

## The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 1938

### BIBLE THOUGHT

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the ways which thou shalt go: I will counsel thee with mine eye upon thee.—Psalm 128:8.

### FARMER'S AND DAIRYMEN'S PROBLEMS

Haywood County farmers proved by their votes last Saturday on the burley tobacco crop control question, that one out of every 20 agree on this one particular phase of agriculture.

This is a much higher percentage than is usually found on similar questions.

Yet, it was expected that such a vote would be cast, inasmuch as Haywood farmers are working closer together, and giving more thought to their problems than at any time in many years—if not in the history of the county.

During the lean years of the depression, farmers, as well as others, learned the necessity of closer co-operation, and the advantages of working out mutual problems collectively instead of individually.

Along this same line, the farmers and dairymen are staging a banquet next Wednesday night at the Masonic Temple. The affair is being sponsored by the Waynesville Chamber of Commerce, and the Rotary Club, and the purpose is to discuss together some ways and means for increasing the cash income of farmers, we have been informed.

Certainly there is not any subject in which farmers and dairymen are more interested right now. The meeting promises to be one of distinct value and should be attended by all who are anxious to see good agricultural and dairying methods improved.

### COMING OUT OF THE MUD

It has been most unfortunate, that the area served by Highway No. 209 below Crabtree, has had to battle long stretches of mud this winter.

News this week from Highway officials, however, is encouraging in that immediate work will begin on these muddy stretches which are the result of the grading and relocating of the highway.

Fines Creek and adjoining territory have suffered many years for adequate roads. For the most part they have kept their suffering to themselves. They are entitled, and should have as good roads as any section of the county, and every effort should be made to give it to them.

Now that there is available in the state, two million dollars for improvement of farm-to-market roads, it seems that Fines Creek citizens can look forward to getting an improved road.

Members of the board of commissioners are keeping in close touch with the situation, and have been given an assurance of early action.

Fines Creek has been isolated long enough.

### AN EDITOR'S PRAYER

Blessed are the merchants who advertise, for they have faith in their business, and their prosperity shall increase many fold. Blessed is the woman who sends in a written account of a party or a wedding, for she shall see the details, and names of her guests correctly reported. Blessed are those who do not expect the editor to know everything, but who tell him whenever an interesting event occurs in which they are interested, for they shall have a better newspaper in their town. Blessed are they who get their copy in early, for they shall occupy a warm space in the editor's heart. Blessed are they who cooperate with the editor in his efforts in behalf of the community, for their town shall be known to all men, far and wide, as a good place in which to live and do business. Blessed are they who do not think they can run the paper better than the editor runs it—yes, thrice blessed are they because there are so few of them in the community.—Transylvania Times.

### GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

There has been discussion of late relative to the Federal Government taking over operation of some of the weaker railroads of the country.

Occasionally one also hears of arguments in favor of Government ownership of all public utilities.

As a matter of principle, we never have been in favor of the Government going into business, whether that business be railroads, public utilities or operating peanut roasters and popcorn wagons.

However, there is another angle to the proposition of Government ownership to which the average individual apparently has given very little attention.

Suppose the Government were to take over the railroads of the nation. The first thing that would happen would be that practically every county in North Carolina would immediately lose many thousands of dollars in ad valorem taxes. In the majority of instances, the railroads are the biggest taxpayers in those counties.

How would this loss in revenue be made up?

In addition, the railroad companies pay a heavy franchise tax in North Carolina.

How would that loss in revenue be made up?

The same thing applies to Government ownership of power companies and other public utilities. Take the TVA project, by way of illustration. All of the vast area of land included in this project is immediately made tax free, and the counties lose the revenue. As a result, they have to raise money in some other way.

If the Government were to take over all of the power companies in North Carolina, the individual counties and the state as a whole would lose each year in excess of ten millions of dollars in taxes.

And you and I would have to help make up that loss.

On the other hand, you can single out several counties in North Carolina that are in the same position as Haywood, in the western part of the state. One of the power companies has a project in that county which constitutes quite a sizable development. This company pays to Haywood in excess of \$70,000 a year in taxes. Take away that revenue and you can readily see that the people of Haywood County would be in rather dire straits.

So, after all, before advocating Government ownership too strongly, it might be well to consider the entries on the debit side of the ledger, as well as those on the so-called credit side.—The State, Raleigh.

The average telephone conversation is about eighty per cent repetition. The business is usually stated in the first half minute of the conversation. The rest of the conversation, whether it lasts two minutes or twenty, is a repetition of what was said during the first half minute. If you don't think this is true just listen in on the next telephone conversation held in your presence. We did the other day and the party at our end of the line made the same identical statement to the party at the other end of the line thirteen times. Is it because people like to talk on a telephone or don't they just pay any attention to what the other party is saying but only think of what they are going to say. There must be some such reason for the senseless repetition.

Some folks dissipate much of their energy by allowing themselves to worry over how a decision shall be made. The best policy is to make the decision that seems right at the time and put the matter out of the mind. A decision, once made, is made. It does no good to worry about it and fret about it and talk it over with others. This disturbs and upsets the mind and keeps one in a constant state of turmoil, and, in the end accomplishes nothing.

Fortune awaits the person who can perfect a flattering mirror.

### TWO MINUTE SERMON

BY THOMAS HASTWELL

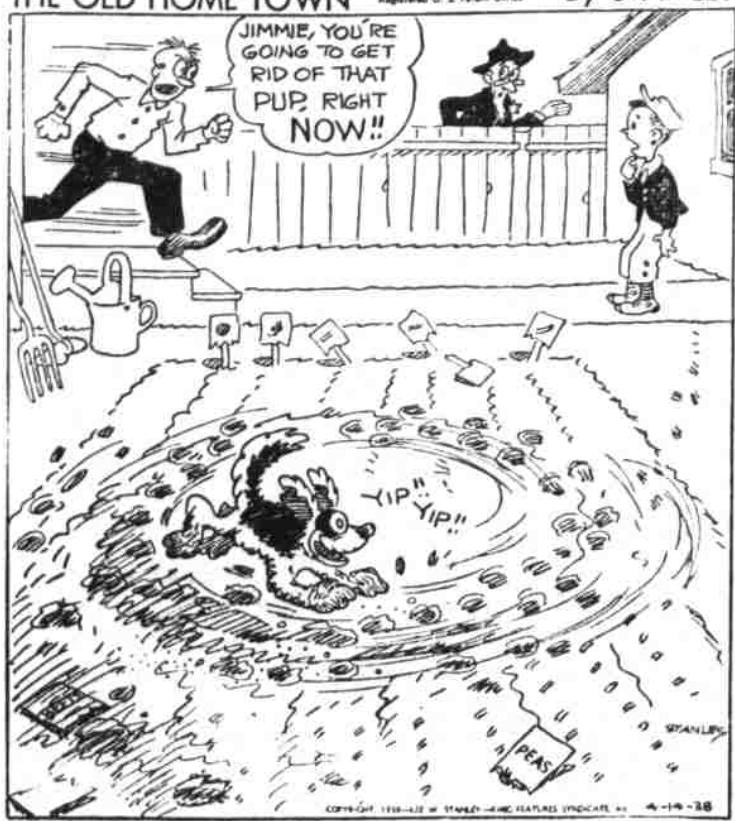
#### RIGHT AND TRUTH INEVITABLE

I happen to be one of those who believe implicitly that the right, and the good, and the just, and the fair, will finally triumph. To me it is the only belief to which a man can hold. To believe anything else would be to live in a world of despair, a world without hope. To doubt this would be to doubt that the kingdom of heaven would ever come upon the earth. I am material minded and practical minded enough to believe, however, that many of the steps that the human race will take in this direction will be brought about by the force of necessity, by the exacting process of economic law, rather than by the preaching that they are right, and a step in the direction of final perfection. God's will has triumphed in the past when stubborn, resisting, and wayward man has been brought to his knees and forced to recognize His will, and it will triumph in the same way in the future. We do many things, not because their virtue commends them, but because experience has forced their recognition as the right. I believe the liquor question will be settled in the same way—by the final sensible recognition of the pressure and direction of sound economics. To me this is but following God's law, for his law is the very essence of right, and truth, and justice, and sound economy.

### THE OLD HOME TOWN

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By STANLEY



## Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. Curtis Russ

NOTE—The following article appeared in The State, Raleigh, and has been the cause of many a hearty laugh. It was written by Carl Goersch, editor of The State:

It may sound funny to you and to me but it was almost tragic to the people who were involved in the incident.

It happened in State Theatre, in Raleigh.

There's a certain gentleman in Raleigh (we'll call him Mr. Brown, for the sake of convenience) who weighs well over 200 pounds. One night last week he went home to supper and found his wife had prepared backbone and dumplings—a dish of which he is particularly fond.

So he sat down at the table and gorged himself until he could hold no more.

Then he suggested that they go to State Theatre and see a picture. Mrs. Brown was agreeable, so down town they went.

#### Making Himself Comfortable

They found seats at about the center of the theatre and after they had settled themselves comfortably to enjoy the picture, Mr. Brown began to feel that his belt was too tight. Inasmuch, as the theatre was dark, he didn't hesitate to unloosen it.

But even then he didn't feel exactly right; there was still too much pressure around his middle.

He had on a pair of trousers with zippers down the front, so he reached down and ran the zipper-jigger down a few inches.

After that he felt fine, and gave a huge sigh of relief as he prepared to enjoy the picture.

Everything went along fine for ten or fifteen minutes and then a lady sitting on the same aisle, about three or four seats away, decided that she had seen all she wanted of the show and prepared to leave. The people sitting next to her obligingly rose in order to make way for her. When she approached Mr. Brown, he too rose to his feet. And then he suddenly remembered that his zipper was unfastened, so he reached down hurriedly to pull the jigger up.

When he did, he caught the lady's dress in the zipper and couldn't work the thing up or down to save his life.

She felt a tug at her dress and turned around to give him a hard look. She felt another tug, whereupon she leaned forward and hissed: "What are you trying to do?"

That attracted Mrs. Brown's attention. She turned to her husband and whispered hoarsely: "John, what are you doing to the lady?"

"Not a thing," whispered back John.

"He is, too," said the lady. "He's tugging at my dress."

Mrs. Brown half-way rose from her seat. "Turn her loose this instant!" she commanded. "Whatever in the world has come over you?"

Brown protested.

"Why not?"

"Her dress is caught in my pants!" Mrs. Brown gasped, and so did the other lady. People sitting behind them were beginning to get impatient and there were cries of "Sit down!" and "Down in front!"

Mr. Brown began to prepspire freely. He tugged at the zipper for all he was worth, but the more he tugged, the more firmly the lady's dress became entangled in its meshes.

"What are you all trying to do?" asked a gentleman sitting directly behind Mr. Brown.

"Her dress is caught in my pants!" hissed Brown.

"Good Lord!" said the man behind,

and after that he didn't say another word.

"Do something!" insisted the lady. "I'm doing all I can!" gasped Mr. Brown, "but it's getting worse and worse all the time."

By that time everybody in the neighborhood was taking a keen and almost unholy interest in the proceedings.

"We'll have to go out in the lobby," finally said Mr. Brown.

"Together?" she asked.

"You're darned right—together," he told her. "Think I'm going to take off my pants and let you walk off with them?"

She agreed that there was nothing else to do but act upon his suggestion. Moving slowly toward the end of the aisle, she led Mr. Brown along with her.

Then they started toward the lobby. It was the side of her dress that had caught in the zipper and so, while she was able to walk along all right, taking rather short steps, Mr. Brown had to go sideways, something like a crab on the beach.

Folks sitting on the aisle almost fell out of their seats as they saw what was taking place. Their eyes followed Mr. Brown and the lady as they waltzed in the direction of the lobby.

By the time they got there, both of them were so mad that they couldn't see straight. One of the ushers—after the situation had been explained to him—took them into a little sideroom, where Mr. Brown took out his knife and proceeded to do some effective work with it.

At last the lady was free. She shook down her dress, shook herself all over, gave Mr. Brown a final dirty look and sailed majestically out of the theatre.

Mr. Brown returned to his seat, where he had to listen to Mrs. Brown's whisperings and also to the chuckles which emanated from all the seats surrounding him.

He sat through the rest of the show

## BETTERS to the Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE—Letters to the editor, if free of personal abuse, are always welcomed. All letters must be signed and the opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of The Mountaineer.

### A CHALLENGE TO CITIZENSHIP

Editor The Mountaineer:

As we approach the June primary, every citizen who is eligible to vote is charged with the responsibility of not only safeguarding his interest with his ballot, but likewise the best interest of his community and country.

Casting a ballot is more than elevating a friend or neighbor to office. It is delegating to him the power to decide for you the government, good or bad, under which you should live. What laws should govern the activities of your business, what privileges you shall or shall not have, what you should pay and where the money shall be spent. Voting is more than entering a booth to mark a ticket, return home, turn on the radio and receive the welcome or unwelcome news of the election. Ballots decide issues and issues when decided determine the character of government under which we shall live. If government is to be attained, our citizens must be stable and responsible, intelligent and informed enough to judge issues and love democracy well enough to vote their convictions and their prejudices.

Our political situation will not improve until our citizens by their ballot prohibit men and women from buying their way to office. The time has come when the voter must have a mind of his own when he casts his ballot if we would protect our democracy from the irresponsible exercise of political favor. The man who buys a vote and the man who sells a vote are both dangerous alike to both an enemy of good government.

It is obvious that we are drifting toward moral and political chaos and only by the concerted action of the best citizenry of the county, coupled with wise leadership, can the impending catastrophe be averted. We can become a better nation only as we become a better people. We improve as a nation only as we improve as individuals. The time is at hand when we must face the issue, and accept the challenge if we would have a better government and a better democracy.

F. E. HAYNES,  
Clyde, N.

with his belt tightly fastened and with his pants zipper fastened all the way up, but the damage had already been done and he really didn't get much pleasure or enjoyment out of the picture.

If anybody wants a pair of pants with zipper attachments, I can tell him where he can get them at a very reasonable price.

He'll have to be a rather fat man, though.

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