

ROCKINGHAM POST-DISPATCH

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DEMOCRATIC IN POLITICS

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PUNCTUAL. It has been the custom for countless years to notify jurors to report for Superior Court at 9 o'clock—even tho' the first day has never seen Court open till 10.

There is no reason for this. The punctual man is penalized. The notification should read to be PRESENT at ten o'clock, exactly the time wanted. And 10 would mean 10.

In fact, in this new day, radio has made our American people more time-conscious; for with the radio, every program, etc. must be met on the split-second.

Many a time we have had a teacher or preacher to come in and ask us to insert an item about some program. "What time?" we would ask. "Oh, about 7:30," would be the reply. When as a matter of fact there was no intention of starting till 8. But that's not the case with our school Supt. Bell. When he advertises a definite time, he means just that. And so with Walter King in funerals; he does his best to have them on the scheduled dot.

Yes, jurors hereafter ought to be summoned for exactly the time they are wanted, and not an hour earlier, or even a minute earlier.

We might add that Judge John H. Clement opened Court Jan. 8th exactly on the stroke of 10 o'clock. Good going, Judge.

UNIVERSITY. The new WPA aided dining hall at the University is completed and put in operation Jan. 2nd. It seats 1,050, twice the capacity of old Swain hall. It has two cafeterias and a restaurant, and a soda fountain that is open till 11 p. m. The new building is at the west end of old Emerson Field, and faces west; it is 121 feet long and 121 wide. It was built with WPA funds and is a self-liquidating project, at no cost to the State.

That is fine. And now to make the University complete, there should be a movie house built on the campus and operated AT COST for the students. There is no sense in the 4,000 students to have to plank down 30 cents for the commercial town theatres, any more than having no cost-eating place and forcing students to eat at higher-priced cafes. A University-operated movie could put the pictures to the boys at 10 or 15 cents and not lose money. It should be built.

All true suckers have imagination. The swindler's talk is never convincing unless you can imagine the great profits.

OLD TREE. The sleet of Jan. 7th, 1940, did some damage to the huge live oak tree on East Washington street, in the former McNair yard. But so tremendous is this tree, that the broken branches can scarcely be missed.

Undoubtedly, this is the largest tree in Richmond county.

This was the site of the old Walter F. Leak home, later the Cole home, and occupied from 1899 to 1903 by the A. J. Maxwell family, and still later by the W. E. McNair family.

The tree has an interesting bit of history. The acorn is said to have been planted by the late Walter Francis Leak, around about 1820, which would make it 120 years old. But we doubt that. It must be many years older. The present circumference of the tree is 15 feet, one inch.

We say we doubt that Walter F. planted it. From the files of the old Post, we note that on Feb. 12, 1909, 15 water oak trees were planted on the grounds of the grammar school, these donated by W. C. Leak and Wm. Little Steele. And these trees are now about 31 years old—and not big ones, either. Gauging the known age of these trees, and their size, and the unknown age of that mammoth Leak tree, we are led to the conclusion that the latter must be many years older than 120 years.

A legend has been built that underneath this big tree lies buried \$10,000 in gold. That Walter F. Leak when an old man married a rich widow of Eastern Carolina, and that she brought with her that much money in cash; she died of typhoid fever shortly afterwards, but none of this money was ever located. No, this is not a tip, nor a suggestion that prowlers begin uprooting that tree; chances are it's roots go down almost to China.

Walter Francis Leak and his first wife lie buried in old Leak cemetery, a mile north-east of Rockingham; they are the grandparents of the late W. L. Scales and Mrs. Hal S. Ledbetter. Mr. Leak was born March 26, 1799, and died April 28, 1879. His wife, Mary C. Leak, was born July 17, 1799, and died Dec. 4, 1871.

JAIL. July, 1939, was the biggest month in the history of our Richmond county jail—the daily average being 40, with 53 cared for one night. The comfortable capacity is 32. In contrast were the measly nine in the jail Jan. 6th. Sign that the times are better, or human nature on the up?

RECORD. "Look at the record and be proud," was the very appropriate admonition of FSA Paul McNutt in his speech at the Jackson Day dinner in Raleigh Jan. 8th. McNutt made a fighting speech; but it is hardly likely the country will next November place the forces of reaction in power. The past 8 years has been one of achievement under Franklin D. Roosevelt.

If he receives a vicious blow and turns the other cheek, he is either a Christian or a Neutral.

FLYING. On Dec. 31st, Bert McLaurin and Leo Page went out to the Rockingham airport and got ready to fly down to Maxton and there accompany the Flying Cavalcade as far as Camden, on their way to the air met at Miami.

And just before taking off, they saw a plane circling over town; it saw the big ROCKINGHAM letters on top of courthouse, with arrow pointing to the east; and very soon it lighted at the airport. The pilot had gotten lost, on his way from Raleigh to Maxton, and right glad to find the good Rockingham port. He refueled and then continued down to Maxton and rejoined the fleet. While here, the stranger looked over the Piper Cub local plane, and found that he had flown that plane from the factory at Lockhaven, Penn., to the distributor at Altoona—where in April, 1939, Bert and Leo had gotten it. Not so large a world after all.

These small planes carry only 16 gallons of gas, and get about 20 miles to the gallon. They have to refuel, for safety, about each 200 miles, and so make rather short hops.

The local airmen take to the air about every day, and frequently fly up to Pinehurst, Charlotte, Maxton, Myrtle Beach, Bennettsville, and near-by points. Just as casual as going in their cars—and they feel a lot safer.

Happy Birthday To You

Every reader of the Post-Dispatch is invited to send in names of their family, friends, neighbors for this Birthday column. They should be listed for week following Thursday issue.

- JANUARY 12th Gladys Hicks Thomas Coble, 1923
JANUARY 13th Roy Dawkins Henry Lemmonds Catherine Moss, 1920 Grace Robertson, 1922 Betsy Sairfax Dockery Clay Bell, 1911 (d 1-7-'39) Linda McKay Maness, 1939
JANUARY 14th Douglas B. Bailey Sarah E. Haywood, 1933 Margaret Phillips, 1922 Lucy Cooper O'Brien, 1916
JANUARY 15th Ruby Jenkins Leon Buckles Mrs. J. E. Young Elizabeth Leviner Mrs. L. L. Williams Lena Covington, 1915 Mrs. L. T. Wadsworth Miss Beatrice Langley Dorothy McDonald, 1921 Mrs. A. J. Riggan, 1893 (d) Marriage of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Dees, 1884
JANUARY 16th Jasper Terry Mrs. Ola Hughes Farrell Beane, 1919 Thomas J. Andrews, 1920 Mary Louise Hasty, 1925 Barbara Pendergrass, 1917
JANUARY 17th Lee Jenkins H. D. Godfrey Lee Roy Seago Mrs. Rosa Williams Miss Geraldine Self Betty Jo Capel, 1934 Bobbie Lee Deal, 1931 Mrs. Hugh Henderson Miss LeGrand Parks, 1938 Wilson Arthur Hasty, Jr. '37 Perry and Jerry Childress, twins
JANUARY 18th Mrs. H. L. Deal William Ballard V. A. S. Coble V. A. Caudill, 1902 Mrs. W. E. Covington Mrs. A. H. Rohleder Mrs. Robert L. Johnson William Doug. King, 1939 Perry Bradshaw, twin, 1934 Jerry Bradshaw, twin, 1934 Malcolm Nicholson (Buddy) McNair, 1914

Look At Your Label!

GLIMPSES -- ON THE CUFF

Brevities Gathered Here and There About This and That.

(Not an attempt at being a "kolumnyist" but just jottings of things seen and heard.—I. S. L.)

Hard luck for Coach Ray Wolfe—Jim Lalane slipped on his studies this past quarter and so had to drop out for the winter term. . . . He'll be missed in February "spring" practice, but'll be back in March and make up the work in Spring and Summer sessions and be there next fall slinging that ol' ball around. . . . New rules shorten the time by five seconds for ball to be put in play—to 25 seconds hereafter. . . . This may tend towards eliminating the huddle. . . . Personally, I like the old barking of signals—a thrill to hear the staccato numbers and see the team snap into action. . . . Carolina and Duke should iron out the 1940 conflict—whereby Carolina plays Tulane and Duke plays Wake Forest the same afternoon.

And Flora Finch is dead—means nothing to you younger movie fans, but in the silent screen days she was the head-liner of comedienne. . . . started in 1910 when movies were just a dubious gadget. . . . her partner, John Bunny, died in 1915. . . . she capitalized on her ugliness—thin face, angular figure. . . . died Jan. 4th of blood poison from cut on her arm.

Gov. Hoey underwent an operation for hernia in Duke hospital Jan. 5th. . . . friends happy he is o. k. Went into office much vilified, but ends 4-year term next January as perhaps the State's most popular executive.

As you readers perhaps know, I am a stickler for facts and dates—and I rather regret that teachers now do not stress historical dates instead of periods or eras. . . . Last week the Charlotte Observer quoted Clarence O. Kuester, Charlotte C. of C. veteran, with a list of prominent men born in January—and two of the six were wrong—Stonewall Jackson as born Jan. 24th, Franklin Roosevelt as Jan. 3rd. . . . I wrote Kuester of his errors; he replied that it was the Observer who erred it typographically. . . . Anyway, errors can always be put on a paper, and public men can be "misquoted". . . . As we have said before, a doctor's mistakes are buried: a paper's blazed to world.

Young man writing to "Lonely Hearts": "Dear Lonely Hearts, my doctor told me I smoke too much and that I would have a tobacco heart. What should I do?—Perplexed." "Dear Perplexed: Eat lots of candy and you will soon have a sweetheart."

Eleven billion cans used every year in America to package food. . . . wonder how many tin cans are masquerading on the highways as automobiles? . . . The Finns ski and the Russians skee-daddle. . . . Temperature wasn't so keen about the new year—from the way it shrunk from it—12 degrees on Jan. 2nd and 3rd.

A subscriber writes: "You keep writing me about owing you for your paper, and I haven't ever described for it. I omit getting the paper but I hadn't ever described for it." (She could have said "prescribed" instead of described or subscribed).

Duke's huge new gym was dedicated Jan. 6th with a Duke win over Princeton in basketball 36-27. . . . The gym is the largest in the south, seating 9,500. . . . It is 202 feet long by 175 wide. . . . At this dedication, the lights went out at 8:01 just as Dean Wannamaker began to speak, and were off for 8 minutes and 10 seconds. . . . Such a building seems too large now, but so did the 35,000 seating capacity stadium when it was built in 1929. . . . "They'll never fill it," was the prediction then; but they did, many times, with 51,500 packed into every corner Nov. 18, 1939, when Carolina and Duke played. . . . And this big gym will in time be overflowing and prove too small. . . . Up Duke-way they build for the future.

Freud must have been right. . . . the man who doesn't wear a hat is usually bareheaded because he forgets where he left it. . . . Yes, the writer seldom wears a hat—may be one reason why at 54 we show no signs of baldness.

Don't blame those who lose their self-reliant independence—even the birds quit foraging if you provide grubs every day. . . . Here in Rockingham Grocer Jim Seawell each morning scatters grain on the paving in front of his store, and scores of small birds know this and flock there to partake of his thoughtfulness; they seem to know this food will be there, rain or shine—and it is; for Jim has a heart.

Like to tell your friends a secret? Why expect them to deny themselves the same enjoyment. Just don't tell.

DEFINITIONS: "Pedestrian is a man who has two cars, a wife and a daughter." "A bathing suit is a garment with no hooks but plenty of eyes on it." "Gossip is when nobody don't do nothing, and somebody goes and tells about it." "Echo is the only thing that cheats a woman out of the last word."

My thanks to Judge Don Phillips for several pounds of venison steak killed by him on a deer hunt in Bladen county last week.

A school boy's essay: "We should not use the word guts because it is offal". . . . Kidding—the safe way of saying catty things you are afraid to say in dead earnest. . . . Doctors are not callous, but they see so much suffering, they must practice indifference or break down.

Gen. Bob Tombs said the Confederates wore themselves out beating the Yankees—but then they didn't have as heavy a job, numerically, as the Finns'.

An automobile is said to be a vehicle which is dividing mankind into two classes—the quick and the dead. . . . Winter is the season when we try to keep the house as hot as it was in the summer when we kicked about it—and a nag is defined as a woman with no horse-sense.

Max Fleischer who just made the color cartoon "Gulliver's Travels" that he hopes will out-draw "Snow White," required 678 artists who turned out 665,280 drawings, used up 16 tons of paper, 49,999 pencils and consumed 27,600 aspirin tablets.

1939 was a bad year for big daily papers—75 folded, 11 by merger and 64 just quit.

Here is a good one, clipped: "It takes only one hat to cover the head of an egotist. It takes only one ice bag to cover the head of a 'morning after.'" But it takes ever so many shovels full of dirt to cover a careless driver."

Electric clock in Fox's Sunday stopped at 10:57 p. m. Shows when lights went off in down-town section. . . . Billy Dimetti, soda slinger wouldn't set it Monday a. m. till 10:57—easier to start electric part without having trouble (?) of moving the hands—laziness personified.

Editorials

Henry M. London

Born April 11, 1879. Died Dec. 30, 1939.

He was My Friend

Writes Judge Hoyle Sink. "It is with sincere regret that we lose Henry London. He was my friend—a conscientious, able citizen and he will be hard to replace."

A Fine Servant of Church.

Bishop Edwin A. Penick writes the editor for the copy of Jan. 4th issue of the Post-Dispatch containing sketches of Henry London, and says. . . "I shall keep that page because of its historical value and also because it will recall to me the extraordinary achievements of one of the finest servants our Church in North Carolina has ever known."

Loyal and Friendly.

Louis Graves, in Chapel Hill Weekly, Jan. 5th: "Henry London was a familiar figure on the University campus, loyal and friendly and cheerful; he was liked by everybody."

Courteous, Pleasant, Willing

Writes Charles G. Rose, former president of the N. C. Bar Association.

"Fayetteville, Jan. 6th. "I had the privilege of knowing Henry London for a little over 40 years; he and I were at the University together—he graduating in 1899, I in 1900. And I have claimed him as a friend ever since then, and served with him in many capacities. I shall miss him on my trips to Raleigh as I always called in his office, if nothing more than to say "hello." He was always courteous, pleasant and willing to go to any length to accommodate a friend. He leave to his family a 'goodly heritage.'"

FAITHFUL EVERY TRUST

(From Church of the Good Shepherd, Raleigh, "Parish Messenger," Jan. 7, 1940).

It must be left to others to record the great loss felt by the State of North Carolina, the University, The Bar Association and numerous other State and Civic Organizations, in the death of Saturday, December 30th, of Henry Mauger London; but it is for me as his Rector and personal friend to record the irrevocable loss suffered by The Church of the Good Shepherd of North Carolina, and the National Church. As Vestryman, Diocesan Treasurer, and delegate to the General Convention he touched the life and helped make the history of each, and to every trust he was found faithful. What more can one say? He loved his Church, and I feel that above all honors; and he justly received many from State and Community; Henry London placed none above those bestowed upon him by the Church, and thus his Church came first. To her he gave his best and she in turn gave him much. Above all, he gained the strength to live and die unashamed, and unafraid His faith in God and his strong belief in Eternal Life through Jesus Christ remained undimmed to the end.

While we shall miss him, his influence will long abide and continue to encourage us to carry on and always put our Church first.

Our deepest love and sympathy goes to his devoted wife, two sons who bear his name, his sisters and brothers and a host of friends; and to God we yield our united thanks for his life and influence.

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the blessed rest and everlasting peace and the glorious company of the saints."

Headachy, Breath Bad? Make This Check-Up

The Police Siren means "Look-out!" And so do Nature's signals—headaches, biliousness, bad breath, which are often symptoms of constipation. Don't neglect your sluggish bowels, for a host of constipation's other discomforts may result: such as, sour stomach, loss of appetite or energy, mental dullness.

Help your lazy bowels with spicy, all vegetable BLACK-DRAUGHT. Acts gently, promptly, thoroughly, by simple directions. BLACK-DRAUGHT'S principal ingredient is an "intestinal tonic-laxative." It helps impart tone to lazy bowel muscles. Next time, try this time-tested product!

HENRY LONDON WAS A VALUABLE CITIZEN

(Morganton News-Herald, 5th)

The life of Henry M. London, who died in Raleigh Dec. 30th, bore testimony to the fact that inheritance, as well as training and environment, counts largely in the making of a man. Major London, his father, was one of the leaders of his generation, a friend and co-worker of the North Carolinians who kept the Ship of State steady and resolute in the trying days of Reconstruction immediately following the war period of '61-'65, in which he was an active participant.

Newspaper people think of the London family as belonging to the "printing press clan," but as a matter of fact they have followed varied lines of useful activity. Isaac London, a younger son, has stuck to his father's main line, newspapering, formerly in his old county, Siler City, now editor-publisher of the Post-Dispatch, at Rockingham. Henry's talents were more along the line of his father's side lines of politics and law, but probably his chief contribution to his day and generation was his authorship of a countless number of bills which were written during the last twenty-five years into the laws of the State, this work being in connection with his job in the Law Reference Library at Raleigh.

A stickler for detail, conscientious, painstaking, methodical, Henry London did well everything that he undertook to do. As secretary of the Bar Association of North Carolina for many years he gave of his time and energy generously to that organization and was very popular with fellow lawyers throughout the State.

Truly, North Carolina has lost a valuable citizen and his family and friends have suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Henry London.

50 AGAINST 20

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