INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

Published Mondays and Thursdays at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina

JULIUS C. HUBBARD-MRS. D. J. CARTER Publishers

1932-DANIEL J. CARTER-1945

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: One Year (In Wilkes and Adjoining Counties) One Year ______ \$3.00 (Outside Wilkes and Adjoining Counties) Rates to Those in Service: One Year (anywhere) _____\$2.00

Entered at the postoffice at North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, as Second-Class matter under Act of March 4, 1879.

Monday, February 7, 1949



Mail Service Improvements Feasible

Inauguration of the highway postoffice service in northwestern North Carolina Friday is definite proof that improvements in mail service are feasible and can be had if proper efforts are put forth.

For many decades this part of North Carolina went along accepting what was offered in the way of poor mail service without any substantial efforts toward improvement.

Last summer the Governmental Affairs committee of the Wilkes Chamber of Commerce, aided in a great way by Acting Postmaster Maurice E. Walsh, began to make investigation of possibilities for better mail service. Railway mail officials were called in and it was learned that this entire section of the state was badly neglected and that improvements could be

Firest efforts were centered on obtaining a highway postoffice route from Greensboro to Johnson City, Tenn., connecting two railway trunk lines, which run north and south. This proposal which originated here, was practical and gained favor with postal officials. It represented something which should have been provided for in some way many years ago.

Surveys were made and it was found that in the eastern part of Tennessee there were two obstacles. A bridge at Mountain City, Tenn. is not strong enough to carry highway postoffices, and the highway from Mountain City to Johnson City is under construction because of a new TVA lake in the making. Highway officials of the state of Tennessee, according to our information, are removing the two obstacles to approval of the entire route.

So the highway postoffice route was established from Greensboro to Boone, and we shall continue to work for the other end of the route from Johnson City to Boone, in order that we will have rapid and efficient mail service to and from the mid-west.

In addition to the highway postoffice route, which will mean two dispatches daily of all types of mail, Postmaster Walsh and the Chamber of Commerce are asking that the schedule of the present star route between North Wilkesboro and Winston-Salem be reversed, instead of eliminating the route.

If that proposal is approved, it will mean that the star route will leave here for Winston-Salem early in the morning and return late in the afternoon. In addition to the highway postoffice and this reversal of the schedule of the present star route, the train would continue to carry mail on its daily trip.

These improvements would give us mail service on a par with other sections of the country. We are not asking special favors, we are merely asking the mail service to which we are justly entitled.

There is also a movement on foot for establishing a highway postoffice route from Charlotte to Boone, and efforts are being made here to have that route established by way of Mooresville, Statesville and North Wilkesboro. There areother towns trying to have the route by their postoffices, including Newton, Conover, Hickory, Taylorsville and Lenoir. It may be that a great part of the towns seeking the service can be served, and we should overlook no opportunity to gain the improvements in mail service that we should have had decades ago.

Heavy Social Drinkers Cause Most Trouble

Personally I am convinced that heavy social drinkers actually cause more trouble as a group—and this group numbers into the millions—than do the estimated feated Mount Airy here Tuesday ence, basketball tournament will three-quarters of a million alcoholics. The night. If they had played all be welcomed by local fans. It is reasons for this personal conviction are based on some 20 odd years' experience tories. Mount Airy girls have the boro and Boone boys will put on in psychiatry and of observing the social best female team we've seen a- the fight for conference title. climate of "our times."

One need not go far for evidence. At any hotel, bar or grill you may see at any has uncanny accuracy. dining hour a number of well-dressed, presumably influential men who, as the breaker. Millers Creek had a one- Just how rounds pile up, become louder, more ar- point lead with 15 seconds to go gumentative and expansive in movement. when they elected to take a free When calm judgment in business or profession is required, alcoholic states of the way and shot the winning mind are comparable to a cut-off in elec- goal tricity at the peak hour of production .-Robert V. Seliger, M. D., Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Md., in an address, "The Doctor Looks at Alcoholism," at the National Council on the New Approach more than two points difference, to the Alcohol Problem, University of Chicago, April 27-30, 1948.

Hot Ashes Can Cost Plenty In Cold Cash

This is the season when hot ashes cost the nation plenty in cold cash, County Agent Paul Choplin of the State College Extension Service warned local farmers today.

"More than 11 million dollars is lost each year in fires caused by carelessness with hot ashes and coals," he declared. "With the country's fire losses at an alltime high-700 million dollars was burned up in 1948-there is no excuse for such waste."

Mr. Choplin suggested four fire safety rules for farmers during February and March.

1. Never empty hot aches or coals into wooden, cardboard or flammable containers. Use, instead, a metal trash barrel, preferably of the lid type.

2. Keep the area surrounding the furnace, stove or fireplace free of refuse and combustible material.

3. Be sure an Underwriters'—approved fire extinguisher of the type designed to put out coal or oil fires is handy.

4. Always use a fire screen in front of the fireplace to prevent sparks from escaping into the room.

Good habits of fire safety should be taught each member of the family, the county agent said, because "tending the fire" has become everybody's job in spite of modern inventions which have made many parts of the job automatic.

Nobody enjoys being bothered-but it's still a lot nicer than being totally ignored.

Failure is the only thing that can be achieved without effort.

Envy provides the mud that failure throws at success.

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

OUR BLESSED LORD IS NEAR

Oft Times along life's rugged way We have to weep and sigh, And then go on our knees to pray Lest we should faint and die; But in the midst of ev'ry woe

That would defeat us here, We should have faith to truly know Our blessed Lord is near.

O lot us look unto the hills From whence our blessings flow, And know there's balm for all our ills Wherever we may go;

For if we pray to God above He'll bring us peace and cheer, And let us feel, that through His love, Our blessed Lord is near!

Sometimes the clouds may gather o'er, And gloom may hang around, Till we can't see the other shore Where glories rich abound; But if we trust and do not doubt, Nor give away to fear, Our blessed Lord will bring us out, For He is always near.

Let ev'ry tried and tempted soul Look up to God in prayer, Though waves of sin around us roll To sink us in despair: But if old Satan's robbed your life Of things that seem quite dear, Have faith to know, 'mid all the strife. Our blessed Lord is near.

North Wilkesboro boys pulled genuine surprise when they deforward who wears spectacles girls could finish tops. and a muzzle to protect them,

The game Millers Creek boys lost to Jonesville was a heart ly pepular choice for manager. threw outside. A Jonesville boy intercepted the pass, dribbled all

Wilkesboro showed excellent defensive form in defeating Appalachian high 22 to 21 Tuesday night. The score doesn't look exciting, but there were few points in the game when there were

Millers Creek all stars and Eller's Bluejackets are both participating in a tournament at Franklin in Surry county. They

like Millers Creek and Eller's will be back. will meet in the finals. They couldn't have a better finale.

Selection of Wilkesboro as scene of the Highlands conferseason like that they would now a central location. At present it have an excellent record of vic- looks like Elkin, Sparta, Wilkesmong high schools. Franks, tall One of several teams among the

> Plans are shaping up for the 1949 edition of the Flashers. Tom Daddino may prove to be a highgood the team will be will depend on the type of rookies

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separate brackets in the obtained, because the club must

Cold weather means more heat 16-team iribble derby, and at have eight of them. Not more from stoves and furnaces, and the time of this writing it looks than seven of last year's players the chances for an increase in fire losses are greater.



but what's

"So America's the richest country in the world.

so what?

"So Americans: produce more than any other people on earth. Okaybut what's in it for me?"

At all times, in all ages, nations have had to answer that question - or go out of business.

The average man -the worker, the farmer, the small businessman — is human enough to ask: "What will it do for mefor me and my wife and my kids?"

Let's Look At The Record-

Here in America we have the best answer in the world to that question.

Machine Power: Since 1910 we have increased our supply of machine power 41/2 times.

Production: Since 1910 we have more than doubled the output each of us produces for every hour we work.

Income Since 1910 we have increased our annual income from less than



\$2400 per household to about \$4000 (in dollars of the same purchasing power).

Work Hours: Since 1910 we have cut 18 hours from our average work weekequivalent to two present average workdays.

BUT THE BEST IS YET-You're rightthings can be even better . . . and must be better. Right now, everyone admits prices are too high. We still have the threat of boom and bust. Our system has faults, yet it has brought more benefits to more people than any other system ever devised.

We can beat the boom and bust cycle. We can have even better food, better clothing, better wages, better homes, more leisure, more educational and medical facilities. We can make the future the best yet!



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