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Ever notice how the person who talks loudest and longest often has the least to say?

The trouble about proving to a woman she is wrong, you usually end up trying to prove she isn't.

The peoples of other countries were free, too, till they decided to let the experts do their thinking for them.

Then there was the man who thought he knew more about where the yellow line down the middle of the highway ought to be than the fellow who put it there. We said, "was".

So This Is Progress . . .

During World War 2, when we began enlisting women in the service, our armed forces apologized and carefully explained. It was the manpower shortage, it was said; women were needed in order to release able-bodied men from paper work and other behind-the-lines jobs.

That apparently no longer is true, and the time seems to have passed when it is considered necessary either to apologize or to explain, for a Defense department release reports:

"During the early months of 1951 more than 35,000 women were serving on active duty with the army, navy, air force, and marine corps. Current enlistments are increasing and thousands more will be available through the reserve. No longer are women considered as merely a source for releasing men to active duty, for they have become a vital and integral part of our armed forces."

That is an achievement, the tone of the release suggests; something to boast about.

Maybe so.

But we'd have felt better about it if the Defense department had cited just one reason why.

"Save Face" Or Save Lives

Work has been started on a type of road in Macon County which is wasteful and dangerous. In the Testenta section gravel is being spread in preparation for the construction of a 12-foot paved road. This is the first of several such roads said to be planned for this county. Last year a school bus was operated over this road; timber and acid wood trucks travel the road.

Since these vehicles will be required to pull off on the shoulder to pass, the edge of the pavement soon will be broken, creating a dangerous driving situation. To build a 12-foot paved surface in this day of increasing auto and truck traffic is not preparing for the future. Furthermore it is basically unsound to construct hardsurfaced roads on roadbeds which were laid out years ago without improving the alignment. The residents of the Testenta community, or any other community, would be better served by the construction of a 16- or 18-foot gravel road with improved alignment, and could travel it in greater safety.

The people of Macon County do not want 12-foot "black top" roads. This sentiment has been expressed by people from all areas of the county at road meetings which Highway Commissioner L. Dale Thrash said he was holding for the purpose of determining how the people wanted their bond money spent.

Macon County was promised 90 miles of hard surfaced road. Unfortunately the width was not specified. Today we have less than a fourth of this mileage constructed, and the bond money is fast running out.

The people of the Holly Springs community, when they learned that a 12-foot surface was planned through their section, told highway officials they would rather have a 16-foot gravel road which could later be surfaced than a dangerous 12-foot road. Although the highway commission should be able to carry out its promise of the construction of 90 miles of hardsurfaced road in this county, we believe the people of Macon County would endorse the sentiment that, even if it meant

waiting a little, they would rather have their bond money spent on safe, practical roads that are built on sound engineering principles. They are more interested in spending their money wisely and saving the lives of those who travel the roads than "face" for the few public officials.

Can Taxes Be Just?

A bill pending in congress would lower excise taxes on non-automotive commodities, while increasing the excise tax on automobiles by from 7 to 10 per cent, according to W. C. Burrell, local area chairman of the National Automobile Dealers association.

Automobile dealers, of course, are opposing this bill, and urging congress to consider other types of taxation, as well as to eliminate tax loop holes and reduce federal expenditures.

This newspaper does not pretend to possess sufficient information to have an intelligent opinion about this particular bill. But it does seem worth while pointing out certain fairly obvious things about automobile taxes in general.

No. 1. The tax on automobiles already is high. As Mr. Burrell points out, the tax on gas alone makes up a very considerable slice of the retail price.

No. 2. There is a time when the law of diminishing returns sets in—killing the goose that lays the golden eggs just doesn't work out.

No. 3. It is high time taxing authorities recognized that the automobile has ceased to be a plaything of the wealthy; it has become a necessity for most people.

Beneath and beyond all of these considerations, however, are two really dangerous situations as regards taxes.

The first is the ability of those who scream loudest to get taxes reduced. We don't know, of our knowledge, whether this particular tax is a fair one or not; but we'd venture that if the automobile dealers fight it long enough and hard enough, it will not be levied. That, we respectfully suggest, is not the way such things should be decided.

The second and more serious trend is toward levying taxes not on a basis of fairness, but on a basis of "getting the money where the money is". It is the natural and easy trend when vast sums must be raised, but that does not make it a wholesome one.

Our American Civilization

Working harder and harder, to earn more and more, so we can buy more and more "diversion"—that is, be diverted from the necessity of ever having to live with ourselves.

A few Americans enlisting under the banner of free enterprise, when their real aim is by no means the greatest freedom for the greatest number, but the maximum license for the smallest number—the unrestricted right to exploit and waste.

Demanding that we not give an inch in our negotiations with the Reds—that is, that our men in Korea must be ready and willing to fight on. Demanding, in the same breath, that there must be no increase in taxes and no decrease in the production of luxury goods.

Letters

CALIFORNIA TO MACON IN A DAY

Dear Mr. Jones:
I believe that, according to your definition of news, the following constitutes news.

On the morning of August 11 at 1:40 my brother, J. R. Ferguson, left Los Angeles on an American Airliner DC-6. At 4 p. m. they landed at the Knoxville airport. And in spite of rain, a multitude of tourists, etc., we had him home and ready for supper by 8:20. Quite a contrast between that and the covered wagons taking a year to make the 3,000 miles. For that matter, it takes three days and four nights on a train.

By the way, we saw our first helicopter at the Knoxville airport and a bunch of "plain ole country boys" in overalls flying Cubs, Cessnas and the like.

It reminded me somewhat of a large bus terminal to see those big planes of Delta, Capital and American Airlines coming in and taking off every few minutes.

Personally I believe it is a lot safer to fly across country than to drive across Newfound Gap and have to dodge a few thousand tourists. We saw five bears and only one of them was not surrounded by tourists.

Yours very truly,

Franklin, N. C. CHARLES J. FERGUSON
August 13, 1951.

Others' Opinions

GRANDMA KNEW IT

Milk offers a cheap, pain-relieving treatment for A-bomb burns, according to a report to the American Medical Association at Atlantic City. Burns are the greatest single injury re-

OUR DEMOCRACY by Mat

GREEN LIGHT

IN OUR DEMOCRACY THE ROAD IS OPEN FOR INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE AND ENTERPRISE TO DRIVE ON TOWARD THEIR CHOSEN GOALS.

THE HIGHWAYS TO YOUR HOPES AND DREAMS OF STILL GREATER OPPORTUNITY AND FINANCIAL SECURITY ARE BECKONING AND THE GREEN LIGHT OF DEMOCRACY SIGNALS "GO."

sulting from an A-bomb, as in Japan 60 to 85 per cent of victims suffered flash burns from the bomb explosion and fires set in its wake. Grandma knew the value and the efficacy of milk, and cream skimmed off milk, as a healing and curative agent for burns. Now the medical profession, by research and discovery, is confirming what she knew a long time ago.

—Laurinburg Exchange.

GOOD NEWS FOR BISCUIT-EATERS

There should be, and I understand there is, plenty of sourwood honey this year. The sourwood blossoms are out in full force this summer, especially in the mountains, furnishing plenty of sweet material with which the bees can store their warehouses. They have already been at work and freshly-made sourwood honey is now being "harvested". During the past week I have had two "frames" of it as gifts, and there are few, if any, sweets that I enjoy more. There is nothing better to eat than hot biscuits, buttered, and honey. "They say" that honey is not fattening, but the catch there is that the waffles, hot cakes, toast, pie, etc., for which it is the perfect accompaniment, are "nothing else but".—Miss Beatrice Cobb in Morganton News-Herald.

JOB FOR THE HANDICAPPED

President Truman's appeal for the employment of physically handicapped persons is eminently fitting. The occasion was the fall session of the Committee on National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week, when the President bestowed a trophy upon a Chicago employer, himself handicapped, who employs sixty persons in similar condition.

Noting that the public employment services found a hundred thousand more jobs for these unfortunates last year than in the year before, Mr. Truman urged that "all our handicapped citizens" be put to work in defense plants.

There are good reasons why this should be done. Cripples and blind persons, as well as the deaf and dumb, performed exacting tasks in industry during World War II with rare skill, and so helped overcome the manpower shortage and increased production. This, in itself, is one sound reason for an intensive campaign with the object of providing jobs for everybody unable to hunt jobs for themselves.

But an even better reason, probably the best of all, is that these people who otherwise would be a charge upon their families or the state and whose morale is shattered by continuous idleness, acquire a sense of independence which leads to new incentives and creates real happiness.

—Wilmington Morning Star.

1833 WAS THE END

Then some one spoke of the man who resigned from his job in the patent office in Washington, D. C. in 1833—not 1933, mind you, but 1833. His letter is still in existence, I have been told. It is an interesting document, touched with pathos. He has found the work congenial, he said; he was sorry to leave it. But his conscience would not allow him to continue to draw pay under false pretense. There was no more need for a job like his, he said; every possible invention had been conceived and patented; there was nothing left to invent, therefore no need for a patent office; hence no further need for his job.

That was in 1833 mind you, and nothing left to invent. Before railroads had come; before electricity was used for lighting streets and moving street cars. The telephone had not been invented then, nor the wireless nor the steam shovel, nor the dynamo. Without looking it up I would say that the threshing machine had not come into use, nor the reaper and the binder, though I may be wrong about that. But radio, radar, motion pictures, television—they are crowding in upon us so fast it is a brave man who will say what cannot be done.

Yet here was a man in 1833 who thought everything had been invented, and he must have been honest in his belief or he would not have given up his job.—John Bragaw in Washington (N. C.) News.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
The horses attached to the mail hack gave out about six miles out from Franklin last evening and had to telephone to Franklin for fresh horses, thus delaying the mail till very late into the night.

A young lady dropped into one of our stores recently, relates and exchange, and said: "It is my desire to obtain a pair of circular elastic appendages, capable of being contracted and expanded by means of oscillating burnished steel appliances that sparkle like particles of gold leaf set with Alaska diamonds, and which are utilized for keeping in position the habiliments of the lower extremities which innate delicacy forbids me to mention." The young man behind the counter had just time to haul out a pair of garters before he fainted.

25 YEARS AGO

The Camp Fire Girls, accompanied by Miss Hattie Brendle and Mrs. B. S. Reavis, spent Tuesday and Wednesday on a camping trip on Wayah Bald.

A 19 and one half pound catfish was landed at Burningtown recently by Carl Huggins. Stephen Duvall caught its mate a few days later, the second catch tipping the scales at 20 pounds.

J. J. Wilder, of Waycross, Ga., one of the leading bee keepers of the South, will be here next Wednesday where he will address the Macon Beekeepers Association and other beekeepers at the noon hour at the courthouse.

10 YEARS AGO

Grand Jury Recommends Voting On Courthouse Bonds. (headline).

The Highlands Community Theatre will close this season with a production of "Escape Me Never" on Wednesday.

Emmas Lou Hurst, Macon county 4-H winner of the state title of queen of health, made a brief talk on the Farm and Home tour program last week.

Name Saturday Wac-Waf Day; Will Discuss Army Career With Young Women

Saturday has been set aside as "WAC-WAF Day" in Macon County and women between the ages of 18 and 34 are invited to talk over enlistment in either branch of the service with recruiting sergeants from both branches.

According to the local army and air force recruiter, Cpl. Clay Hensley, a sergeant from the women's army corps and one from the women's air force will be on the town square at 3 o'clock that afternoon to discuss opportunities being offered young women interested in a career in the army.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NOTICE OF SUMMONS

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY
LEAH JOSEPHINE REEVES
vs.
BILL C. REEVES

The defendant, Bill C. Reeves, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County for the purpose of securing an absolute divorce for the plaintiff, Leah Josephine Reeves.

Said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, at the courthouse in Franklin on the 26th day of September, 1951 and answer or demur to the complaint, in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 7th day of August, 1951.
KATE MCGEE,
Clerk Superior Court.
A9-4tc-A30

ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix, de bonis non, of H. Grady Duvall, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 27 day of July, 1952 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 27 day of July, 1951.
DONNIE DUVALL,
Administratrix, d.b.n.
A26-6tp-86