

Mount Airy News.

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THOU SHALT NOT DRINK

One day, way back in the dim and distant past, some band of forward looking people one day got it written into their laws that Thou Shalt Not Kill. Up to that time human life was cheap and the advance in human thought had made such progress that the race was ready to call a halt.

Then the race saw a bright day and turned to the making of intricate machinery to take the place of the old methods of hand-made things. In a few short years, beginning hardly half a century ago, the mind of ingenious men became active in invention and made every kind of complicated thing, from the extension ladder to a bit of metal that will tie a knot so fast that the eye cannot follow the motion, the buzz-saw and the lightning-like knife that cuts its way into wood or iron and the high speed motor that races through the air like a bird.

With all this machinery it was as inevitable that the law, Thou Shalt Not Drink, be written into our books as the old law about killing.

Up in New York at the Democratic convention a few thousand men have been shouting themselves hoarse in their futile effort to get this law about drinking repealed. It would be as well to protest against the making of modern machinery.

If these liberty lovers, as they would have themselves known, could devise some way to get back to the old way of making hand-made things then they might have hopes of again seeing the saloon on the corner.

There never was a forward move made that part of the folks did not protest. And there never has been a going back to the outworn customs of past ages. When humanity finds a better way it holds on to its knowledge until something even better is brought to light.

And so the howlers may howl and the growlers may growl, but modern business methods and the saloon are divorced forever.

FISH FOR OUR STREAMS

It will be good news to all this section that the State is now busy building a fish hatchery near Roaring Gap in Alleghany county. This hatchery is supposed to be ready for operation in time to be stocked with fish this fall. The purpose of the State, as indicated by laws made at the last session of the legislature, is to operate five fish hatcheries, two in the east for the streams in that section and three in the west for the mountain streams.

Those who know the sport of fishing for them with a fly are fond of hunting along the little brooks not more than a big branch and in the quiet pools they find the greatest of sport and the very best of meat.

Before the fish can live and thrive in the waters of this section there must be developed a sentiment among the people that favors giving the fish protection. Fish can not live where the hand of every man is against them, for dynamite and seines and gigs and such like destructive methods will kill out fish in spite of any effort the State can make to stock the streams.

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UNCOVERING CRIME

One of the hard problems of the country is to bring criminals to justice. It is said that only one case in a hundred of crime is ever punished, and the other ninety-nine go unpunished. Until society finds a way to make it hard on the criminal, crime will continue to be rampant in the land for there are many folks who cannot be appealed to by reason, and the fear of the strong arm of the law is the only force that deters them from their evil ways.

Judge H. H. Lewellyn, of this city, is showing marked ability in uncovering crime about this town. The manner of his disposition of cases could well be an object lesson to many Superior Court Judges. Take this case as an illustration of the way Judge Lewellyn gets at the facts in a case. A young man about town was found with a quart of liquor. The officers brought him to the court and the facts were all undisputed. The man was guilty of violating the liquor law and was at the mercy of the court. Many a Superior Court judge would simply have ordered the clerk to make an entry of the sentence and called the next case. Not so with Judge Lewellyn. He was not willing to dispose of the case without getting at the bottom of the matter.

Then the Judge reminded him that may be he could help him to refresh his memory. A fine of a few dollars in case he could recall where he got the liquor, or a term of thirty days in jail in case he could not remember. Under a sentence like this it was the easiest matter at all for the young fellow to get his brain in action and recall the fact that he bought the quart from a farmer out in the country a few miles from town. The next step in the case was to send officers out to the home of the farmer and search his premises. The search proved fruitful, for it showed all that was needed to back up the young man's statement that he bought liquor at that place. The farmer had a record for past offenses along this line and had served his time once before on the roads for making a living in this easy way.

Once in the clutches of the law the old fellow, for he is now well along in years, admitted that he sold the liquor to the young man and threw himself on the mercy of the court. Age and feeble health saved him from the roads, but he must be able to show by reliable neighbors that he walks in the narrow way in the future or back to the roads he goes, again age or no age.

To our way of thinking about it, this decision is well worth the thoughtful consideration of all officers and shows that a judge has the power to uncover crime if he has the will and nerve to do his duty.

RELIGION IN POLITICS

For the first time in the history of this country, certainly in modern times, religion has become an issue in politics. The Democrats are in great danger of disrupting the party over the issue. Strange as it may seem, the Roman Catholics are in arms against the Protestants. Governor Al Smith of New York is a Catholic and W. G. McAduoo is a Protestant. They are the two strongest men in the party and the Catholics are getting credit for making religion the issue.

It all dates back to the resurrection of the Ku Klux Klan following the war. The Klan is strong in the South and middle west, and they are out and out against the Catholics. Because of this the Catholics are out and out against the Klan. A mighty effort was made by the Catholics to get it written into the Democratic platform last week that the Klan must be suppressed. They failed in this effort and great and bitter feeling prevailed for a time over this issue.

Now, many see that unless a Catholic is named as candidate for president or vice-president the Catholic vote will largely leave the Democratic party in protest, and thus bring certain defeat. Some of the most prominent men in our nation are loyal Catholics, and most of them deplore the fact that religion has been made an issue in this campaign.

There seems to be no way to suppress the Ku Klux and they must have their day, which most observers think will be a short day, but until the enthusiasm for the organization dies down it is a power for good or evil in the land. The very fact that the Klan is so opposed to the Catholic church is sufficient reason for the attitude of the Catholics.

PLENTY OF ICE

This newspaper carried an article in the issue of last week about the ice and water situation here. It seems that some got the idea that there is a shortage of ice here. The fact is that both ice factories are supplied with ice and are able to meet the demand upon them, but to do this the Granite City mills ice plant had to order 40,000 pounds a few days ago from out of town. The citizens from the country districts and from other towns and villages of the surrounding country seem to be using much more ice than in the years past and no one has been turned away yet.

Odd Fellows Picnic

The Odd Fellows of the 14th District of the North Carolina I. O. O. F. will picnic at Pinnacle, Thursday July 17. The picnic is an annual event and the Odd Fellows own their own picnic grounds which adjoin the school property where a modern school building offers ample protection in case of storm. All Odd Fellows and their families in this section are urged to attend. A twenty-five piece band will furnish the music.

A GRAVEYARD BUSINESS

With some folks about here the making of liquor has literally become a graveyard business. Let us explain.

Up in the country a few miles north of this city is an old family burying ground. On the bleak hillside the broomsedge has its own way and the little mounds of earth mark the last resting places of some once useful citizens of that section. A short distance away flows a clear mountain brook trickling through the undergrowth of the forest and peacefully flowing on to some larger stream. The situation could not have a more peaceful and happy look. But some passing one who has eyes that see noticed that a path of more than common use lead from the branch up to that silent graveyard. Why a path in such a place, was a question that the close observer naturally asked himself. Curiosity prompted an investigation. And that path lead directly to a full fledged distilling plant located right among the silent graves in that graveyard. The still was there and the wood and the furnace and the mash and everything needed to make good old fashioned liquor. The owners were away, but evidently they were prepared to do business in a short time.

The world and the men who owned that still will probably never know who found it or who put the officers wise to the location, but two men armed with the authority of the law and also armed with Winchester, were soon hiding in the brush near the new manufacturing plant and patiently waiting for developments. Patience won, for in a few hours two men came upon the scene and proceeded to put the still in operation. And while they worked they talked of their plans and freely discussed the profits in the business and how neighbor so and so was to have a whole gallon for his own private use and how another neighbor was to have a whole gallon for his stomach's sake, and little at a time they gave their whole life-outlook away to the wily officers who patiently bided their time in the bushes a few yards away.

But patience gives out as well as other human qualities and finally the officers made a dash for the still and placed both men under arrest. On further inquiry it was found that one of the men operating the still had helped to place it within a few feet of his own father's grave.

And so the world goes. Eternal vigilance alone will keep such men in their place and society will have a long and hard up-hill pull protecting itself from such characters for many a day to come. But that is the business of the men who are to make this age worth its place in history. It is just as essential that law be enforced as that railway trains be operated. Without the strong arm of the law this fruitful land would be no fit place for any of us.

J. B. SPARGER NOW MOUNT AIRY'S POSTMASTER

Begins Move to Secure Twice a-Day Mail Service For Lowgap and Dobson—Remains on County Highway Commission by Special Permit.

J. B. Sparger last Saturday received his commission as Mount Airy's postmaster and took charge of the office Tuesday, July 1st, succeeding Geo. K. Snow whose time expired in June. For years Mr. Sparger has been a member of the city water and light commission and also the county highway commission. It is customary for the government to forbid its employees from holding other offices but we understand that in Mr. Sparger's case a special permit has been granted him which allows him to continue to head the county highway commission which has charge of Surry's road work.

Mr. Sparger says the present force of postoffice will continue to be employed and he will devote much of his efforts in giving the patrons of the office and the county the best of mail service. By reason of his connection with road work in the county and knowledge of conditions he believes that he can work out some new plans that will give the sections getting their mail through the Mount Airy office a much quicker service. One plan he has in mind and will begin working on soon is the matter of getting twice-a-day mail service for Dobson and Lowgap from Mount Airy. As it now stands these points have mail service only once a day. A star carrier serves Dobson and White Plains. Another one goes to Lowgap, and a third one makes the trip from Lowgap to Dobson, all making one round trip a day. With the advent of a good system of county roads Mr. Sparger proposes that a circuit be formed of these offices so that the carrier can leave Mount Airy early in the morning, going to Dobson, then across to Lowgap and then back to this city, making the circuit in about four hours by auto. The same round would be made in the afternoon giving all these points, and the places between, mail service from Mount Airy twice each day.

BOOSTER TRIP TO NEIGHBORING SECTIONS

Movement Started to Bring Surrounding Country in Closer Touch With Mount Airy

The world every day sees the need of closer association and better cooperation between individuals, communities, towns, states and nations. Realizing this fact a movement is now on foot that will do much toward better acquainting the people of Mount Airy with those of surrounding sections, and vice versa. At the meeting of the Kiwanis Club held at White Sulphur Springs last Thursday evening a committee was appointed to work out the details of a Booster Trip to points adjacent to this city.

The committee will enlist the aid of all the citizens of the city in this movement and all Kiwanis members will be expected to take part. While the committee in charge has not worked out its program it is being proposed that the party of Mount Airy citizens traveling by auto visit Sparta for an hour or two, then go to Galax, Va., from that point, where the lunch hour could be observed and association be had with the people of that good town. Then the party would go on to Hillsville, Va. From Hillsville the trip would be continued on to Stuart, Va., reaching there about five o'clock, taking supper with the people of that hospital village and then return home.

No date has been set for this trip but it is hoped to get it carried out sometime during the month of July. In the meantime the committee will advertise the dates selected in the sections visited in order to be able to come in contact with a larger number of people.

In going to Sparta one traverses as fine a piece of road engineering as is to be found in the state. From Mount Airy to the foot of Roaring Gap is a first class sand clay road, and from the foot of the Blue Ridge to Sparta, a distance of about 25 miles the road is hardsurfaced. Any Ford in good running condition can go all the way up the mountain in high gear and the scenery is pronounced nothing less than wonderful. From Sparta to Galax is a good clay road. Leading out from Galax to Hillsville about half the way is hardsurfaced and the remainder is a standard graded road.

Good Health is Very Attractive. Good health, clear skin, attractive color, bright eyes, quick wit, belong to those who keep themselves fit, and free from harmful gassy stomach troubles, torpid liver and constive bowels, with Chamberlain's Tablets. They stimulate the entire intestinal tract to healthy activity and keep it so. See.

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HAVE YOU A Mah-Jongg Set
Let us Show You One
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Giving the Boys Military Training

Six Mount Airy boys this week left for government camps in different parts of the country where they will be given four weeks of intense military training. These are called citizens military training camps and only those between the ages of 17 and 24 are eligible to entrance. All expenses of the applicants are paid by the government and the boys consider the four weeks as a vacation. Four of the boys went to Camp Bragg, Fayetteville, they being, Ben Johnson, son of Editor J. E. Johnson, Young Allen, James Hollingsworth and Everett Stanley. Judson Ashby and Jack Beasley were sent to a camp in Florida.

Big Basket Picnic At Dobson

All members of Tobacco Growers Co-operative association are requested to meet at Dobson on July 26, at 10 o'clock and bring a basket of good things to eat. They are also requested to be sure and bring their wives and children with them. All non-members are invited to come as their guest and bring their families. We expect to have Hon. E. D. Smith, U. S. Senator from S. C. and Mr. Oliver J. Sandy of Richmond, Va. to speak to the men in the Court house, while Miss Kelly who has been for several years past with the State Board of Education of North Carolina, will address the women and children at the school building. These addresses will be both entertaining and instructive. Our friends from adjoining counties are urged to be on hand and join us in having a good time. J. Luther Wood, County Chairman.

PRIMARY ELECTION

The Democratic Executive Committee of Surry County in assembly at Dobson on the 28th day of June 1924, at 8 o'clock ordered that a primary election be held in Mount Airy Township for the purpose of nominating a Democratic Candidate for the office of Judge of the Recorder's court for said Mount Airy Township. It was ordered that said election be held on Saturday, the 26th day of July, 1924, the polls to open promptly at 7 o'clock A. M., and close at 7 o'clock P. M., and that the voting be had in the four several wards of Mount Airy Township at the regular voting place, and the said primary election to be held and conducted by the regular Democratic Registrar and Judge, they the said Democratic Registrar and Judge, to select the third party in each ward; that the said primary election shall be held as near as practical in accord with the rules and regulations governing general primary elections under the law. It was further ordered that the said registrar may open the registration books for the registration of Democratic Electors in each precinct immediately, and that they remain open until the 2nd Saturday next preceding the day of the said primary election, and that notice of this primary election be published for not less than twenty days in The Mount Airy News and three or more public places in each of the said four precincts of Mount Airy Township. This the 28th day of June, 1924. T-12c A. D. FOLGER, Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Surry County.

Having qualified as Executors on the estate of R. F. Hemmings, Dec'd, this is to notify all persons holding claims against this estate to present them to either of the undersigned within twelve months from date of this notice will be asked to be taken in bar of their recovery. All persons due said estate will pay at once. This June 26th, 1924. W. C. Hemmings and Dee Hemmings, Exrs of R. F. Hemmings, decd.

NOTICE

Job Printing
Neatly and Promptly Done
at
The News Office

WATER!
I am now prepared to deliver anywhere in Mount Airy, water from the "McKnight Healing Spring" at price of 10c per gallon.
Upon first delivery customer will pay for one jug of the size desired, when you stop buying water full amount paid for jug will be refunded, if you have the jug returned. On account of the small amount involved drivers will positively make no deliveries on credit.
The price at my station is 5c per gallon, direct from the spring, if you desire the water for immediate use and want it cold as ice can make it the price is 10c per gallon. No ice touches the water. The ice is packed around pipe coils through which the water passes. Ask me for analysis and testimonials.
M. T. McKnight, Owner
Phone 201