

# The Journal - Patriot

INDEPENDENT IN POLITICS

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## Banks Sponsoring Soil Conservation Speaking Contest

Again this year the banks here will sponsor the Soil Conservation Speaking Contest in the schools.

The casual observer might be slow to see the connection between banking and encouraging soil conservation. But the subjects are closely related in that one affects the other.

The condition of the soil in any rural community is in direct relation to the standard of living, and the standard of living closely corresponds to the condition of the soil.

The standard of living reflects income, or lack of same. Banks thrive on a healthy economy with relatively high incomes.

Gullied and washed away lands are almost invariably inhabited by impoverished people.

Good soil means a prosperous and happy citizenship.

The Soil Conservation Speaking Contests will have beneficial effects. The children who prepare their speeches will necessarily have to learn the tragic truth about soil erosion and lands neglected and washed away. These children are tomorrow's citizens.

Those who hear the speeches will be impressed with their subject matter. The contest will serve to educate many people on the importance of conserving and improving the soil, which is the basic source of production in agriculture and industry.

## Members Should Attend Annual Chamber Meeting

The Wilkes Chamber of Commerce is a central organization of people banded together to promote the progress and welfare of the Wilkesboros and all Wilkes county.

Business of the organization is mainly carried out by the directors and the committees, which contain practically all the members.

Only once each year are all the members asked to meet together. The annual meeting closing the past year will be held on Tuesday, January 31.

It will be a dinner meeting to be held at Hotel Wilkes at 6:30 in the evening.

At the meeting a comprehensive report of the year's operations will be given each member and officers will make their individual reports. Officers for the coming year will be installed and the organization will begin a new year of work.

Speaker for the evening will be Lester Rose, manager of the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Rose is a man of outstanding ability, and one of the things he can do is deliver an address with much interesting subject matter and in an entertaining manner. The local Chamber is fortunate in obtaining this able speaker, who is a past president of the Southeastern Association of Chamber executives.

All members of the Chamber should take time to attend the annual membership meeting, in view of the fact that it happens only once each year. The time will be well spent and every public spirited person will agree that he owes that much personal effort in the continued fight for progress and better conditions.

## Community Concert Membership Campaign Open

Tuesday night a large crowd enjoyed the second in the series of three concerts

brought to this city by the Community Concert Association.

This association by yearly membership dues seeks to attain the goal of a "Carnegie Hall In Every Town"—meaning that by organized effort and strength of membership the nation's outstanding musical talent can be heard in person in small cities and towns as well as in Carnegie Hall and other music centers.

The membership period is now open and will not close until May. But all of us remember that the Community Concert Association is a civic endeavor calling for a great quantity of work as a matter of civic pride and with no compensation.

In order to lessen this burden of work, members of the association can send in their renewal membership dues and save much work on the part of leaders in the organization. To assure a successful organization with sufficient funds to get top talent, a large membership is essential. If all the members would renew promptly and without having to be called on and canvassed, the organization could function more smoothly and the burden of work would be held to a minimum.

The association was formed before the 1948-49 season and the concerts given during the first year were well received here. Results of the two concerts held this season have been highly satisfactory and prove to the people that by organization they can bring the most talented artists into a relatively small city.

## - THE - EVERYDAY COUNSELOR

By Rev. Herbert Spough, D. D.



"Please write and urge your readers to learn to comfort one another", pleads a reader of this column who has recently in a short interval twice experienced the pangs of bereavement. "How I have appreciated friends who have taken time out of busy schedules to come and bring me words of comfort".

Every one can be a minister of comfort if he is willing to take the time from other things. The ministry of comfort brings blessings and heart warming to both him who gives it and to him who receives it.

"Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God". So the prophet Isaiah brings to us the message from the throne of God.

There is so much sorrow, suffering, confusion, fear, and mistrust in the world today because so few of us are willing to take the time and effort by listening sympathetically.

There are times in the hour of bereavement when words seem futile, and we hesitate to speak. But a warm personal hand clasp can be tremendously expressive. I recall once being in a home of bereavement. While there, a friend of the bereaved came in, grasped him by the hand, held it for a few moments, then turned and walked away. As they separated, I saw tears in the eyes of both. That hand clasp was far more expressive than stumbling words might have been.

The longer I stay in the ministry the more I am convinced that one of the greatest privileges of the pulpit is to bring the comfort of God to confused and fearful people.

All of us have to stand at the bar of our own conscience. We can never run away from that. We may run away from the scene of a bad experience or wrong act, but wherever we go the knowledge and recollection of it remains with us.

It was said of a great minister, whom I once knew, that he knew how to comfort his people out of their sins. He knew how to point men, convicted at the bar of their own conscience, trying to run away from themselves, to the eternal promise of God. He would show them how a loving Father ever waits longingly for the prodigal son or daughter to come home.

A large part of the earthly ministry of Jesus was spent in bringing health and comfort to bodies racked with pain and souls bowed down with sin. He hated sin, but loved the sinner.

We can lead men and women to the good life far better than we can drive them.

"Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God". Are you a comforter? Are you a sympathetic listener? If not, why not? Too busy? You may be too busy about the wrong things.

# Women IN THE CHURCH

By Mary Foster

**WOMEN IN CHURCH.....**  
Mrs. Dorothy Clarke Wilson, well-known author of "Prince of Egypt," "The Herdsman," and "The Brother," is in India, at the suggestion of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church, gathering material for magazine writing and a possible novel on Indian life. She will be in India at least six months. Mrs. Wilson is the wife of the Rev. Elwin L. Wilson, pastor of the Methodist Church in Orono, Maine, and a former superintendent of the Portland District.

The Young Women's Christian Association has three newly founded schools for the training of social workers in three widely scattered areas of the world: in India, in Uruguay, and in Greece. The National YWCA School of Social Work in New Delhi, India, under the principalship of Miss Dorothy Moses, is now two years old and has been recognized as a post-graduate college of the University of Delhi. The Escuela Tecnica in Montevideo, Uruguay, is recruiting young women from five South American republics as YWCA leaders; it is directed by Miss Minerva Consalves. Miss Clara Boyd Wheeler, from the USA, organized a

a YWCA school for Social Work near Athens, Greece, in 1948. It is now housed in a large estate donated by a Grecian lady, and its graduates are serving in five cities where the Association has centers as well as among refugee children and young business men.

The little missionary Methodist church in Port Germein, Australia, had for years been suffering from "financial pains." When things got too bad the stewards shrugged their shoulders and suggested, "Let the ladies run an evening affair." But along came a new pastor, Missionary H. D. Ruddock; and with him came a new idea. In his parish visiting he found that many acres, sown to peas, were unharvested because of the lack of pickers. So he organized pickers from the non-farmers of his parish. He set an example by leading them in rolling up their sleeves and picking many a long row. As a reward the pea-farm owners gave a tithe plus of their acreage to the church—and the church members picked peas on their acres at quite a good profit for the church treasury.

## Monkey Helps In Care Of Infant

Manly, Iowa.—It gave Mrs. Eldon Hungerford a bit of a start when she looked up from her washing to find an unexpected helper tending her year-old son.

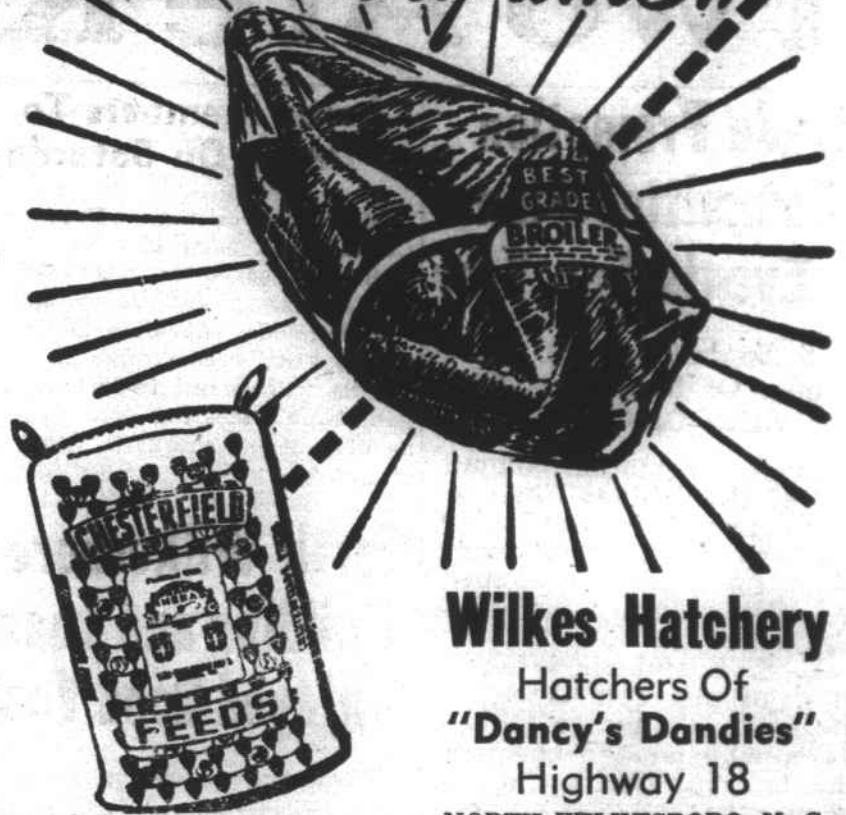
The helper was a monkey. It was pushing the baby carriage which Mrs. Hungerford had

parked in the back yard while she took laundry off the line. Mrs. Hungerford grabbed the baby and ran into the house. The monkey sat in the baby carriage a while and then open-

ed the screen door and entered the Hungerford porch. Soon the owner of the animal, a transient, appeared on the scene and claimed his pet. Calm returned to the Hungerford

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