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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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Starter For The New Year

New Year's resolutions have been the butt of innumerable jokes. And that's quite understandable—most resolutions are made as the result of remorse from an excess of holiday cheer, and are forgotten as soon as the headache goes away.

But there's another kind of resolution which everyone should make soberly and sincerely, and carry out conscientiously. A resolution of that character might be phrased in such fashion as this: "During 1949, I will do my part to reduce the disgraceful and unnecessary fire loss which is costing this nation more than 10,000 lives and \$700,000,000 a year."

There's nothing academic or impersonal about fire. The fact that it never cost you a dollar directly doesn't mean a thing. All of us pay for fire in one way or another—in the taxable assets it destroys, in its depressing influence on employment and purchasing power, in its consumption of irreplaceable materials, in higher insurance rates, and so on. And, more important, the family that never had a fire may be wiped out by one tomorrow.

Those piles of paper and rubbish and discarded clothing—that frayed lamp cord you've meant to replace and haven't—that faulty heating unit that should have been repaired last week or last year—"little things" such as these are fire's dependable allies. All of them can be corrected easily. How about doing that now as a starter for the New Year?

Hints On Winter Driving

"For safety, winterize your driving" is the advice offered to farmers and other rural residents today by Paul Choplin, county agent for the State College Extension Service.

Quoting records of the National Safety Council, he said accident rates increase from 24 to 53 per cent during ice and snow months. Some of the reasons for the increase, the agent added, are longer hours of darkness, poor visibility caused by snow and ice, fog and frost on windshield, and slippery roads—all of which add serious hazards to normal highway traffic.

"If you must use your car in severe winter weather, don't gamble against these odds," Mr. Choplin said. "Be prepared. Good winter equipment, extra caution behind the wheel, and slower speed will turn the odds in your favor."

The farm agent offered the following "timely tips" to help drivers win the battle against winter traffic hazards:

"Get the feel" of the road surface when you start out.

When road surfaces are snowy or icy, reduce speed so you can stop in time. At 20 miles per hour, it takes four to 12 times more distance to stop on snow or ice than on dry concrete. Slow down well in advance of intersections or curves and avoid following other vehicles too closely.

Keep windshields and windows clear of snow and ice on the outside, fog and frost inside.

Use tire chains when snow or ice conditions prevail. They reduce braking distances from 40 to 70 per cent.

Drive with your lights on to combat poor visibility in stormy or foggy weather.

Signal intentions of turning or stopping.

Socialized Medicine's Record

Dr. A. Lexington Jones, of Christchurch, New Zealand, recently spoke at length

on the experience with government medicine in that country. In the course of it, he posed and answered three practical questions which provide a test of the kind of service socialized medicine provides.

First, are the people getting their money's worth? His answer was an emphatic no—largely for the reason a cumbersome and costly bureaucracy administers the plan.

Second, has the system improved medical service? Again the answer is no. Too many people are consulting doctors unnecessarily, on the grounds that they must pay a tax for medical attention and so may as well get it whether they need it or not. As a result, overworked doctors simply don't have the time to give each patient the consideration he should have.

Third, has the system reduced the incidence of disease? Once more the answer is no. Little of the money collected by the government for the medical scheme is used for research work. And individual physicians have little time or incentive for reading, investigation, and advanced study.

There are many other arguments against domination of medicine. These are simply three of the most important from the people's point of view. Wherever tried, it has resulted in a deterioration of standards—and a sharp upsurge in government costs. Exactly the same thing would happen if we were so foolish as to adopt compulsory government health insurance here.

With Governor Scott so definitely committed to the proposition of paving country roads, Wilkes should lose no time in presenting a comprehensive program of need road improvements, especially on the many county roads which are used so extensively used by farmers, lumbermen and others. Governor Scott is expected to get sympathetic support from the legislature which is in session at the time of the year when bad weather frequently makes roads impassable.

LIFE'S BETTER WAY

WALTER E. ISENHOUR
High Point, N. C., Route 4

A NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

Perhaps one of the best and greatest New Year resolutions that many Christian people could well make, and that would mean much in their lives and the lives of others, would be to pray more. There is nothing more needful than much earnest, honest, sincere praying. It is easy to talk too much, to visit too much, to spend too much time running to and fro, give too much time to listening to the radio, and to read too much, and to spend much valuable time at non-essentials, but there is little danger of spending too much time praying. The great danger is in praying too little.

God wants a praying people, a praying church. There is nothing that can accomplish so much as prayer. Indeed prayer changes things. God moves to work wonders, to perform miracles, in answer to prayer. Sinners are brought under conviction and to repentance through the prayers of God's children, and believers are brought into the experience of holiness, in a large measure, because Christians pray to that end. We realize that sick people are healed oftentimes in answer to prayer, and by pleading the healing blood of Jesus. We believe much in praying for the sick.

There are many problems that we meet in life that can't be solved in any way except by prayer. God knows the solution to every problem that every soul meets along the journey, but He only solves those problems as we sincerely pray and trust Him, Jesus said, "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." (Luke 18:1). O the need of spending more time in prayer, and of praying more sincerely! It is easy to program ourselves to death spiritually, and we are doing this today, but it is scarcely possible to die spiritually by too much praying. A great New Year resolution would be to highly resolve to pray more, then stick to it as the year goes by.

We are told in Proverbs, 15:8, that "the prayer of the upright is his delight," or the Lord's delight. This should greatly encourage us to pray more as His followers. Whatever delights the Lord is certainly worth while. Naturally what He is delighted with means that He sets His wonderful approval upon. Prayer from an honest, sincere, upright soul delights the Lord of hosts. Praise His name.

Winter-Grip Tread Being Featured By Wilkes Tire Store

Protection against the hazards of winter driving is provided car and light truck owners with Winter-Grip tread, a new and revolutionary treatment for tires recently developed by The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company and announced locally by Wilkes Tire Store.

"During a series of exhaustive tests by the company, made on ice and under some of the most unfavorable winter driving conditions possible, the new tread proved to have greater skid resistance and better traction than any tread previously tested," Mr. Swofford said.

Winter-Grip is obtained by means of a device known as the Goodyear Tractorizer which mechanically pierces the tire tread, leaving thousands upon thousands of small holes to a depth of 1-8-inch to 3-16-inches—more holes than can be obtained by any other method. Complete treatment is accomplished by the Tractorizer, an ingenious mechanism consisting of two rollers. It works in this manner:

Rear end of the car is jacked up and each tire in turn is set down between the two rollers which are studded with hooked

barbs 1-4-inch long. Powered by the car, the wheel is rotated—piercing the tread with a multitude of tiny perforations that expose sharp edges to grip the road. The treatment is gauged to last the entire winter season, for normal mileage requirements. Any tire having at least 1-16-inch tread design remaining can be treated in this manner, Mr. Swofford declared.

With the Winter-Grip method, tread mileage loss is small compared to other type winter treads previously used.

It takes less than one hour to equip a set of four tires (passenger or pick-up truck-tread width maximum six inches) with the new Winter-Grip treatment. It may be obtained only from Goodyear dealers.

The number of milk cows on farms in November was the smallest for the month in 18 years.

Night Coughs

due to colds... eased without "dosing"

RUB ON VICKS VAPORUB

by Tom WILLIAMS

HOLY SMOKE, SPEEDY! LOOK AT THE BRAND NEW MODEL CAR THAT COMPANY'S PUTTIN' OUT!

WHY IT'S EXACTLY THE SAME STYLE THEY PUT OUT TEN YEARS AGO.

DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU SEE, GENTLEMEN!

I SIMPLY TOOK THIS OLD BUS OVER TO WILLIAMS MOTOR CO. AND HAD THEM GIVE IT ONE OF THEIR SPECIAL PAINT JOBS. THEY JUST MADE IT LOOK LIKE NEW.

WILLIAMS MOTOR CO., INC.

Watch for TUCKER in '48

Complete BODY REBUILDING—EASY TERMS—USED CARS—TRUCKS—TRACTORS

WE PAY CASH FOR LATE MODEL WRECKED CARS & TRUCKS—Tel. 334 J—N. WILKESBORO

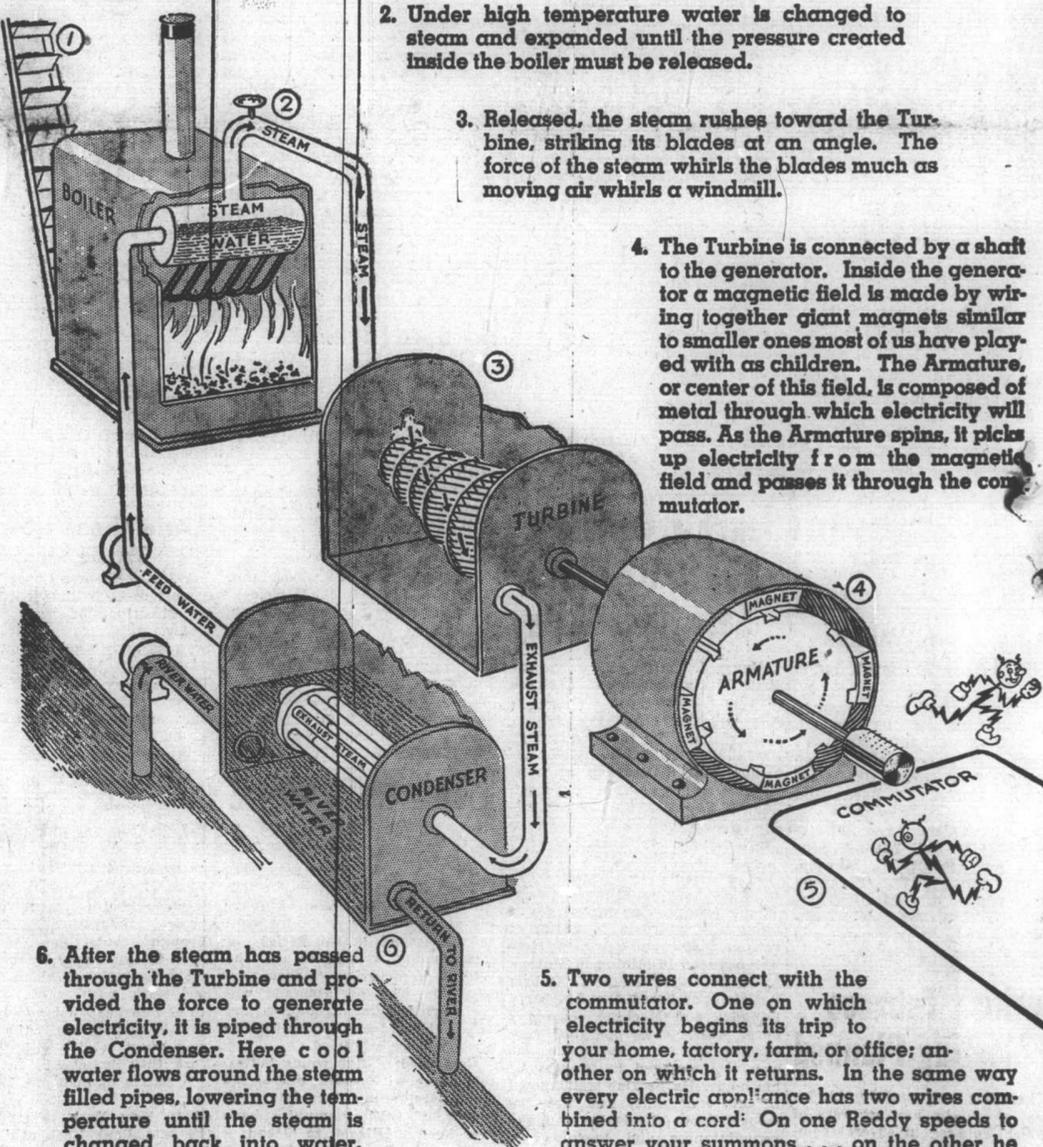
PIEDMONT POWER PRIMER

Lesson Eight

MAKING ELECTRICITY FROM STEAM

Rivers rushing from the mountains across the Piedmont were this region's first source of electricity. To assure constant service, even in times of drought and flood, steam stations were added to the Duke Power system early in the 1920's. Today, such stations are doubly necessary because of the demand for power in the busy Piedmont which has passed far beyond the limited potential of our rivers.

1. By means of a Conveyor, coal is brought to the pulverizer. After being finely pulverized, it is blown into the firebox.
2. Under high temperature water is changed to steam and expanded until the pressure created inside the boiler must be released.
3. Released, the steam rushes toward the Turbine, striking its blades at an angle. The force of the steam whirls the blades much as moving air whirls a windmill.
4. The Turbine is connected by a shaft to the generator. Inside the generator a magnetic field is made by wiring together giant magnets similar to smaller ones most of us have played with as children. The Armature, or center of this field, is composed of metal through which electricity will pass. As the Armature spins, it picks up electricity from the magnetic field and passes it through the commutator.
5. Two wires connect with the commutator. One on which electricity begins its trip to your home, factory, farm, or office; another on which it returns. In the same way every electric appliance has two wires combined into a cord: On one Reddy speeds to answer your summons... on the other he hurries back to his starting point, to come again when you need him.
6. After the steam has passed through the Turbine and provided the force to generate electricity, it is piped through the Condenser. Here cool water flows around the steam filled pipes, lowering the temperature until the steam is changed back into water, ready for a new circuit through Boiler and Turbine. This condensed water is used over and over again.



Steam plants are located on rivers in order to have a continuous flow of water to the Condenser. The cooling water returns to the river unharmed.

DUKE POWER COMPANY

Serving the Piedmont Carolinas

