

The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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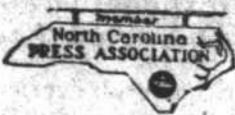
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Monday, March 24, 1947



Resources Destroyed In Forest Fires

During the month of February forest fires burned over 45,000 acres.

That fact may lose its significance unless we pause to reflect that in those fires enough potential timber to build 5,000 six-room houses was destroyed.

It is of particular interest to Wilkes county, because of our many thousands of acres of woodland.

In days of prosperity and depression, timber and wood products have been one of the leading industries in Wilkes county. Perhaps we have no other material resources of so much worth as growing timber.

Wilkes should have a greater interest in forest protection, and particularly reforestation.

Forest fires every year destroy what would be many thousands of dollars worth of timber in Wilkes county.

Statistics show that smokers cause a majority of the fires, and that campers, hunters and others who build fires are responsible for many forest fires.

The forest fire problem can be licked by all the people taking proper precautions. Every cigarette stub in or near woodlands should be crushed out completely. Every match should be held until it is cold before it is thrown away.

And it is a regrettable fact that there are some who start forest fires just to see them burn. They should be made to feel the strong arm of the law.

Schools should teach boys and girls to prevent forest fires, and should teach them the importance of growing timber to their futures.

Do We Want Assembly-Line Medicine?

The Congressional Record recently carried the reprint of a speech by a physician on the subject "Government and Medicine Don't Mix," which was inserted at the request of Representative Chipfield of Illinois. The speech emphasized that government regimentation of the medical profession would inevitably result in at least two developments which would be extremely unfavorable both to the doctor and the patient.

First, the practice of medicine would be dominated by lay people, such as social-service workers with great enthusiasm for "reform" but little medical knowledge. Bureaucrats of this character would largely control and dictate to the doctor, and it isn't difficult to forecast what that would do to medical standards.

Second, if the government is to be the arbiter in all matters of public health, it would certainly establish free dispensaries—which has been done in all countries where medicine has been partially or wholly socialized. The doctor would be forced to treat a certain number of patients, whether he could give each one adequate time or not. In Germany, prior to the war, under government medicine doctors were expected to handle 60 to 100 patients daily. What that meant was that treatment had to be standardized, and real individual attention became virtually impossible. Do Americans want assembly-line medicine?

There are many other dangers—physical, economic, social—which are part and parcel of any kind of bureaucratic control of medicine. Once we make the doctor the servant of the state, we place a barrier in the way of progress. We raise the political appointee to power. Then the

standards of medical practice can move in only one direction—down.

Wider Streets Are Badly Needed Here

The police department, which gets the headaches from local traffic problems, agrees that North Wilkesboro needs more and wider streets to handle the vastly increased motor traffic.

In the downtown area it is agreed that improvement of some of the secondary streets would entice some of the traffic off the busier streets and result in more orderly movement of downtown traffic.

There is also a need for widening and improvement of Hinshaw and Trogon streets, both of which are extensively used by traffic to the north of the city. Widening and paving of the Toll Road would also spread the traffic over more lanes.

The situation here is similar to that in many other growing towns. With downtown streets too narrow, it has become necessary to improve outlying streets and spread the traffic over as many lanes as possible to lessen congestion.

It has been pointed out here that widening and improvement of Forester Avenue would accommodate much of the heavier traffic which now is routed over Tenth street. It has also been proposed that F street be extended across the valley as another traffic lane between the eastern and western parts of the town.

The successful husband remembers that he isn't contrary; his wife is merely firm in her convictions.

A couple in the West said they hadn't talked to one another for almost a year. The perfect marriage.

A lot of people object to being called hypocrites. You can't blame them for being a bit sensitive about it.

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

HOME TROUBLE

We have never realized a time, it seems to me, when there was more trouble in the homes of the nation than today. So many, many homes are miserable places of abode and can't hardly be called homes. They are scenes of drunkenness, fussing, quarreling, cursing, fighting, fretting, complaining, fault-finding, discord and strife, instead of scenes of Bible reading, praying, Christian love, grace, peace and happiness. Beloved, it's so.

Perhaps the greatest home-wrecker on earth is liquor. It is doubtful if you can find a home on the American soil where liquor is drunk by any of the family and find love, peace, joy and happiness in the meantime in the family circle. Liquor and trouble always go together.

A letter from one of our readers in the state of Ohio reads, and we quote: "Dear Brother Isenhour, I read your article entitled 'Resisting Temptation' in this week's issue of the Church of Christ Advocate, and it surely touched my heart. I have a dear husband who has been tempted in many ways, who has fallen terribly. He drinks, too. Will you please pray for him and myself, and all our family, that we may be made every whit whole? I believe you are one who understands the needs of a sinner, and also one who can pray. My heart is very heavy. That is why I am writing you. I trust that you will pray for us, and thank you."

A quotation from another reader whose home is filled with trouble says: "For months I have been living in a real hell on earth." Her husband has deserted her for other women.

Now friends, do you blame me for fighting liquor with all my might, along with adultery, abuse, poverty, murder, and crime of various kinds that are associated with it? Do you blame me for fighting every evil of the land that is breaking hearts and ruining homes, wrecking lives and sending souls to hell by millions? Sin is exceedingly sinful, therefore is responsible for every wrecked life and home on earth, and for the damnation of every precious soul. O the sad letters that come to us throughout the land, telling of what liquor is doing for the lives and homes of our country, and what adultery is doing, along with many other sins that are separating husbands and wives, and sending dear children out in the cold and friendless world without a father's and mother's love! How sad, how sad! Let's pray much.

ABNORMAL ABSURDITIES

By
DWIGHT
NICHOLS
et al

CONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT—

Having no desire to lose it, we are not going to stick our neck out on this controversial question which has more sides than the Pentagon building. One sure way to get an argument is to say something for or against parking meters. Not wanting to argue about anything at that particular time, we agreed with one man on the street that parking meters would be a good thing and we were overheard by a fellow who thought parking meters were an ingenious invention of the presiding power of hades. That put us innocently in the middle of the argument and we tried twisting our head back and forth to agree with both and finally had to run.

One guy says parking meters will be fine because shoppers can find a place to park that is nearer their destination than their homes from whence they started. Another says it is a darn shame to charge for a spot of repose for poor ole 'Liz. One says he wanted meters in front of his place so that his customers can find a place to park and another says he don't want his customers having to pay.

Over the pen name of Kett Ambush we have received the following letter on the subject of parking meters, and because Kett is a diplomat and can say less in more words than any contributor we have had, we reproduce the letter for your enlightenment:

Windy Ridge, N. C.
Box 209,
March 17, 1947.

Dear Dwight:
Me being one of your twelve readers and enjoy it too much,

I decided to write to you again since I came home and found up town they are installing parking meters. Oh josh! what will Grandpa say when he comes to town to sell the eggs for 35c a dozen and has to pay 5c of it to park. Old Liz, she isn't worth it. Why Grandpa would never pay a price like that to park Liz for he would park out on 421 and walk in to town first.

Do they charge to look at them? I have never seen one—and what about it, I heard the policeman say it also takes pennies and nickles. Watch your piggy banks, kids, for there will be a holdup, which reminds me I better find a safe place for the pennies I have for dad will always be borrowing one or two.

Which reminds me, if you didn't have the correct change can you just go ahead park, go into the store get the correct change and come back, pay the man, (I mean meter). They sure must be amusing and confusing.

They will be lots of people from the country coming to town the first day they gets those meters fixed, just to see how they

work, even myself. I'm going up there first day just to get acquainted with one so it will be there every time I park.

As Grandpa said what will happen next, hee to be could park Liz for the day in town, come back and she O.K. No tick-ets, no red tape, he never heard tell of, no U turns, don't park here or speed limit, 20 miles an hour, after all lizle would make too much over that. Now, my how times flies.

Yours truly,
KETT AMBUSH.

DOWNTOWN GOSSIP—

Was a prominent young man stood up by a well known blond Thursday night? . . . And did another young man lose his hat and hunt for ten minutes, only to find it on a girl friend's head? . . . And there was something about the woman who swallowed razor blades. Please excuse us for not getting full details. For too many reasons the participants couldn't too well remember too much.

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