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W. CURTIS RUSS Editor
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 19, 1937

SAFETY PARADE

Having never witnessed a Safety Parade, such as the one scheduled to be held here Saturday afternoon, we are unable to say to what extent it will promote the cause of safety. However, similar events have been held in other towns, and the promotion has received the endorsement of city officials where they have been held. Suffice it to say that the parade will be worth seeing, and if it offers a lesson in safety that will impress itself upon the spectators, it will likewise be a worthwhile event.

Long ago safety engineers came to the conclusion that safety is a matter of personal behavior. If 11 men practice all the rules of safety, and the twelfth man observes none of the rules, the safety record of these dozen men will not look so good in statistics.

Since the problem of making the country a safe place, especially along its highways, is one which can be solved only by educational methods, we see no reason why a well-planned Safety Parade should not produce some worthwhile results.

IT SEEMS LIKE A WASTE

Among the scores of pieces of mail sent almost daily to The Mountaineer under government mailing privileges, there came one last week from Congressman Harold Knutson, of Minnesota. It was a 12-page reprint of the Congressional Record, containing a recent speech he made on the floor of the House, in which he told how 7,000 railroad cars of free mail had cost the taxpayers \$217,000,000 in the past 4 years.

It seems rather odd that he should see fit to send his speech, we presume to all of the 17,000 newspapers in the country in a postage-free envelope, at the expense of the government, thus adding to the cost.

In his speech, which consumed 12 pages in the Congressional Record, at a cost of \$55 a page to the taxpayers—\$660 to be exact—he told, that in three years the traveling expenses of different government agencies amounted to \$206,000,000. This amount is far more than it cost to send the American expeditionary forces to France, according to the Republican Congressman from Minnesota.

He told of groups being sent to every part of the globe to study weather conditions, and went on to state that the government was having to pay a \$46 travel expense for each loan made under the Farm Credit Administration.

All the figures presented by the Minnesota Congressman are from the official budget for the past year and are correct, which leads us to believe that even with all government "red tape" there seems to the taxpayers, to be many needless expenses made in carrying on the work of the government.

OLD AGE SCHEMES

Now that the first Old Age Assistance checks under the Social Security have been mailed out in Haywood, there will be many people ready to fall for any scheme which promises them a place in line for these checks.

To be sure, there are already schemers at work trying to "sell their ideas" to those almost eligible for the assistance checks, and there will be many unsuspecting persons who will "sign up" for such plans.

A word of warning issued at this time, if heeded, will save many a headache later. If you or your friends feel that you are entitled to the Old Age Assistance, go direct to those in charge and explain your case, instead of paying out good money on one of the many schemes that are bound to be created.

COMPLETING THE ARMORY

The completion of the Armory here will mean more than the average person would think. It will be more than just a modern home for Company "H".

It will soon become the indoor recreational center of the community.

At present there is no place suitable to hold convention meetings as Waynesville has had the privilege of acting as hosts to during the past few years. With an auditorium that can seat 750 people, the Armory will probably become the meeting place of most Waynesville conventions.

The main auditorium is larger than any dance floor in the community, and the large stage, and adequate dressing rooms, will enable sponsoring groups to give entertainments there.

The auditorium can easily be converted into basketball or indoor baseball courts for those who cannot find time to get exercise properly in the day time.

It is the nearest thing that we can hope for in many years, to compare with a Y. M. C. A. Building.

As we have said before, we are fortunate in having a group of citizens and officials that have the foresight to get for the community a building of this type. The total cost to the county and city will be less than \$5,000 each, yet the building will cost over \$38,000. That alone, is a good investment.

MAYBE THIS EXPLAINS IT

One day last week, news came from California that a seven-year-old boy had been ordained into the ministry, and was at that time conducting a revival meeting.

The next day, Roger W. Babson, the noted statistician, came forth in a syndicated article, pointing out that churches are losing ground.

The noted gatherer of facts and figures, further pointed out, that Protestant membership figures given out through church publications were incorrect; and that the young people look upon church-gowers as hypocrites.

We feel that it is fitting that the news story from California and Mr. Babson's report should come in the same week.

It is questionably, in our mind, whether a boy seven-years-old is capable of preaching. He might be able to repeat words put into his mouth by others, but as far as preaching something original and convincing, we are still doubtful of it being done.

Sometimes effective church work is overlooked in an attempt to get "numbers" by sensational methods.

IRON DUFF FARMERS

The farmers of Iron Duff can always be counted on to take the lead in any undertaking that may come up in agricultural developments.

As far as we know, they are the first Haywood group to stage a farm tour within their township.

The very nature of the program, which showed they were interested in seeing a wide variety of actual projects underway, indicates that they are using modern farming methods.

Taking the township as a whole, it would be hard to find a more progressive or prosperous group in the county, and perhaps in all of this mountain region.

BLACKBERRY CROP PROFITABLE

Once again, the lowly blackberry comes into its own in Haywood, with a price of over \$5,000 being paid for some 80 tones of them by the cannery.

As we have said before, the money paid for blackberries is that much clear profit, as no investment, other than a little time, is required to get three cents a pound.

The \$5,000 in cash paid for the berries this year, will find its way into many hands that can well use it.

Enterprises of this nature are worth far more to a community that we often realize.

Scientists report that the sun is losing its incandescent gases at the rate of 255 million tons a year. Yeah? Well that ain't as fast as some politicians we know.

Congressmen are croaking about having to work during the summer heat—and newspapers feature pictures of sweating officials, all of which reminds us to ask, "and when did Congressmen get too good to work in the heat?" They certainly keep many of us in a sweat while they are in session.

The steering wheel now seems to consti-
The steering wheel now seems to consti-

An animal trainer comes forth with the advice, that "Lions are harmless as long as their mouths are kept closed." Aren't we all?

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. CURTIS RUSS

As far as I can find out, most people spend their recreational moments in much the same way as their work. Perhaps that is a crude way to express it, and actual examples can better explain my point.

Take for instance, Marion Holcombe, superintendent of the Haywood County Mutual Cannery, at Hazelwood. I learned from him that even on days when he works 12 hours and longer supervising the canning of tons of blackberries, that he goes home and enjoys a piece of blackberry pie better than anything else that could be set before him.

I've really forgotten the answer he gave me when I asked about "washing down the pie" with blackberry wine.

Now take Frank Martin, for another example. Works with "sick" radios all day, and yet before he gets up in the mornings he turns on his set—eats by one, and sometimes goes to sleep with one on.

It would seem that he would get enough of it in the shop working on them, and listening intently while tuning them up, but evidently not.

The person in authority at my house (the older one, this time) fails to understand why I enjoy reading newspapers after working all day gathering news.

I find that I can relax better reading than at anything else. I usually read newspapers between the lines, using my imagination trying to figure out how much trouble the reporters had to go to in getting certain type news.

All of this just proves that Uncle Abe hits the nail square on the head when he says "This is a queer world."

Some summer folks were telling R. E. O'Farrell the other day they were leaving because there was no life here—while thirty minutes later I heard a couple complaining about "too much doing."

—there you are. . .

It would never do to conclude this "queer" column without mentioning the incident which happened in the office this week. Uncle Abe had gold a summer woman visitor a paper, and they were both admiring the view from the office and the court house grounds.

They must have talked for five minutes, when the visitor said: "And who planted all those trees?"

Uncle Abe thought she meant the trees on the court house lawn, so he promptly replied: "Why, some landscape gardener, I don't recall his name right now."

Then the visitor took Uncle Abe off his feet, by saying: "Oh, no, surely not. Why God planted the trees on that mountain."

At that point Uncle Abe learned that she referred to Junaluska Mountain and not the court house lawn, but he was so taken down that he almost swallowed a two-inch cigar butt, and went into one of his deep coughing spells, and the visitor was sure he had some awful disease, and quickly departed without getting a full and complete explanation of the planting.

A Hollywood dance director says that the girls with long knees are the ones who will make affectionate and constant wives. That's something for the young men to think about when they visit the bathing beaches.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

To you who think there is nothing new under the sun—have you ever attended a nudist convention?

Well, the wages of sin are holding up so well that the devil hasn't yet staged a sit-down strike.

A high-speed camera reveals that it takes only one-fortieth of a second to wink the eye. Which makes this the quickest way known to get into trouble.

A certain high officer in the army attributes his 90-year span of life to the fact that he has always worn suspenders. It is a bit astounding how they hold a man together.

An Iowa man has traced 35,000 living relatives, but we don't see much use in tracing relatives. It's mighty hard to borrow money from them. They know you too well.

When you can't find a place to park, think of Noah before swearing. It took him 40 days.

You can say this much for relief: It has enabled quite a number of people to own automobiles who never might have owned them otherwise.

No government treasury is stronger than the taxpayer's back.

The fellow who called it the "Pacific" Ocean must also have invented the term "peaceful" picketing.

Garlic, we learn, can kill disease germs. If its all the same to everybody, we'll hang on to the germs.

Reports from Russia are in the effect that the soviet firing squads are now working in eight-hour shifts.

Pilots of plans who are reckless and stunt lose their licenses, a practice which should be more common with violation of the highway safety.

Regardless of road laws, the driver who is always careful and considerate of the rights of others, who takes no chances, who keeps his eyes upon the road and his mind upon the job of

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HEADLINES of The PAST

(From the files of August 22, 1937)
 Guy Massie in big drive on battle front.
 Government orders discontinue of newspapers to all subscribers in advance.
 Letters from our boys in the...
 New organ in Grace church dedicated.
 Local flour mill closed for feed regulations. Must stay in the Red Cross.
 A poem, "Keep Smiling, Bush," by Jesse Daniel Bush.

(From the files of August 21, 1937)
 Plans are being made to hold a fair here in October.
 Many "foreign cars" in Waynesville.
 Haywood man \$5,000 in school.
 City officials are forced to increase tax rate 10 cents for coming year.
 W. B. Ferguson sees great future for county and W. N. C. Park Development meeting held.

(From the files of August 20, 1937)
 125 make tour of Haywood farms.
 City signs ten year lease witholina Power and Light.
 Noted food expert to lecture three days next week.
 This community contributes to Lake campaign.
 Barber-Preston concert expected draw large crowd.
 Booster Club holds picnic at school.
 driving is the safest driver well versed in the law or not.
 A truck load of porch chairs stolen in Missouri. Look for down thief.
 Thousands of people attending unveiling of the statue of a Ontario. It must be the best stinct.
 Many cities are now levying on children's bicycles, which us like teaching our young the of life entirely too soon.
 Even with the establishment of new trans-Atlantic air service, very doubtful if any of our European debtors will come across.

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