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THE NEWS-RECORD

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SUNDAY SCHOOL A MIGHTY FORCE

Mr. William T. Ellis Gives Interesting Estimate Of Literature

William T. Ellis, a widely travelled and informed man, in writing about the Sunday schools for this year of 1930 gives some startling facts. We quote:

"There's a world outside the one you know," wrote Kipling. Many men who count themselves well informed have no understanding of the real character of the Sunday school, or of its size. As we begin, this week, a six-months' course of studies in the Gospel of Matthew it is well to remind ourselves of the magnitude of this group. In North America alone there are twenty million members of the Sunday school, the great bulk of them following, week by week, the International Uniform Lessons, which are compiled by a distinguished group of scholars, who prepare a six-years' cycle of Lessons covering the whole Bible.

All denominations and all regions make use of these Uniform Lessons. Practically the entire religious press, and thousands of secular newspapers, publish weekly discussions of them. In addition, there is a special class of Sunday school literature, issued weekly, monthly, quarterly and annually by the denominations and by independent publishers, devoted exclusively to these Uniform Lessons and to the work of the Sunday school.

Talk Claim For Pious Papers
It would make a session of the Authors' League sit up in surprise to be told that the largest combined periodical circulation in the world is this Sunday school literature. Put together all the famous magazines and their united circulation would not approach that of the aggregated Sunday school papers. Here is an unknown literary world, of which no mention is ever made in the reviews devoted to publishing interests.

Nor is that all. This Sunday school literature is aimed at the creation of character. Next to the home, the Sunday school does more to shape the ideals of the nation than any other agency, except the Church, of which it is a part.

Yet more. While most published articles are limited in influence to their direct readers, Sunday school lessons are taught to classes of young and old, and debated and discussed every week in a way that extends their influence incredibly.

There are more adults in Bible classes than in any other organized group of men. Whoever would be aware of the forces that determine the decisions of our times must reckon with the Sunday schools, and with the Uniform Lesson. For these put motivating ideas into the heads of thinking persons.

ATTEMPT TO FORCE WAY INTO HOME

Feeling in Marshall ran high Thursday while officers and citizens sought the two men alleged to have sought to force their way into the home of Manuel Sexton, a railroad employe, who lives on the Asheville-Marshall highway, near here. The men, who gave the names of A. J. Brown, of Birmingham, Ala., and L. L. Meadows, of Meadow Creek, W. Va., were arrested and jailed about 3:30 o'clock Thursday morning.

N. B. McDevitt, Jr., and his brother, J. W. McDevitt, of Marshall, returning to Marshall from Asheville about 1:30 o'clock Thursday morning, were flagged by Sexton, who, with his wife and children, was standing beside the highway.

They told how men had come to their home, and demanded admission. When it was refused, Sexton said the men forced him and attempted to break open the door, but were apparently frightened away by passing motorists.

The McDevitt brothers went to Marshall for officers, and meanwhile, the Sexton family, frightened, went to the nearby home of Frank Davis. A party of officers and citizens returned from Marshall, and after a search discovered the two men near the Sexton home, but said all they had was something to eat.

The preliminary hearing for these men is to be held at 10 o'clock

THE PUBLISHER'S COLUMN ABOUT VARIOUS MATTERS

ELECTIONS COME TOO OFTEN

THE News-Record is in favor of changing the law relative to elections so that they will be every five years instead of every two years. Hardly can one get over the effects of one election before another is on. Instead of being for the good of the people, they usually result in a disturbance of the peace and prosperity of the country, in creating ill feeling, one party or faction against another. Besides the expense of holding elections is enormous, to say nothing of the time lost from one's business in canvassing, electioneering either for one's self or for a friend. And all for what? Officers elected should hold office at least five years anyway in order to become thoroughly familiar with the duties and to become efficient. Some provision should be made so as to put a man out who was found to be incompetent or unworthy. Another advantage of the longer term would be that men would could to some extent diversify their subjects of conversation. As it is now, the weather and politics are the chief subjects for discussion among men. It were better if they discussed better methods of farming or merchandising or blacksmithing or home improvements, or almost anything; for they cannot by any amount of discussion change or foreknow the weather, or improve political matters by discussing them oftener than once in five years. Let's put the miserable, pesky, unpleasant, peace-disturbing seasons of unrest farther apart, and have more time between for constructive work and thought. This should be one plank in the platform of those who offer for the legislature regardless of what party or faction they belong to. If not, why not?

THE NEW YEAR

SO much is said about wishing people a merry Christmas and Happy New Year that such sayings, whether written, phoned, spoken, printed, or radioed, have become so trite as to be almost meaningless. For this reason, it is especially difficult to put across such a message in a way that will be impressive. But we would wish for our readers that 1930 may be just what they would like to have it. If the News-Record has had any part in your pleasure or pastime or information in the years gone by, may it have a still greater part in the new year. A paper is to some extent, at least, what its readers make it; for without them it could not exist. And the publisher of a paper likes to give its readers what they like to read. He cannot please all—no one can—but the publisher is human enough to appreciate not only the price, but an expression of approval as well. A man may subscribe and pay for the paper from a sense of duty and not read it, but the subscriber who pays and also comments on what appears in the paper is its real supporter. His comments may be favorable or otherwise, if his tone is friendly and his criticism just and constructive, his support is worth while. May 1930 bring you showers of blessings.

TOBACCO WAREHOUSE FAVORED

REPLIES to letters sent tobacco buyers indicate that the matter of marketing tobacco in Marshall is quite feasible. No doubt buyers will come to Marshall and pay good prices for tobacco just the same as they would go to Morristown or Greeneville or Johnson City. Madison County tobacco has a good reputation. The tobacco warehouse is what Marshall needs to stimulate business in all lines. Let's get together on this proposition and not stop till we have just such a warehouse as is needed.

NEW PAPER FOR MARSHALL

MR. T. H. Campbell, who has published papers in various towns in east Tennessee, is moving a plant here from Lenoir City, Tenn., and proposes to print a paper called the Madison County Times. In severing his connection with the Monroe County Times at Sweetwater, Tenn., he says:

NOT GOODBYE

In turning over The Times to Mr. McDaniel we do not say goodbye to our many readers. It is simply adieu. We are going to Marshall, N. C., and will be engaged in the newspaper and real estate business. After publishing The Times almost six months we realize it will be hard for two families to live from the proceeds and at the same time meet other obligations, hence we relinquish our claims to Mr. McDaniel.

We believe the future for East Tennessee and Western North Carolina is brighter than any other spot in the Nation. Western North Carolina is destined to be the summer playground of the world, while East Tennessee is on somewhat firmer footing. East Tennessee furnishes not only a satisfying playground, but can supply the necessities of life. We had an offer to go to West Tennessee and locate in the most diversified crop country in the world. The offer carried a handsome salary, but we had not taken orders from another man in twenty-five years, so when the opportunity came to locate at Marshall, one of the best little towns in North Carolina, we accepted.

The first issue of the Madison County Times will appear early in the new year. It will be Democratic in politics, but will not be hide-bound. Its religion will be Christian, with wide open columns to all churches, and its editor will wear the collar of no man or group of men.

We deeply thank all who have helped us make The Times a good little newspaper. We bespeak a continuance of patronage and good feeling for Cecil McDaniel.

T. H. CAMPBELL

The News-Record purchased by the present publisher in the fall of 1924, announced in its first issue that it would be non-partisan in politics, trying to be as fair as possible to all parties and avowed. During the more than five years the present management has tried to maintain that position and attitude, despite the difficulties of such a position during a heated political campaign. It is the purpose of the News-Record to maintain its original attitude during the campaign this year.

County Government And Administration In North Carolina

This is the title of a book by Paul Wager, which is published by the University of North Carolina, and donated to the county by the University in the hope that every official and interested citizen will read it. It discusses every phase of county government—taxes, indebtedness, highways, bonds, public welfare, schools, courts, etc. The author pleads for better methods in handling the people's money and efficient administration of the affairs of the county, and he points out ways of improvement. Bonded indebtedness of counties is three times as large as it was a few years ago, he points out, and slack financial methods are responsible for much loss and added burdens upon the people. Not many counties have officials who are dishonest, and yet there are leakages in various ways that amount to large sums in the aggregate: friends of officials are given contracts at better wages than they can get elsewhere; officials themselves are sometimes easily won by slight gifts or percents of contracts which are given to agents; officials trade indirectly with themselves, or secure certain benefits to themselves by the location of roads or otherwise; and sorry work on buildings, roads, etc., is accepted.

Poor methods of listing property and poorer methods of collecting are sources of serious loss. There are those who worry the life out of county officials by their claims for release, for help for their friends, for favors which they know cannot be granted to all. There is a disposition in some parts of the county to cooperate with the officials in economical management of affairs; just the opposite in other sections. For instance, it costs twice as much to get a schoolhouse covered in some districts than in others, though the houses are the same size and the material used the same; far more to run a bus in some communities than in others though conditions are similar.

NOTICE TO DELINQUENT TAXPAYERS

I take it, by this time, that persons whose lands were sold for the non-payment of taxes, and where the taxes have not been settled, are aware of the fact, either by personal service of summons and copies of complaint or by publication of the notice of summons in the News-Record, that suit is now pending in the Superior Court to foreclose the Tax Sale Certificates issued by the Tax Collector for such delinquent taxes. This has entailed cost in such cases. All such cases are now in court and are ready for judgment to be taken. I have settled a great many of these cases within the last two or three months, where parties have come in. Where it has been shown by the proper proof that there was error, the errors have been corrected, and if it was a double-listing or the taxes had been paid and the land had been sold by mistake, non-suit in such cases has been taken. Where it has been found that the land was properly sold and the taxes due and parties have come in and settled up, they have received the Tax Sale Certificate, judgment has been entered, and such cases finally disposed of. There are still a large number of cases pending and unsettled. Defendants in such cases may save a large amount of cost by coming in within the next week or two and settling up cases pending against them. If the cases are not settled, judgment will be taken, a commissioner appointed to sell the land, the cost of another advertisement will be entailed, notifying all persons who may have any interest in the land, either of record or not of record, to make their claims known, and in the end the cost of advertising the land to sell, the commissioner's cost, and other fees. I am compelled to proceed according to the law, or be responsible myself. If you are hit hard by your own negligence, you will only have yourself to blame. You had better come in at once and avoid the additional cost. This does not apply to land sold 1929 for 1928 tax.

JOHN A. WENDRICK

And those who get the rakeoff or gouge the public talk loudest about high taxes and corrupt officials.

This volume—COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION—is being placed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, and can be had by any official or citizen of the county who will return the same promptly.

R. L. MOORE.

FUNERAL HELD FOR

J. H. CARTER

Funeral services for J. H. Carter, 55, who died at his home in Craggy Sunday night shortly after 7 o'clock, were held at the Riverview church Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. Everett Sprinkle and the Rev. R. W. Justice will officiate and burial will be in the church cemetery.

Palbearers were Winifred Gosnell, Lotus Gosnell, Wellman Gosnell, Donald Gosnell, Frank Gosnell, and Ralph West, nephews of the deceased, who had been a resident of the Craggy section for the past 21 years. He was an active member of the Baptist church, having become a member 42 years ago, and had been a Mason for 22 years.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. J. H. Carter; two sons, Guy G. Carter, of Asheville, and Ralph E. Carter, of Craggy; four daughters, the Misses Mure, Ada, Ethel, and Fuchsia Carter; all of Craggy; and nine grandchildren.

DROPS DEAD AT WORK

GARRETT RAMSEY VICTIM OF
HEART FAILURE THURSDAY
MORNING

Friends and relatives were shocked Thursday morning to learn of the sudden death of Mr. W. G. Ramsey of near Marshall. Apparently in the best of health, he had gone down below his house to cut a pole, when suddenly an unusual sound attracted the attention of his people. Arriving at his side, they soon found that he was gasping his last, his sudden going being attributed to heart failure. His death was about eight o'clock A. M., Jan. 2, 1930, age about 65. Mr. Ramsey was well known in Marshall. He is survived by his wife and two brothers, Ex-Sheriff R. S. Ramsey and Mr. T. N. Ramsey, both of Marshall, and two sisters, Mrs. R. P. Penland, and Mrs. W. E. Snelson, both of Marshall R. F. D. No. 1. He leaves five sons as follows:

Troy Ramsey, of Asheville;
Jeter Ramsey, at home;
Cecil Ramsey, of Detroit, Mich.;
Roland Ramsey of Waterville, N. C.
Sherman Ramsey, of Asheville.
Mr. Ramsey was a prominent and successful farmer and a member of Turkey Creek Baptist church. At the time we go to press, funeral arrangements have not been made.

CHANGED SO ALL CAN WIN

Three Months Free for Every Dollar Paid on
Subscription to News-Record

Instead of giving prizes as outlined in last week's paper, the News-Record is changing its proposition so as to enable all its subscribers to SAVE MONEY. Our new proposition is as follows:

For every dollar brought or sent by mail to the News-Record office in the month of January, 1930, we are going to give an extra three months subscription to this paper. This is done in order to encourage our subscribers to renew their subscriptions now while they have the money. If you already owe a dollar, pay it in January and get three months free. If you owe \$2.00, pay it and get six months free, and so on. If your subscription has not yet expired, renew now and get the three months extension for every dollar paid. It makes no difference whether you are in arrears or paid in advance, you can get the extra extension by paying now. Don't wait. If you have the money send it at once while you can get the extra extension. If you do not have it, better arrange to get it in this month. Quite a number of subscriptions expire the first of January. A dollar now gives you this paper nine months, or two dollars gives it to you 18 months.

Quite a number of people have renewed since our last issue came out, and we are going to let all of them have the benefit of this offer. Send in your renewals and watch the date line under your name and see that you are given proper credit within two weeks after you pay.

FOR INSTANCE,

Mrs. Lizzie Cargile, Mars Hill, N. C., Rfd. No. 1, sends \$4.00 renewing from May 1, 1929, to May 1, 1931, and her free extension will date her paid to May 1, 1932.

H. D. Rice, Weaverville, sends \$2.00 renewing from Aug. 1, 1929 to Aug. 1, 1930, and his free extension will date him to Feb. 1, 1931.

R. H. Thorpe, Marshall, R. F. D. 4, pays a dollar from Dec. 1, 1929 to June 1, 1930, and his extension will date him to Sept. 1, 1930. By paying another dollar in January, he can have his date line reading June 1, 1931.

Others who have renewed since our last issue are:

Champ Ray, Revere, N. C.,
Zeb Davis, Big Pine, N. C.,
Mrs. J. M. Davis, Big Pine, N. C.,
J. C. Sanders, Hot Springs, N. C.,
and others.

Some have sent 50c, which does not entitle them to free extension unless they take advantage of this offer and send some more within the time limit.