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INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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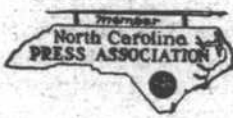
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Monday, January 17, 1949



Our Minds Fail To Grasp It

The headline reads, "Girl, Ten, Kidnapped, Slain, Body Dumped in Ditch." The story says that the most important clue is "a smashed half-pint whiskey bottle bearing a 'Philadelphia' label."

The headline is horrible; the story is horrible; the picture of the little girl's body lying face down in a ditch where it was dumped by the murderer, goes straight to the heart of any humane person.

The headline, the news account and the picture do not tell the story. It is impossible for newsprint to convey to any mind a realization of the tragedy because the mind simply refuses to grasp it. We are talking about the murder of little ten-year-old Roberta Rinearson, but the kind of thing which happened to Roberta is happening almost daily to many other little girls—many more than a few years ago.

So far as the English language will convey the story, however, here it is (with the omissions which must be made):

The child had been brutally mistreated and strangled. A garment torn from her body, was stuffed into her mouth; there was a deep cut behind her left ear, and her lips were crushed. Finger marks on her throat indicated the ruthless brutality with which her life was taken.

Crimes of this character usually occur to women and girls who are picked up in taverns, or to women and girls who are victimized by men who have been drinking. If we were to stop all drinking, there would still be crimes of this character, but they would be comparatively infrequent, as infrequent as it was, for instance, in 1920.

If there is any right a woman has, it is the right to be free from molestation of this kind, and the right of a little girl is ten times as sacred. We say nothing of the rights of parents.

Borrowed Comment

FEDERAL AID FOR SCHOOLS SEEMS ASSURED

(Winston-Salem Journal)

The chances are good that one of the first bills passed by the present Congress to fulfill the pledge made to the people of this country by President Truman and the Democratic Party will be the measure assuring Federal aid to public schools.

A bill providing for \$300,000,000 per year for this purpose has already been introduced in the new Senate. It is similar to the bill passed by that body during the 80th Congress. The new bill is S246. It is being sponsored by both Democrats and Republicans.

Both Senator Thomas and Senator Taft, spokesmen for the sponsors of the measure, agree that its enactment into law will equalize education opportunity for the children of the United States. Mr. Thomas reminds the country that this bill is in keeping with the platform of the Democratic Party, the campaign promises of the President, and his recommendations to Congress in the State-of-the-Union message.

An important section of the bill provides that control of educational policies shall remain in the hands of the states and

their localities. Federal control or influence of the educational program is specifically prohibited. Senator Taft emphasizes the fact that the bill "forbids any Federal interference in the educational policy of a state, and prohibits Federal interference with school administration."

When this measure becomes law, North Carolina will receive upwards of \$20,000,000 a year from the Federal Government to help support its public school system. This will help us tremendously in reaching the goal set for our public schools by the State Board of Education in its recommendations to the State Budget Commission this year.

Of course, none of the funds to be appropriated by Congress under the terms of this bill can be used for building schoolhouses. But one report from Washington indicates that President Truman probably will ask Congress to appropriate additional Federal funds to aid the states in the construction of school buildings. North Carolina could use some of that money, too.

Most of the good things that come to individuals in life have to be paid for in some manner.

THE EVERYDAY COUNSELOR

By Rev. Herbert Spough, D. D.



Every man is a measuring stick to someone, by which he measures his virtues or condones his vices. We ought to think more about that. It is a terrifying thought. Someone is gauging the depth of his character by mine. Someone is getting his ideas of religion from what he sees me doing. Someone is following in my footsteps. Someone is justifying a thing which is wrong for him, because he sees me do it.

Fathers and mothers ought to think about these little feet which are following along in their footsteps. A father told me the other day that his little boy saw him take a drink of liquor. Perhaps he had seen him take others. The youngster reminded his father that he had seen him take the drink. The thought of the young feet following in the father's footsteps struck him, and he replied, "Son, you will never see me do that again."

I have known good men ruined by the influence of their associates. A man says that he knows "how to take a drink." Certainly, most of them say that. Admit that he knows when to stop, but someone is following his example who does not know when to stop. He is ruined. Who is going to answer for that man's fate?

A man ought to go to headquarters for his example in conduct. The Christian should guide his conduct by asking himself the question, "What would Jesus do?" But many of us forget that, and look around and set our sights a bit lower! A man becomes the example by which a man may be saved or he may be damned. And that man may be you, and he may be me.

Emerson, I think, wrote, "What you do sounds so loud I can not hear what you say". Some of the most effective sermons are those preached in life. William Coper Brann wrote a few pungent paragraphs on this subject, which I have in my scrap-book, and which I pass on. They are good.

"The place to take the true measure of a man is not the forum nor the field, not the market-place nor the Amen corner, but at his own fireside. There he lays aside his mask, and you may judge whether he is imp or angel, king or cur, hare or humbug. I care not what the world says of him; whether it crown him with bay or pelt him with bad eggs; I care never a copper what his reputation or religion may be, if his babes dread his homecoming, and his better-half has to swallow her heart every time she has to ask for a five-dollar bill, he's a fraud of the first water, even though he prays night and morn till he's black in the face, and cries hallelujahs till he shakes the eternal hills.

"But if his children rush to the front gate to greet him and love's own sunshine illuminates the face of his wife when she hears his footfall, you may take it for granted that he is true gold, for his home is a heaven, and the humbug never gets near the Great White Throne of God."

People are watching us more carefully than we think. They are patterning their lives by our actions. They are getting their estimate of the religion we profess by our every-day actions.

Trench System Garbage Disposal Being Used By North Wilkesboro

The town of North Wilkesboro has installed the trench system of garbage disposal.

The town purchased a bull clam machine, which is the one piece of equipment needed to carry out this modern system of garbage disposal. A plot of land owned by the town and adjoining Memorial Park was appropriated for use in the project.

In the trench system the bull clam, a diesel powered unit, is used to dig a deep and wide trench, in which the garbage is dumped daily. As the garbage is dumped in the trench, the heavy bull clam machine is used to pack it down, after which it is sealed over with dirt.

In the plan being used the garbage is entirely sealed off and the only effect on the land is that it will be built up about three feet. After the land is used for garbage disposal by this

means it can be used for agricultural or other purposes. It has been estimated by sanitary engineers that the plot of land available at the present location of the project is sufficient for ten years use, after which it can be used again for the same purpose, if necessary.

The machine being used will also be used to clear up and bury the mass of decayed garbage west of this city near the airport.

The garbage disposal system was started here under supervision of E. L. Hinton, sanitary engineer from the state board of health, and E. R. Sprull, Wilkes county sanitarian.

Sanitarians stated that the former system of placing garbage in exposed dumps created a health hazard, as well as being unsightly and giving off unpleasant smoke and odors.

Announcements Printed. Get some estimates on 1,000 Paneled Card Announcements.

Bossed: (3 Hours, and \$7.95 worth of phone calls later, plus \$6.00 of the caller's labor time) Mr. B., here are the estimates. The lowest priced printer wants \$13.50, and the others run all the way up to \$50.00.

Boss: Call the Cheapest Printer, and see if you can't knock off a couple bucks from his Estimate. If you can't bring him down, put me on the phone. (And so, after buying a truck for \$15,000, with a Second's deliberation, and spending \$4,750 with

ABNORMAL ABSURDITIES



By DWIGHT NICHOLS et al

HOW BIG BUSINESS IS TRANSACTED—

(A One-Act Play by Sam Savar, One Play Playwright)

Scene: Office of a Big Wheel in a Big Concern.

Characters (they sure are): The Tycoon Himself and his Man Friday.

Boss (Importantly): Say—ah—Jim, we need a new truck. What was the price of the one we looked at this morning?

Bossed (Unimportantly): \$15,000.00, Sir.

Boss (After One Second deliberation): Get it!

Bossed: I'll place the order right now, Sir.

Boss: Y'know, we ought to have our front remodeled. What the heck. What did the builder say that would cost?

Bossed: \$4,750, Mr. B.

Boss: Aw well, call him up and tell him to start building.

Bossed: Right away, Sir.

Boss: Say Jim. We need some

PEEDY by Tom WILLIAMS

OH MY—HOW HANDSOME!
OH BOY!

I DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED, GIRLS. HOP IN.

WE WERE REFERRING TO YOUR NEW PAINT JOB. NOT YOUR FUNNY FACE!

GIMME TH' WORKS, DOC—

WILLIAMS MOTOR CO.

DID A BEAUTIFUL JOB ON MY CAR—NOW I NEED A GOING OVER SO I'LL MATCH UP WITH IT.

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another Second's consideration, our Hero, the Boss, is wrangling with some poor pinched printer, who is living one foot away from the last buck he made—and since this scene goes on for hours, or days, and is still going on all over the country, we better Close the Play, and let our Patient Reader of this Play draw the curtain with his Own Moral.—Graphic Arts Monthly.

Total cattle numbers in North Carolina have been declining steadily since 1944, when they were estimated at 759,000 head.

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