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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1942



Good Piece Of Work

While attending to the duties as a highway patrolman, Sergeant Carlyle Ingle uncovered evidence which is expected to lead to the exposure and conviction of a theft ring which has stolen merchandise with a value of thousands of dollars from two wholesale firms here.

In our opinion, it was a most creditable piece of law enforcement work, and a valuable one to society as well as the merchants involved.

But it seems that our contemporary, The Statesville Daily, has a different opinion of the accomplishment of Sergeant Ingle, and the berating comment was contained in the following editorial in Saturday's issue of that newspaper.

"Wholesale grocery concerns in North Wilkesboro have been experiencing extensive losses in thefts of merchandise lately. Now it has been revealed that the thieving was the work of certain employees who, it is alleged, sold the stolen wares to country merchants at reduced prices.

"But what interests most is the fact that this mystery was unraveled by Sergt. Carlisle Ingle, of the State highway patrol, who according to the news story, 'had been working on the case for some time.'

"One would think that, with two liquor dealers in Wilkes distributing thousands of gallons of tax-paid liquor, to say nothing of the activities of the moonshiners and bootleggers, the traffic on the Wilkes highways would be considerable. But apparently Sergt. Ingle has found time hanging heavily on his hands, and sought recreation in sleuthing—which is not what the state hired him for.

"That would not rate mentioning if it were not for the fact that this has become a practice, a rule, not an exception, for these State employees who could well leave such matters to the local law enforcement officials.

"The next legislature is warned that it will be asked to provide additional patrolmen on the claim that the present force cannot travel the roads as they should. But it is plain that Wilkes doesn't need any more.

"We wouldn't say that the patrolmen shouldn't pitch in and help local officers when they get in a jam. But taking over in little matters of this kind doesn't square with the purpose for which the patrol was supposed to be created."

It would appear in the above editorial that our neighbor editor would have had Sergeant Ingle pay no attention to the discovery of evidence of a big theft ring on the assumption that he was to do nothing but patrol the highways.

If the Statesville editor had read the news account of the matter correctly, he would have discovered that Sergeant Ingle was checking traffic in an effort to apprehend some escaped convicts when he found the first evidence relative to the theft ring and that he had not been "investigating the matter for some time" prior to that incident.

The Statesville editor says that the patrolman could well have left the matter to local law enforcement officials.

According to our information concerning the theft ring, it had been operating on a big scale over a period of months—perhaps years. During all that time the matter with local law enforcement officials, but the theft ring flourished.

When Sergeant Ingle stopped a car and found that it contained merchandise in wholesale lots, was going to a country merchant and at night, he suspected that something was wrong and immediately began to investigate. His findings led to arrest of several men, whose names have not yet been disclosed pending the winding up of the whole matter.

The Statesville editor would have had the patrolman let the stolen goods pass and would have had him inform other officers of the matter or just forgot about the whole thing because he was a highway patrolman.

If he had followed such ridiculous procedure, the men involved would have conferred together, would have corroborated their defense and could not have been convicted under any circumstances. In fact,

there would have been a likelihood that the theft business could have continued to flourish without exposure.

Instead, Sergeant Ingle, who is sworn to enforce state laws, immediately investigated suspicious circumstances, which led to arrest of the theft ring members.

Let it again be emphasized that Sergeant Ingle just happened to run across the evidence in the case and that he was performing his duties as a highway patrol officer at that time. He did not go out on the roads with the purpose of investigating grocery thefts. But he did do a good job with the investigation when it fell into his lap.

Maybe all this discussion is superfluous, but we cannot remain silent when a piece of work which we consider outstanding is attacked for no good reason at all. Instead of criticising the action of the patrol officer, we commend it as a most worthy service to the state, the county, to the general public.

The Fruits Of Hoarding

A news dispatch tells of a man who registered for a sugar ration book and reported that he had 15,000 pounds of sugar in his possession. When questioned, he said that he had feared a shortage two years ago and had been accumulating his gigantic stock ever since.

This is a particularly glaring example of the kind of action that, if widely followed even on a small scale will make an extreme extension of rationing inevitable. In other words, hoarding makes scarcities—and scarcities, in turn, make iron-handed government control unavoidable. Some authorities have said that there would be no need for sugar rationing at this time had not purchases by the public increased to an abnormal level.

American merchants have been fighting hoarding. They have been urging the public to buy normally, and to pay no attention to wild rumors which say that practically everything we need will soon be unobtainable. That advice is 100 per cent worthwhile. If all of us follow it, there will be far fewer shortages, and rationing can be held to the minimum.

The American merchant, big or little, is the consumer's best protection. That's true whether the merchant deals in clothing or general merchandise or food or hardware or anything else. The merchant knows conditions. He is in a far better position than the rest of us to anticipate what the future will bring. And when he says, "Don't hoard!" he simply talks common sense.

Record Of American Medicine

"In the short span of 150 years—really short as history is written—American medicine has moved forward to a position of universally recognized world leadership," said John M. Pratt of the National Physician's Committee for the Extension of Medical Service, in a recent talk. "It has provided a more effective and more widely and evenly distributed medical care than has ever been provided anywhere at any time.

"It was only yesterday—as time is measured—when cholera and small pox marched unchecked back and forth across continents killing half the populations of vast areas and wiping out entire towns and villages. These dread killers have been checked. During this period of 150 years, typhoid fever, diphtheria, diabetes, tuberculosis, pernicious anemia and a score of lesser ailments have been made to yield the science and skill of the American physician. Actually, during this short period, the life span of man has been doubled. In 1790 the life expectancy was 35 years—today it is 62 years. These achievements are without parallel in the history of the progress of mankind."

Maybe cotton stockings will soon be a badge of honor—a small enough token of American ability to "take" at least that minor shock to vanity.—Exchange.

Hitler threatens to return "blow for blow" in the air war, but last year he was bragging to the world that he would "return 100 bombs for every one dropped on Germany." The fuhrer, seems to be getting "soft" in his old age. Or is it that?—Union Republican.

The Pathfinder says that Senator Josh Lee, of Oklahoma, a stem-winder Administrator supporter in the upper House at Washington, recently returned to the capital from a look-around in the Sooner state. On his return, a friend asked him to see "Hellzapoppin," a current slapstick movie. "I've seen it in Oklahoma," said Senator Lee.

**TO SAVE TIRES—
"Not Over Forty"
Is Motorist Creed**

Chicago—Coordinating the "Not Over Fifty" Club with the national conservation drive, a new creed has been adopted for all members: "Not Over Forty For The Duration," James S. Kemper, president of the Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company sponsoring organization of the "Not Over Fifty" Club, announced today.

Originally limiting top speed to fifty miles per hour to conform with the forty miles an hour speed limit which is receiving favorable recognition throughout the country. Limiting top speed is only one of the ten precepts of the "Not Over Fifty" Club, a safety organization with over 340,000 safe-driver members, all interested in reducing the toll of life and limb on the highways.

"If all motorists had observed the creed of the 'Not Over Fifty' Club during 1941, much of the current shortages of vital automobile materials could have been relieved," Mr. Kemper stated. "Actually, if all motorists had limited their top speed to fifty miles per hour last year, they could have saved over 130,000,000 gallons of gasoline, 7,000,000 quarts of oil and 750,000 tires."

These estimates, which were based on known driving habits of the American motorist and data on the decreased operating efficiency of automobiles at higher speeds, do not include the waste in manpower and medical facilities. Not only would the number of physically fit men and women be greatly increased, but facilities of doctors and nurses which would be released of civilian requirements would also be diverted to more productive channels. This would mean not only the realization of skilled medical assistance for military use, but would mean the release of gauze bandages and expensive medical equipment for the war efforts.

The possibility of a great saving in manpower is also disclosed as a result of the analysis of accident statistics developed in counties where there are army camps, cantonments and induction centers, from which it was learned that these areas developed an accident frequency 28 per cent greater in 1941 than in 1940. As a further indication that these areas are a serious problem in the national accident picture, it was learned that increases in these areas were more than twice as great as the country wide increases for the same period.

In reviewing nationwide fatalities, increases of 16 per cent in December, 1941, 6 per cent in January, 1942, and a decrease of 8 per cent in February, 1942, indicate that fatalities are being reduced in comparison to a year ago. With further reduction in miles driven as motorists cooperate in the conservation program, it is hoped fatalities will be reduced even further.

"Speed and congestion continue to be the outstanding hazards in defense areas where it is necessary to move great masses of men and material over roads and highways originally designed for light passenger traffic," Mr. Kemper stated further in commenting upon the

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Half soles or new rubber heels attached while you wait—and repair work, also. Best of materials used at all times. Prices are reasonable. Help our National Defense by having your old shoes repaired to look like new!
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**Free with Lane Chest
Walt Disney's Dumbo**

Rhodes-Day Furniture Company, exclusive dealers for the famous Lane cedar chests in North Wilkesboro, are making a liberal offer of Walt Disney's Flying Circus, "Dumbo", free with each Lane chest sold during the next few days. The quantity is limited so purchase your Lane chest now and get the free Dumbo doll.

Rhodes-Day's management states that Lane chest will make a beautiful and useful graduation gift or an ideal present for the June bride.

**Panama Canal Needs
Skilled War Workers**

Attention: Boilermakers, Welders, Machinists, Boatbuilders, Coppermiths, and other types of skilled workers! In this great National War Effort, your country needs you to fill important jobs in the Panama Canal Zone.

Rates of pay range from \$1.48 to \$1.74 per hour with time and one half for overtime. Healthful living quarters are furnished at exceptionally reasonable prices and meals are inexpensively obtained at Government operated restaurants. Room and board should not exceed \$50 or \$60 a month. In addition, employees are given transportation from the point of residence to the Canal.

To those qualified workers who are in good health and who want to lend their skill to the vital support of the Cause of Democracy—the United States Civil Service Commission issues this urgent call to make application or write immediately for further information to the Secretary, Board of Civil Service Examiners at North Wilkesboro, N. C., the Manager, Employment Service Office, at North Wilkesboro, N. C., or the Manager, Fourth U. S. Civil Service District, 930 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

data developed by the Lumbermens Mutual Casualty Company, sponsor of the "Not Over Fifty" Club. "The name of our safety club for motorists will remain the same, but it is dedicated to limiting speed to forty miles per hour for the duration. It is through the realization that speed will be an important factor in solving the accident problem, and the conscientious effort of American motorists to avoid accidents by driving sanely under all conditions, that the problem can be placed under control."

The U. S. Department of Agriculture reports that approximately 49 pounds of soybean meal results from the processing of each bushel of soybeans.

Ads. get attention—and results.

CHI-CHEE TERS
The U. S. Department of Agriculture reports that approximately 49 pounds of soybean meal results from the processing of each bushel of soybeans.

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TIME MOVES ON

And So Does The Penalty Increase Each Month On Your

County Taxes

Payment of your County Tax on or before June 1st, 1942, will save you an extra penalty.

Be sure you pay now and save this additional charge. The penalty increases each month, so the earlier you pay the more you save.

C. T. DOUGHTON
Sheriff and Tax Collector of Wilkes County