever be convicted. Opinion of competent attorneys was expressed that a conviction could not be secured under the law. The opinion was also expressed that the action on the part of the superior court judge in ordering the indictments was high-handed procedure and improper use of the vast power vested in a superior court judge.

It is true that the commissioners did not comply with an order by Judge Armstrong at a preceding term, but there was a question as to whether or not they were lawfully supposed to comply with the order. There is a constitutional limit on the amount which may be levied for the general fund, out of which such things as improvements of county property had to be paid for. It was not until the commissioners found a way of relieving the general fund that they were able to appropriate funds for a heating plant in the courthouse, repairs to the jail, and other needed improvements.

All the improvements asked in the order of Judge Armstrong have been made. The indictment of the commissioners and former commissioners created for them unfavorable publicity which might have made some impression on people who did not know the facts; did not know the character of the men concerned and who did not know just how and why the cases originated.

No one could charge any of the five men with any criminal act, using the broader sense of the word. Without exception, the public has confidence in them and their upright character is known by the people of the county. We believe we speak without fear of contradiction when we say that no person in the county under oath would have anything to say against their character.

This is a time for unity. Our entire nation is laboring at the peak of a dangerous crisis. It is no time to harbor any personal prejudice or try to gain favor by embarrassing others. We need to give our leaders cooperative support. It is certainly no time for indictments against upright men to hang on the dockets of our court, especially in view of the likelihood of their origin springing from a desire on the part of somebody to harass and embarrass or to help somebody grind their own axe.

Both Judge Clement and Solicitor Hall are to be commended for wiping these unjustified cases from the docket.

The Lesson From France

The French nation, whose people were bitterly divided and quarrelling over domestic issues, was slain on the battlefield by an army that blindly followed one man. The United States, preparing to meet its foes, can profit by the tragic spectacle of the downfall of France. There is no time to be lost.

The individual, in a democracy, must be free or become a slave.

Battleships Not Obsolete

The Japanese sinking of the British battleship Prince of Wales and battlecruiser Repulse convinced many Americans that the day of the battleship was gone. They thought that the British battleships could not prevent the Nazi air-supported invasion of Norway, that British battleships could not stop the Germans at Crete, and that the Japanese had successfully crippled a number of United States battleships at Pearl Harbor.

The German flight through Dover Strait, however, has disrupted the contention that battleships have become obsolete. It is now evident that aircraft cannot stop battleships, if the latter are protected with fighter aircraft.

The British used about 600 planes in an effort to stop the Germans; their bombers and torpedo planes were intercepted by German pursuit planes. Thus, the battleship remains the backbone of the fleet, and the airplane and airplane carrier becomes, only, an integral part of the fleet, just as the submarine became in the last war.

LIFE'S BETTER WAY
WALTER E. ISENHOUR,
Hiddenite, N. C.

THE NOBLER WAY

I'd rather teach a common truth,
Or write a simple song,
To bless and save our noble youth
From things that lead them wrong,
Than throw temptations in their way
That only curse and blight,
And get their money, day by day
And lead them far from right.

No one can estimate the harm
He does his fellow man
By reaching out a tempting arm
And leading all he can
Into the harmful paths of sin
And evils of the earth,
That holds them back so they can't win
The things of truest worth.

All this is done for money's sake,
Regardless of the wrong;
In spite of all the wrecks they make
And heartaches by the throng;
So I had rather lead the way
To Jesus Christ the Lord,
And get an earth but little pay,
But wait for God's reward.

To yield the heart and bow the knee
To money, pleasure, lust,
Can never make one great you see,
Nor worthy of our trust;
Nor can it lift a fallen race
That's crushed with sin and crime,
That needs our Lord's redeeming grace
And all that is sublime.

Borrowed Comment

REACTION TO DRAFT

(Waynesville Mountaineer)
We hear on all sides that America has been asleep while other nations have been preparing for the gigantic conflict that now engages the major countries of the world.

We grant that this may be true. But it is easily explained by the fact that we have been a peace loving people, and not being war minded have not been suspicious of others while they were building up material and spiritual fighting forces.

We are awake now thoroughly, if the reaction of the registrants of the third draft in the selective service throughout the country matches that shown in the Waynesville area last week. Just give us time.

While Uncle Sam leaves little choice when he notifies a man that he is to report at a certain point at a definite time, and the men registered last week because they had been ordered to do so, we liked their spirit, as expressed on all sides.

There were many who "signed up" who would not be expected to go. There are often reasons why a man should be exempted, yet as our citizens filed in the draft office last week, they seemed to be of one accord, they were ready to go, if they were needed.

We see such signs everywhere. America is settling down to face a long struggle. Each day events both personal and national bring home to us all the urgency of the situation. Only through such realization and the attitude of the men who are registering for service and answering the call as our own folks here are doing, will victory be assured, for our enemies started in the game of war far ahead of us. It will take time to catch up with them, much less get ahead.

Abnormal Absurdities
By DWIGHT NICHOLS, et al.

ANOTHER HUNOR
Everywhere we go we hear the tale about the man who stole a tire from a doctor's car and left money in payment, together with a note which said: "Here is your money. You can buy another tire. I can't."

This may have happened somewhere we don't know. We are certain it does not fit locally because the only tires stolen from a doctor's car was from Dr. F. C. Hubbard's car. It was not in that case because that took all his tires and wheels and did not leave any payment.

But the craziest thing we have heard yet and which people are foolish enough to believe is the yarn about the man who stole the tires and left a check. Now if they had not changed the story to make it a check instead of a cash, it would still have been believable. Who wants to steal a tire and leave a check. We presume the check was signed, which would identify the thief. Just like leaving your calling card.

ATTEMPTED SABOTAGE
We hesitate to write about ourselves, but this happening was of much importance even if it did concern newspaper men.

On Monday night some persons tried to sabotage publication of your newspaper. A person delivering some materials vital to the production of this paper was attacked en route here. Fortunately for us, he ran the gauntlet of enemy attacks and arrived safely with the needed materials, something we have not put out a paper without. But we are glad to state that he made it and did not give up to the attacks.

(P. S.—It would not be fair to end this story without saying what the materials were. Facts were: The delivery boy was snowballed while bringing us a couple of cokes.)

GRINS AND GIGGLES

A tallor who never touched a drop was passing a saloon operated by one of his acquaintances, who was assisting a drunk from the door. The saloon keeper called to the tallor and asked if he would help the drunk man get to his home. The tallor replied: "You should do like I do, when you finish a good job put it in the show window."

Scientists have discovered sheep in the Himalaya mountains which can run 40 miles per hour. It would take one of their lambs to keep up with Mery nowadays.

Best cartoon on the war we have seen yet was the drawing of a large force of Japanese on Wake Island. They were armed to the hilt with field artillery, rifles, hand grenades, bayonets, pistols, tanks, armored cars and airplanes loaded with bombs were sitting nearby. The commanding officer gave the order to make ready to advance. "We think there is a wounded marine left here", he told his men.

One Wilkes man who heard that children under twelve were admitted free at a show took his wife and only 11 children, leaving the others at home.

Rockingham Sugar Situation Is Acute; Molasses At Still

Reidsville.—The sugar shortage has become acute in Rockingham.

Members of the sheriff's department from Madison, Reidsville and Stoneville raided a still in New Bethel township and seized a 150-gallon still. Two men and 25 gallons of whiskey and several barrels of mash were taken.

The officers found 42 buckets which had been filled with molasses, which they said indicates moonshiners are now using a substitute since they are unable to secure sugar.

London, Feb. 24—Prime Minister Churchill was received in audience by the King at Buckingham Palace today and lunched with His Majesty.

Farm equipment and tractor dealers have been requested by Price Administrator Leon Henderson not to advance the prices of machinery this year.

How To Relieve Bronchitis

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 doctor to sell you a bottle of Creomulsion with the understanding you use it the way it quickly relieves the attack or you are to have your money back.

CREOMULSION
For Coughs, Chest Colds, Bronchitis

Ferguson News Items in Brief

Ferguson, March 2.—The high school choir of the church here at an annual concert... The school choir... The school choir... The school choir...

Though our sands here been muddy school has continued every day without serious interruption except for one day. The play "Aunt Samantha Rules the Roost" sponsored by the school faculty will be given at an early date, the exact time when the play will be presented will be announced soon.

The P.T.A. which held its regular monthly meeting some days ago held a very interesting meeting with Mr. S. F. Miller, president. Two patriotic plays celebrating Washington's Birthday were well presented by some of the grades directed by Mrs. Greer and Miss Sebastian, teachers.

Due to bad weather the Grange did not meet at its regular time, but will probably not hold another meeting until the last Tuesday night in March.

Mr. and Mrs. McGary, Mrs. Lawrence Andrews, Misses Mary and Lizzie Carlton of Lenoir, Mr. W. H. Laxton, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Rothrock and two children, and Mr. Ray Laxton, all of Winston-Salem, visited Mrs. T. C. Carlton here Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. James Steele of Yadkin Valley also visited Mrs. Carlton.

Mr. W. G. Walsh, who runs a general merchandise business, also runs a garage in connection with his store, and is prepared to do any kind of repair work on cars and trucks.

Mr. and Mrs. Creed Hall and two children, who have been living at West Grove, Penn., but who now reside at Catawba, Va., visited his grandmother, Mrs. Larkin Hall last week and other relatives and friends at Denny, Ferguson and Purlair. Mr. Hall manages a large farm at Catawba.

WORKSTOCK

If properly handled, workstock authorities estimate that 12,000,000 of the 14,000,000 horses and mules in the United States can do as much work this year, as 18,000,000 in peace time.

BRITISH BOMB PARIS PLANTS

Paris, Unreported France, March 2.—The British Royal Air Force bombed airdromes and factories in suburban Paris tonight at 10 o'clock Paris time.

This was the first announced bombing of Paris since the German attack on June 3, 1940, which caused more than 1,000 casualties, including 284 dead.

It is known, however, that British raiders have made occasional bombing attacks on military air fields in the Paris area since the Germans took over the city. Before the French surrender the airport was declared an open unattended city and thus escaped virtually undamaged after the June 3, 1940, "taken bombing."

The German commandeer plants in the Paris area have been the source of vast supplies for Adolf Hitler's war machine, and all were turned over to the Nazis virtually intact.

(Among the better-known establishments are the Citroen, Hispano-Suiza, Potes, Renault and Regular motor works. Other industries converted by the Nazis to their own purposes include railway shops, metal, chemical, leather and food factories.)

(Paris is only about 150 miles by air from the closest point of the British coast—within easy bombing range. The British are believed to have refrained from attacks on the city heretofore because of possible repercussions among the French people.)

Piano Sunday At Lincoln Heights

The old piano at the Lincoln Heights high school was in such a bad condition that it had to be traded in for a new one, at a cost of \$175.00 difference.

In order to secure this money, the school is sponsoring a rally on Sunday, March 8th, at 2:00 p. m. at the Lincoln Heights high school. The program will be furnished by various choirs, including those of Damascus Core club, Lincoln Heights high school glee club, Rickerd Chapel choir, and Boomer choir. The sermon will be delivered by Dr. J. C. Stokes, pastor of the Wilkesboro white Methodist church.

All are invited to attend and enjoy the program, and contribute what they can toward this worthy cause.

NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Fred Glass, deceased, late of Wilkes County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned for payment, on or before the 10th day of February, 1942, at which time all persons indebted to said estate will please make payment.

This the 10th day of February, 1942.
VANDER PARSONS,
Administrator.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Fred Glass, deceased, late of Wilkes County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons holding claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned for payment, on or before the 10th day of February, 1942, at which time all persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement with Mrs. Fred Glass, administrator, Wilkesboro, North Carolina.

This the 4th day of Feb. 1942.
MRS. FRED GLASS,
Administrator of Fred Glass, deceased.

F. J. McDUFFIE, Attorney
3-12-42 (4)

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE
State of North Carolina, County of Guilford.
Having qualified as Administrator of the estate of Stella Blankenship, deceased, late of Wilkes County, North Carolina, this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of the said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before February 4, 1942, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to the said estate will please make immediate payment.

This the 4th day of February, 1942.
BEATRICE CHANDLER,
Greensboro, N. C.; administrator of the estate of Stella Blankenship, deceased.

By William E. Comer, Attorney.
3-12-42 (1)

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

HAVE YOU COUGHING JITTERS?
That cough from a cold may rack your body until you have the coughing jitters. Let one dose of Mentho-Mulsion start you feeling easier, quieter, more comfortable. Satisfaction or money back. 50c and \$1.00 sizes. Try it.

MENTHO-MULSION Starts Relief
Believe shortly after the cold when Mentho-Mulsion relieves sore throat, cough and breathing more easily. Ask your druggist.

R. M. BRAME & SONS

DID YOU SAVE THE PENALTY
— On Your —

County Taxes?

Those who paid their 1941 Taxes before March 3rd, 1942, saved the additional penalty of 1 per cent. Were you among the thrifty to save this penalty? If not, you can save an additional 1 per cent penalty if you make payment on or before . . .

Wednesday, April 1st, 1942

Tax collections were good last month, Many taxpayers saved the penalty. Be among those saving the extra penalty this month by paying your County Tax before the above date. A 3% penalty will be added to all County Taxes not paid on or before April 1st, 1942.

C. T. Doughton
Sheriff and Tax Collector