

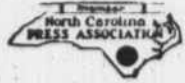
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and

The Highlands Maconian

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A Stupid Rule

WITH the death of Senator Glass of Virginia, Senator McKellar becomes chairman of the highly important senate appropriations committee. Senator Glass, who had been incapacitated by illness for years, was 88. Senator McKellar is only a little younger.

Are these old men given top positions in the senate because of their great wisdom? Not at all. It is all based on seniority; it is merely a question of who has been in the senate longest.

No wonder people are skeptical about congress! But the trouble lies not in the institution itself, nor even in the calibre of the man in congress. What creaks is the machinery under which congress attempts to operate.

What Do They Do?

The Asheville Citizen and The Richmond Times-Dispatch are waging a lively word battle over the question of whether North Carolina or Virginia has the larger number of state employees.

The debate is strictly in lighter vein, each newspaper poking fun at the other's arithmetic and conclusions. It serves the good purpose, however, of calling to the attention of the public the number of persons on the state payrolls.

According to The Citizen, the North Carolina total for the fiscal year 1941-42 was just under 17,000, exclusive of the approximately 25,000 public school teachers.

All of which prompts the question: What can the State of North Carolina find for 17,000 persons to do? For that total, mind you, is an average of 170 state employes for each of the state's counties—many more, it is safe to say, than the average county finds it necessary to employ to conduct the county's business.

Easy To Say, But—

The world is in a grand mess; there is no argument on that point. And it is equally true that, but for the blunders of peoples and governments over the last half century or so, there would be no need for an Emergency Food Collection on behalf of UNRRA.

It is easy, therefore, to say of the starving in Europe and Asia: What's it to me? I didn't make the mess.

It is easy to say: I have my own problems—and other people's hunger isn't one of them.

It is easy to say: America can't feed the whole world.

It is easy to say; but saying it doesn't leave us easy. For saying it, somehow, doesn't enable us to dismiss the mental picture of people dying for lack of food.

Why should you and I give to the Emergency Food Collection on behalf of UNRRA, the organization headed locally by the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan?

The answer to that question is vividly stated by Faith Baldwin:

The Emergency Food Collection on behalf of UNRRA gives each of us the privilege of contributing money, food in tin cans, or both, to the people of starving and war-mangled countries.

It is a privilege, and from a common-sense viewpoint, it is imperative. Those who somehow survive a long period of starvation become warped, not only in body.

The old will die, mercifully for them; but the young will struggle to live, filling their bloated stomachs with grass, roots, garbage, anything.

In order to live they will lie, steal, or murder, for self-preservation is a primal law.

It is to the young that we look for world peace, unity, and orderly government; but people who have always been hungry are not interested in ideals. Eventually they will be interested in another war.

If we feed those who now starve we may well be protecting our own children and grandchildren from the the burning bomb, the shattering guns, the slow or sudden death.

Look at it another way: if you have never seen a starving child, imagine one. Then look at the child you love. Will the contrast help you sleep nights?

Centuries ago it was ordered by a compassion that knew neither race, creed, or color, "Feed my lambs." Can we afford to ignore this plea, knowing we are all children of God

Give in His name—in the name of humanity!

LETTERS

ZICKGRAF FIRE AND THE PUBLIC

Dear Weimar:

I almost "saw red" when I saw in The Franklin Press the article about men driving over the fire hose and cutting it in two at the Zickgraf plant.

That men should be so criminally careless is more than I can understand. The fine here in San Diego is fifty dollars for driving over a fire hose.

I am enclosing a copy of "The Firemen", issued by the San Diego Fire department, thinking it may give the Town Board some suggestions that would be useful.

I hope you will find room for this letter in your paper. Cordially,
KATE ROBINSON HOBART.

1042 Twenty-Sixth Street,
San Diego, Calif.,
May 28, 1946.
Enc.

KNOW THE FIRE LAW AND KEEP OUT OF TROUBLE

When an apparatus approaches which has red lights in front and is blowing a siren, it is an emergency vehicle. Drive as near to the right-hand curb as possible and stop until the emergency vehicle has passed.

Do not park an auto within 15 feet of a fire hydrant. (Read new state law.)

Do not run an auto over the fire hose.
Do not follow the apparatus to a fire.
Do not park in the same block in which there is a fire.
Do not park within 15 feet of the entrance to a fire station.
Do not run out in the street to watch a fire apparatus that has passed; there may be another one following that may run over you.

Others' Opinions

AN EXAMPLE FROM THE VETERANS

Among other signs that Americans of the Second World War intend to take active and effective part in the life of the nation is an unusual report on Colgate University's veteran-crowded English courses in composition and speech.

According to Dr. James A. Storing, director of studies for veterans, this registration has reached all-time highs because the men returned from the armed forces want to learn more about writing and extemporaneous speaking. Dr. Storing explains it by saying that their experience in the service taught these men the importance of clear and convincing expression. And Dr. Storing has carefully studied the enrollment before making his statement, finding that, while veterans form only 60 per cent of the student body, they make up about 85 per cent of the composition and speech classes.

This should be a cue to students everywhere who may not have given much thought to the matter. Regardless of what the vocation is, a ready pen and an ability for bull's-eye hitting in brief extemporaneous speech are always valuable assets.—Asheville Times.

GI INSURANCE

Recently a returned serviceman employed as a clerk in a local grocery store was wantonly murdered by a holdup man. The \$10,000 National Service policy that he had permitted to lapse would have been a godsend to the wife and three children he left behind. This tragic instance of an opportunity forfeited to make suitable provision for dependents emphasizes the importance of acquainting veterans with the advantages derivable from an extension of their policies.

Rules were liberalized a few weeks ago to permit reinstatement of lapsed policies without a physical examination and at very limited cost. So there is still time for repentance. There remains the task of explanation and persuasion. For many veterans do not understand fully the substantial nature of the benefits obtainable under the Government's insurance system. Others, especially young, unmarried men, are indifferent. Like most young people, they lack the imagination to foresee the day when they will want to provide for a family. Yet when that day comes such provision will be a deal more costly than it now is. Moreover, money paid on converted permanent policies issued by the Government constitutes a savings reserve that may be realized later through cancellation of the policy. Or in case of emergency loans may be obtained against the premiums paid in.

Until next January lapsed policies may be reinstated with a minimum amount of trouble. Thereafter physical examinations will be required, with certain exceptions, for veterans recently separated from the service. In the meantime a vigorous educational campaign is needed to insure that no veteran is deprived of the protection afforded by Government insurance policies through ignorance of the benefits he may enjoy.—Washington Post.

WHAT DO TEACHERS DO?

Many people have the notion that teachers have nothing to do but teach—that they have a short working day, from 9 a. m. to 3 p. m. for five days a week, or only 20 days a month, for which they receive the munificent salary of from \$125 to \$175 per month. In addition, these people say that teachers have 10 days or two weeks vacation at Christmas, and other holidays—Thanksgiving, Easter, Labor Day, Armistice Day and Good Friday—including a long summer vacation. It sounds like luxurious life. And perhaps it is to some teachers.

But to the good teacher, the duties of the teacher are more than the routine described. The good teacher must prepare for her classes. Materials must be assembled. Most teachers must study and plan each day's work. Much out-of-class consultation with students must be carried on; out-of-class activities must be planned and supervised. In the high school there are many papers to be examined and corrected. Good teachers should make personal contacts with their students, help them overcome their weak points, and furnish guidance and inspiration to their young minds. Then, too, there is the question of contact with the parents. Such contacts are desirable. And once a month the PTA meets. Then there are staff meetings and committee meetings which are desirable and helpful in the well-organized school.

As for holidays and vacations, it should be known that the teacher receives no pay for this time off. The school term is usually 180 days, exclusive of holidays. Vacations are usually periods when the teacher is unemployed or away at school making an effort to improve her teaching ability. During this period the teacher must live, and the salary she has received during the nine months for which she was paid must be used to pay for this living.

Is the job of teaching an easy one, one that is devoid of work, one for which the teacher receives a handsome salary? Our answer is no, if the teacher is a good teacher. True, teachers are receiving better salaries than they ever have received in recent years. There should at the same time be more good teachers and better teaching. Persons having charge of the employment of teachers should examine very carefully the qualifications of those who apply for teaching positions, and by qualifications we mean more than simply college training.—N. C. Public School Bulletin.

Without a humble imitation of the divine author of our religion, we can never hope to be a happy nation.
—George Washington.

Wait not until you are backed by numbers; the fewer the voices on the side of truth, the more distinct and strong must be your own.—Channing.

Miles To Be Guest Speaker At Smoky Bible Conference

George A. Miles, president of the Washington (D. C.) Bible institute, will be guest speaker at the first Great Smoky Mountains Bible conference, June 9-16, at Bryson City, W. Herbert Brown, director, has announced. All meetings will be held in the Swain county courthouse. Other conferences and speakers for the summer are: July 14-21, William R. Newell, of De Land, Fla.; August 11-18, George A. Field, of Lakeland, Fla.; and Sept. 8-15, James T. Johnson, of Raleigh.

1st Lt. Wilson N. Ledford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Marion R. Ledford, of Prentiss, has arrived in Panama for duty. It has been announced by headquarters of the Sixth Air force, to which he is assigned as assistant depot supply officer.

Lt. Ledford enlisted in the Army Air corps in November, 1941, and received his commission in December 1943. Prior to enlisting, he was a student and general clerk employed by the Civilian Conservation corps.

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Will Hold Regular Meeting

Friday, June 7

at 7:30 p. m.

Upstairs Over Glenn Ray's Store

ALL MEMBERS

And Other Veterans Who Served Overseas
are urged to attend
You will not be obligated to join by attending
this meeting

COME AND DECIDE FOR YOURSELF!

All those who already are members will be
issued their pocket cards at this meeting.

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Memorial Post No. 7339**

of the
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