The News - Record

NON-PARTISAN IN POLITICS

Scoond-class mail privileges authorized at Marshall, N. C.

H. L. STORY, Owner and Publisher J. I. STORY, Managing Editor

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EDITORIAL

ARE YOU ACTIVE OR PASSIVE?

Below is reprinted a message from Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc., members of the New York Stock Exchange, which was loaned us by a Marshall businessman. The message is so important that we are using it as an editorial:

WE TAKE OUR TEXT FROM NIKITA KRUSCHEV

"A Communist," he said in his report to the Central Committee on February 14, 1956, "has no right to be a mere onlooker."

The free world may deplore the methods used in the U.S.S.R. to insure the participation of its citizens in the plans of the Kremlin. But no one can deny that Kruschev, after all, has put his finger on one of the strengths of dictatorship - and one of the weaknesses of democracy.

In our democratic society, you have the freedom of choice to be either active or passive, a doer or an onlooker, as you please. You may choose simply to stand and watch the world go by. That is your privilege, and no one can penalize you.

But if there is no law compelling you to be active, no dictator telling you that you must take your place in the ranks — and sending you to Siberia if you don't — is there not at least an implied moral obligation to be a participant rather than simply a spectator — a moral obligation with a force far greater than a dictator's rule? By definition, democracy is the rule of the people, and there is no rule when the people shirk their responsibilities.

Remember the sense of common purpose that we all shared in World War II, whether we were fight-ing or doing defense work or helping the Red Cross or planting a victory garden? In wartime, most of us accept the necessity for action—and act. But when the necessity grows less urgent, we tend to forget how stimulating it is to be active in a worthwhile cause, how satisfying the resulting sense of fulfill-ment. Instead, we fall back into the old habit of letting George do it.

Occasionally, a Presidential election stirs us out of our spathy, and we work for the party and the candidates we favor—or at least take the trouble to vote. But after it's over, too many of us slip back in-to the complacent role of the onlooker.

There are many Americans who regard citizenship as a sinecure, reluctantly paying taxes but making no attempt to influence what is happening in the government and the community.

Others are too fastidious or too phlegmatic to e-

The Gudger Building on Main Street in Marshall, one of the town's oldest landmarks, has been razed and it is expected that a parking lot will soon take its place. The two-story building, built over 100 years ago, was formerly the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Will Gudger, parents of Mr. Roy Gudger, of Marshall. In recent years part of the building has been used for a business office and part as a residence.

Laadmonth I

ATTEND SOIL CONSERVATION MEET SATURDAY

Fifteen county citizens astend ed the Conservation Rally held Friday, December 22. last Saturday night in Waynesville. Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr., was introduced by Congressman do. Roy A. Taylor.

Those attending the stally from this county were:

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Baucom, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Teague, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Silver, Mr. and Mrs. Zeno Ponder, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Roberts, Mrs. James Story, all of Marshall; Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Edwards and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Anderson of Miars Hill. Mr. Baucom is Soil Conservationist of Madison County and Mr.

Ponder is county supervisor. Presbyterians Will

been called for Sunday morning Dec. 17, to determine possible participation in the Madison County Larger Parish.

A nominating committee for Church and Sunday School Officers will be elected.

Give

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To Mr. and Mrs. John M. Rec tor, of Brevard, a son, Midhael John, December 10, 1961 in Tramsylvania Community Hospital, in Brevard. Mr. Rector is the son

Don't Forget-

Carol Singing

"Trudy Tucker"

of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rector, Inrshall.

A Congregational Meeting has been called for Sunday morning

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fleet Reeves, of Walnut.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ray Norton, Rit. 1, Marshall, m daughter, December 13.

To Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Evans

Rt. 1, Walmut, a son, Dec. 12.

Thunman, Mars Hill, a daughter,

Mars HIN, N. C Dec. 12, 1961 PLANE LANDS Mr. Story shall, N. C. Dear Mr. Story: I know that you are for at its for the at of Madison County. would like for you to print this in your paper. WHY JOIN THE GRANGE?

The Grange furnishes a whole some "group power wehicle" to rural people. This is an age when posts. He was unhurt. it is more difficult to bring the .

family unit close together in community sactivities. The Grange provides this opportunity. Today's complexities require good citizenship. The Grange develops understanding, opinions, programs

and progress. This is the time when there is an increasing need for rededica-tion and united support for the

principles of individual integrity and fair dealing among men at home and throughout the world.

The Grange offers you an opportunity to use your abilities as a part of the united effort to expand freedom at home and abroad to speed progress and to enlarge the horizon for service and abundant living of the American family - A Fuller Rumai Way of Citizens of this area are again Life where you are.

seminded of the "Trudy Tucker" The Grange provides a forum Carol Sing which will be held on for self-expression and discussion of issue - local, state, national,

If you don't know what "Taudy and international - and the me-Tucker" means, be sure to read chanism to implement the deciwas the principal speaker. He next week's issue which explains sions reached. It meets regularly what the Girl Scouts are going to and is monsectarian and nonpar-

tisan. The Grange brings members valuable low-cost insurance service.

Thank you very much. Yours truly,

CLYDE L. ENGLISH P.S. If anyone wants to organize Grange in their community they may get in touch with me or by writing Mr. Robert Scott, Haw River, N. C., who is Master of N. C. State Grange.

Give the other fellow a boostit's always a hitch ahead for you.



With The Sick

tient for several days.

4

The Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Marshall Methodist Church is sponsoring a program of Christmas music each Sunday morning this month at the church. David and Diana McElroy will play or-Mr. W. Frank Frisby has re- o'clock. Visitors are invited to tunned to his home from St. Jo-seph's Hospital where he was a ing these Sunday morning programs.

December Sp	pecials
Monday — Tuesday —	- Thursday
\$35.00 COLD WAVE	\$15.00
\$25.00 COLD WAVE	\$12.50
\$20.00 COLD WAVE \$15.00 COLD WAVE	\$10.00 \$7.50





of

The NEWS-RECORD At St. Joseph's-To Mr. and Mrs. James M.

GIVE FLOWERS

For Christmas

spouse a cause and work for it. Still others fear involvement and prefer to stay on the surface of things, shunning commitment but reserving the right to criticize. They are living phantom lives, wasting both the unique opportunities for action afforded by our democracy and their own potentialities as human beings.

They willingly pay lip service to the two prin-ciples of conduct that motivated our founding fathers-do your part and do your best-forgetting that operative world in each case is do. Intention, resolution, decision, determination-these are not enough. No one will take the thought for the deed. There is credit-and very little satisfaction-in standing on the sidelines. Participation is what counts-participation in the service of whatever cause is closest to your heart, whatever purpose appeals most strongly to your intelligence.

Work to improve your local school or library or hospital. Collect to help conquer the diseases that now conquer men. Teach English to newcomers, read to the blind, join a church project. Run for public office — or work for someone else who is running. Further a cause you believe in by organizing a group to support it — or at least by taking pen in hand. As Ecclesiates put it: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might." Work to improve your local school or library or

We citizens of this democracy cannot allow our-elves simply to stand by in a world where no Com-munist has the right to be a mere onlooker. We must estir ourselves, accept both the responsibility and o opportunity for service to community and coun-y, find our respective causes and serve them with

As Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., said back in

a life is action and passion, it is required of a a that he should share the passion and action his time, at the peril of being judged not to

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TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR

attle, Wash - An adv

WE HAVE All types of arrangements including CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL WREATHS POTTED PLANTS and FRESH FLOWERS Fresh Balsam wreaths of various sizes and prices Little sprays, various sizes and prices Artificial Flower Arrangements Make An Ideal Christmas Gift We Also Have Other Gift Items Such As Jases — Souvenirs What-Nots, Etc.

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