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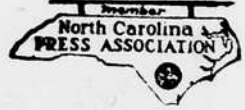
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VOTE AGAINST POLIO

This Friday, January 14, marks the opening of an 18-day parade in the United States—the 1949 March of Dimes of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. In that little more than two-week period the American people will write their own ticket against infantile paralysis, which in the past six years has stricken more than 100,000 of our citizens.

One of the main facts to remember about polio is that it is not primarily a fatal disease. Only about five to ten persons out of a hundred who contract it will die. And another fact is that 50 per cent of those infected by polio recover completely.

Yet, today there remains a drab overtone of darkness in the infantile paralysis picture. When polio strikes with paralytic force, often many lengthy years of hospitalization and treatment comprise the calendar of the disabled.

Aside from the victim's pain and suffering, there is also the cold factual problem of doctor and hospital bills. Not one family in ten can afford to pay for full or even partial care of a case requiring more than a nominal hospital stay.

That's where your March of Dimes steps in to lighten the dark outlook. Besides financing research seeking the final answer of how to prevent and cure polio, March of Dimes funds are paying for the best available medical care and treatment of polio patients throughout the nation . . . whether or not they were stricken in the 1948 epidemics or in years gone by.

Yes, not one family in ten can afford to pay when polio strikes. But every family can contribute to the March of Dimes. By so doing they help guarantee prompt and adequate aid to themselves and their neighbors should the disease attack them.

Remember the 1949 March of Dimes, January 14-31. Join in that great parade. Every time you give a dime or dollar you lend a mighty, helping hand.

BUSINESS FOR 1949 !

A business review for North Carolina concludes that the present year will be prosperous if the pattern of the years since the end of the war is followed. This is about equivalent to saying that the year will be prosperous if it is prosperous.

The truth of the matter is that no economist, no business expert and no business man knows what the year 1949 will bring. The tempo of business operations in the United States depends, not upon cash in the banks, but upon the optimistic attitude of prospective buyers. If this continues to operate, the economic activity will promote good business conditions.

It is necessary, however, for business enterprises to understand that the present favorable outlook can be changed, almost overnight, if the prospective buyers develop a streak of pessimism. Business operates upon confidence in the future and once this is shaken, or shattered, there is an almost immediate drop in buying which immediately affects business.

EMPLOYMENT TO DECLINE

During the war years, there was much apprehension lest the transition to peacetime production would be accompanied by an extraordinary number of unemployed. Consequently legislation was passed designed to cushion the return of veterans into civilian life.

The prediction that the nation should have 60,000,000 employed workers was considered somewhat far-fetched, but the figures show that employment reached an all-time peak of more than 63,000,000 in July.

While some adjustment is expected to take place in 1949, with fewer jobs than in 1948, the total employed persons is expected to be close around the 60,000,000-mark.

The average man is willing to do almost anything to make money except good hard work.

Friendly criticism may be extremely helpful though it is not pleasant to the ear.

PEACE MAY EVOLVE IN YEARS

Bertrand Russell, well-known British philosopher, says that a very large part of mankind embraces two widespread creeds, which he outlined as follows:

(1) "One of these, the creed of Communism, has the advantage of intense fanaticism and embodiment in a sacred book.

(2) "The other, less definite, is nevertheless potent. It may be called 'the American way of life.'"

The British author thinks it will be necessary to unify these conflicting tenets either by rule of law or by "finding innocent outlets for our competitive instincts."

Many intelligent persons have previously outlined the clash between Communism and the American way of life, but, up to this time, no one has been able to offer a plan which will permit them to compete peacefully for world supremacy.

There is, of course, the plan of the pacifists and modernists, who seem to think that the United States should supinely surrender its future rights and liberties in an exhibition of love and trust of a powerful neighbor. There are others, of course, who think that the thing for this country to do is to be prepared for a military contest while attempting to obtain some reconciliation of conflicting aims and ideals.

Nobody knows what the final outcome of the present struggle will be but it is just possible that the situation will continue muddled until, one day in the future, the hoped-for reconciliation will take place. It is quite possible that both nations and their peoples, arrive at such a determination.

HOW FALSE A FOUNDATION

It is the "public relations" and lobby techniques, rather than the technique of self-improvement, which the Southern Governors are resorting to in their plan to set up a Southern Foundation to "tell the South's story."

Instead of working harder to improve present backward attitudes toward lynching, employment of Negroes, the franchise for Negroes and poor whites, equal educational opportunities, and the like, they are seeking to prettify those attitudes and put more power behind the lobbies that are pressing them upon Congress.

A Southern Foundation with no better objectives than euphemism and lobbying would only emphasize and institutionalize the peculiarities that still unhappily keep the South separate from the rest of the Union.

Why are the South's interests so much different from the interests of all other states, and of the nation as a whole, that they cannot be adequately represented in that American Foundation usually called Congress?

Why establish new symbols and agencies of Southern separatism? Far better to work for the complete assimilation of the South in the great national entity, its ideas, its aspirations for more and more democracy and less and less narrow sectionalism. Above all, why try to make what is ugly appear pretty by telling a story at all? Why not achieve the good appearance instead of merely trying to simulate it? Then the story will tell itself.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

REFUND TO VETERANS

Sometime in 1949, the Veterans Administration will pay dividends to those who took out National Service Life Insurance and it is estimated that the fund to be distributed will range from \$1,500,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000.

Refunds will be made on all policies on which veterans paid premiums for three or more months, including those lapsed or matured, as well as those now in force. Since the first policies were effective in 1940, the dividends will cover a period of about eight years and will vary from a few cents to several hundred dollars per veteran.

The distribution of dividends to policyholders arises from the fact that the Government, in connection with its insurance of the lives of its veterans operated without profit. Since battle losses were much smaller than anticipated, the surplus funds accumulated, according to a court ruling, belong to the veterans. The Veterans Administration is getting ready to pay it out in proper proportion to the veterans.

The idea that the nation, in the days of its prosperity, should reduce its indebtedness, hits Congress as a new idea.

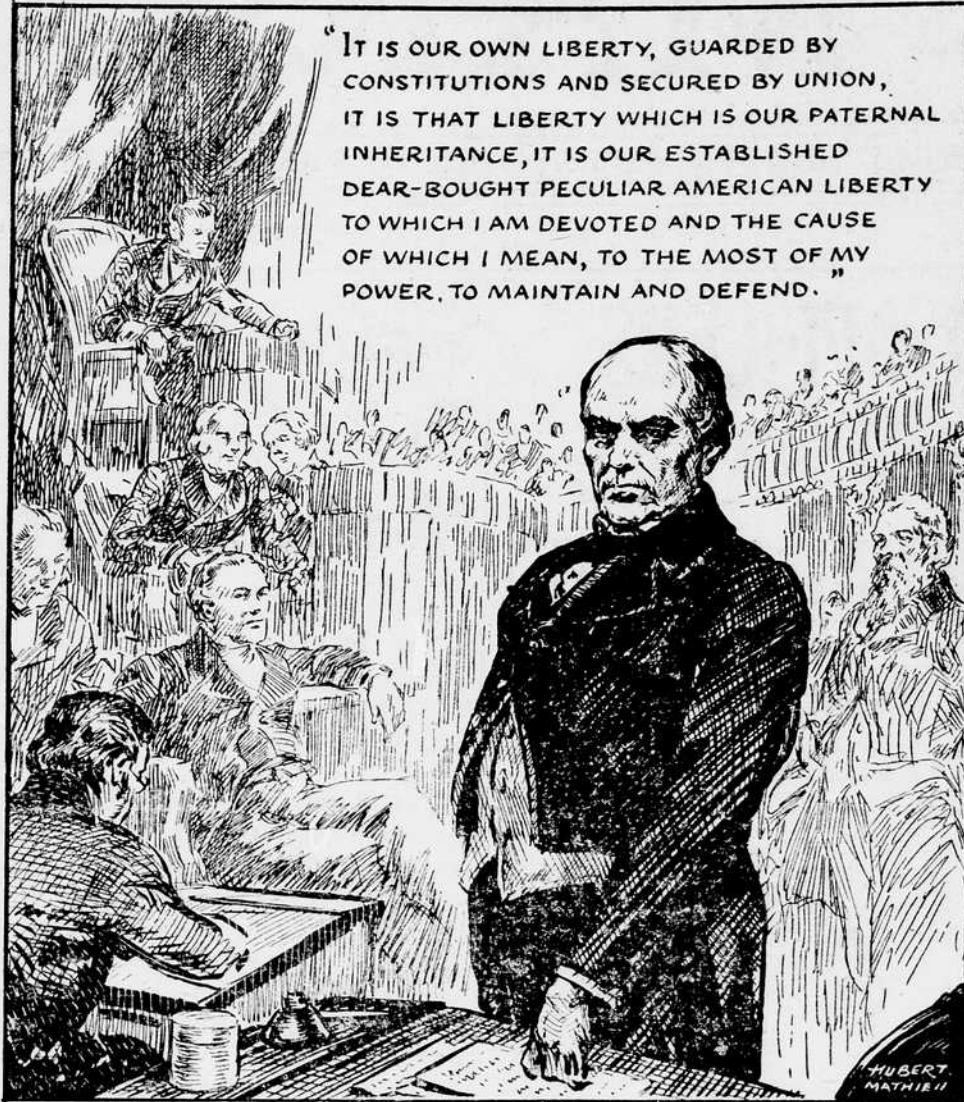
The caterpillars, according to an old saying, forecast a mild winter; we hope they know their predictions.

Nearly every little country, and big ones as well, has an idea of getting money from Uncle Sam.

There are a few men in public life who retire at the right time, voluntarily.

A man with an axe to grind ought to turn his own grindstone.

OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat



"IT IS OUR OWN LIBERTY, GUARDED BY CONSTITUTIONS AND SECURED BY UNION, IT IS THAT LIBERTY WHICH IS OUR PATERNAL INHERITANCE, IT IS OUR ESTABLISHED DEAR-BUGHT PECULIAR AMERICAN LIBERTY TO WHICH I AM DEVOTED AND THE CAUSE OF WHICH I MEAN, TO THE MOST OF MY POWER, TO MAINTAIN AND DEFEND."

DANIEL WEBSTER—JAN. 18, 1782—OCT. 24, 1852

KNOWN AS THE "DEFENDER OF THE CONSTITUTION", DANIEL WEBSTER—THROUGH HIS IMPASSIONED SPEECHES—WAS CREDITED MORE THAN ONCE, WITH HAVING HELPED TO PRESERVE THE UNION. THROUGHOUT OUR HISTORY, IN TIMES OF CRISIS, MEN LIKE WEBSTER—DEVOTED TO THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY AND UNION—HAVE STEPPED FORTH TO STRENGTHEN AND REAFFIRM AMONG ALL FACTIONS, TRUST AND BELIEF IN AMERICAN DEMOCRACY.

Looking Backward

From The Progress Files

January 19, 1922

"Last January the ladies of the Marion Methodist Aid Society, wishing to raise much needed funds, decided as an incentive to harder work to divide the society for one year into two groups, having a captain for each. The side raising the larger amount to be entertained by the side not so successful. Mrs. J. W. Pless and Mrs. D. E. Hudgins were elected captains, and the wisdom of the choice was proven by the untiring efforts of these two ladies.

"At the last meeting, Jan. 9, reports were given for the year. Mrs. Hudgins reported \$276.83 and Mrs. Pless \$264.02. These amounts were made from rummage sales conducted by the two sides. Mrs. Pless extended congratulations to the victorious side, also expressed delight and readiness to entertain the victors. The night of January 16th was chosen for the fete.

"Invitations were issued to a tacky party to be given at the home of Mrs. J. W. Pless Monday evening, but no mention was made to let the guests know they really were to enjoy a progressive dinner of three courses the first to be served with Mrs. Pless.

"The victors gathered at the home of Mrs. Eugene Cross, lead by their captain, Mrs. D. E. Hudgins. They came in jolly spirits and bright and laughable attire to the party. When the bell was rung, and the door was opened for their reception by a figure dressed in robes similar to those of the Ku Klux Klan, and in a dim corner near the door another body of these same sepulchral figures were seen, the expression of jovialness faded into one just a little dubious, but as the finger of the defeated captain pointed straight ahead, they marched up the stairway, where they were directed to the dressing rooms by the silent figures of more of the same klan.

"When the guests were seated the defeated team gave this reassuring yell, just to let all know they were humans:

Rip, Rip, Rip!
Who are we?
We're the defeated team
Don't you see.
What were we defeated by?
Rags, Rags, Rags.

"The first course of the dinner was then served. The Ku Klux marched single file, bearing plates containing most tempting pictures of delectable edibles, giving the guests time to feast their eyes, then plates were taken up, and oranges with peppermint sticks inserted as quills were served. Victors and defeated all seemed to be infused with the spirit of fun. Laughter and witty banter was enjoyed along with the orange juice.

"The party progressed to the home of Mrs. M. L. Justice, where the sec-

ond course was immediately served. This course was two of McDowell county's best products—molasses and muffins made from water ground meal. After partaking as heartily as could be expected, the next move was to the home of Mrs. J. E. Decker.

"The guests were delighted upon reaching Mrs. Decker's, to find a large cut glass bowl of punch awaiting them after their sweets of the evening. This punch, like the land Columbus discovered, was afterward found to be incorrectly named—some of the ladies called it a fake, some water with a hint of orange juice. The guests being seated, Mrs. Pless and Mrs. Decker gave for their pleasure two beautifully rendered duets, which were enjoyed by all. Mrs. Decker gave a reading, Story to the Ladies of the Winning Side. This was full of wit and humor from beginning to end. It was illustrated throughout by popular musical selections, played by Mrs. Pless, and sung by all.

"Mrs. Minnie Blanton and Mrs. T. E. Snipes were the lucky winners in the cake walk, and were presented with the beautifully iced cake, which when cut was just a corn bread cake.

"All deceptions were forgotten when ice cream and cakes were served, and from all appearances the ladies were delighted with the evening's entertainment."

Minor Party Vote Totals Are Revised

Washington, Jan. 5—Revised official returns as reported to the State Department by the 48 states showed today that the total vote cast for President last Nov. 2, was 48,690,75.

This is 9,659 more than previously reported by state canvassing boards and compiled by the Associated Press last Dec. 10.

The difference is due to revisions made in official figures since the additions of some minor party votes previously unreported, and some further minor corrections.

Here is the way the total vote was divided:

Harry S. Truman, D.	24,104,030
Thos. E. Dewey, R.	21,970,985
J. Strom Thurmond	
States Rights	1,169,118
Henry Wallace, Prog.	1,156,883
Norman Thoms, Soc.	139,543
Claude Watson, Prohibit'n	103,343
Edwd. Teichert, Soc.-Lab.	29,240
Ferrel Dobbs, Soc.-W'krs.	13,611
Scattered	3,321

Tomorrow, the electoral college vote will be counted and officially recorded at a routine joint session in the House chamber, presided over by Senator McKellar, (D., Tenn.), Senate president pro tem. The final electoral vote was Truman 303, Dewey 180, and Thurmond 39.

FOR A PORK PIE

Hot sage biscuits are a good combination with a pork pie—as a topping or accompaniment. To make them, add ½ teaspoon sage to 1 biscuit recipe or 1 recipe for biscuit mix.

TALL TALES

By ELIZABETH WHITTEN

Last week the electricians were busy taking down the strings of Christmas lights on the business streets, merchants were having store windows cleaned, housewives were removing door sprays and mothers were busily taking their children down a peg or two after allowing special privileges during the holidays. Then, as if to make a clean sweep of it all, the bright sunshine gave lagging spirits a lift.

I believe Marion stores looked prettier during the Christmas past than at any time I can remember.

As I watched the tattered trimmings destroyed, the dirt washed away and the papers burned I remembered a scene on the campus of Peace College when I was a student there.

The students had assembled for a campfire, vesper service at twilight. The speaker, a young brunette woman, was pretty in a vivacious, wholesome kind of way.

In addressing the student body she gazed wistfully into the flames and spoke quietly and informally as if she were talking with a small group of intimate friends.

She said that as she watched the fire devour the papers and firewood she liked to think God gathered our mistakes at the close of each day and burned them.

It was a beautiful thought for a twilight service and it is a beautiful thought for the close of the year.

Someone told me the other day that weather prophets were predicting the spring of '49 to be filled with cold weather, blizzards and all kinds of bad weather. Won't those people who bought winter clothes during the after Christmas clearance sales be delighted?

A clerk was trying to sell a woman a slip. She said the selection included many pretty, lacy styles. The woman politely declined and later confided to a group of friends:

"If she could see the holes in the one I'm wearing, she wouldn't think I needed one with lace."

"The woman who came to dinner" was entertaining the group about her with a story about a banquet she had attended. She said she was seated next to an old man whose eyesight was failing.

"He kept calling me 'little girl,'" she laughed, "of course I knew he couldn't see, but it was so flattering."

"Why didn't you look around?" her husband commented drily, "maybe there was a little girl there." She hushed.

AMERICAN RED CROSS

The American Red Cross gave assistance in 619 disasters in this country during the 1947-48 fiscal year, expending a total of \$12,171,022, according to Basil O'Connor, president of the organization. Since the Red Cross was founded in 1881, it has served in 3,954 domestic disasters in which it has spent \$139,000,000.

81ST CONGRESS

In the Eighty-first Congress there will be 521 men and nine women. At least 216 are war veterans—eighty of World War II. The majority—301 are lawyers. The average age is 53.8—one year older than in the last Congress. The senior in point of service is Rep. Adolph J. Sabath, 82, of Illinois, who is beginning his forty-second year.

Good Employment!

Now is the time to look ahead to your future. As an ambitious young man, you don't want just a job. You want the kind of good employment that means opportunity for you. Yes, the kind of employment that means security, where you don't have to worry about your pay check. In short—the good employment opportunities now being offered in the new U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force. Your pay starts immediately. Plus free food and housing; free clothing and equipment; free retirement plan; free medical and dental care; low-cost insurance. Here's a deal for you that's tops any way you look at it. For qualified women, the same good employment opportunities are offered in the WAC and the WAF. Discuss your big opportunity today with your U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force Recruiter. He's at Marion Post Office, Marion, N. C. Yes, and he's specially trained to give you the best of counsel. For your own advancement, look into these opportunities for good employment in the greatest business in the world. Enlist now!