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Confusing, Unintelligent

The 147 General Assembly set up a commission to make a thorough study of the education system in North Carolina and make a report to the governor and next legislature. Such matters as arose in Macon county last week are among the things which the commission will try to offer a solution to this and many other kindred school problems.

The Franklin Press in an editorial, gave the following account of the situation in Macon county:

"To the layman who gives thought to it, the school set-up appears more and more confusing, and less and less intelligent.

Two illustrations arose at Monday's meeting of the county board of education. One had to do with enforcement of the compulsory school attendance law, and the other with school lighting.

"It developed at that meeting that enforcement of the state law requiring children between the ages of seven and sixteen to attend school is not a function of the education system, but is the duty of the welfare department. The wisdom of that provision might be questioned by the layman, but much more important than that question is the fact that another law stands in the way of the welfare department's doing the work assigned to it by the General Assembly; for the welfare department may employ to enforce the school attendance law only persons who meet certain fixed qualifications, and nobody meeting those qualifications is, or recently has been, available on the rolls of the state merit system.

"The lighting situation was brought out by a delegation from Nantahala. The people of that community have wired their school and gymnasium for electricity, and the delegation appeared to petition the board to pay the light bill.

"The answer was that the state will not permit use of its funds to light a gymnasium, and that the state electric budget for this county's schools already is seriously stretched. After some discussion, the county school board voted to pay the bill, not to exceed \$5 per month, for the remainder of this school year, out of local school funds.

"That situation raises some questions: "Does the state approve of school gymnasiums? If so, why is there no provision for lighting them?"

"Why was it necessary, in the first place, for the people of Nantahala to pay for wiring in order to light the rooms in their school, as well as their gymnasium? It wasn't necessary, certainly, because North Carolina is a poor state, for North Carolina is rich. Nor was it necessary because the county board of education is without funds, for it has some \$50,000 on hand.

"And, if the state and county are going to operate the schools, why is it necessary for citizens of a community to have to petition for the payment of an electric light bill? Somebody, either in the county or the state, should see that schools are properly wired and that sufficient electricity is provided, without local citizens being forced to drive 35 miles to petition for it."

More Nuisance Than Profit

While there is not a completed section of the Blue Ridge Parkway in this immediate area, we are nonetheless concerned with the ruling which the Park Service will put into effect on April 1, when tolls will be charged.

Both the advocates and opponents of the plan have good points, but we cannot help but feel that those opposing the plan have far more practical points than the other group. In the first place, and perhaps this is a point for either side, the fee to be charged is only 25 cents per car or \$1 per year. The fee is so small that it could not ever amount to much more than the actual cost of collection, even if that much for the present.

The fee, as it now stands, would be more of a nuisance than of material value to the Park Service.

It looks like a plan to get more people on the federal payroll without a practical reason.

We fear that when the tolls are started that federal agencies charged with providing money for completion of the Parkway will be inclined to cut the appropriation with the idea of letting the toll funds make up the difference.

At this point of the Parkway project, we feel it is the wrong time to begin to tamper with policies or begin to make charges of its use.

The Army claims, in a recent news story, to be working on a plane that is supposed to travel at three times the speed of sound or approximately 2,200 miles per hour and to fly at an altitude of from 200,000 to 300,000 feet. All we can say is that that is some traveling, and we do mean traveling.

The grand old man of North Carolina newspaperdom, Josephus Daniels, is lying at death's door as we go to press with this issue. The doctors give him little chance of recovery. We pray he may survive.



Rambling 'Round

Bits Of Human Interest News Picked Up By Members—Of The Mountaineer Staff—

Clipped from a morning paper: "A human being transferred to the planet Mercury would be burned to death by the sun's heat, killed by its ultra-violet radiation; asphyxiated from want of oxygen and desiccated from want of water."

All we wanted to know... was the trip worth it?

If there is any truth in the old saying "...early to rise, makes a man wealthy, healthy and wise" surely Tom Alexander of Cata-loochee Ranch will be the Man of the Year around hereabouts. You can get out on the street at almost any early hour and find

Tom's station wagon parked around the marketing centers and Tom himself going about the business of getting everything lined up for the day.

In the days when a gardener was a part of the household equipment, our grandfather had one who could find more ways that were classes to get out of doing work. But his alibi that stood the test of time was to reply, when asked if he was through doing the work laid out for him, "Yassah, Boss, I've all done...ceptin'..." and then would follow the entire schedule.



SENATE CHAPLAIN KEYS HIS PRAYERS TO FIT PROBLEMS

By JANE EADS

WASHINGTON — Scottish Dr. Peter Marshall, chaplain of the U. S. Senate, is a man of few words. His prayers at each day's opening session last not more than two or three minutes.

A recent example: "Forgive us all that we talk too much and think too little. Forgive us all that we worry so often and pray so seldom."

The tall, good-looking clergyman, who is also pastor of the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, says that as far as he knows there is no "directive" for what his prayer before the Senate should be.

"The prayer," he says, "is an expression of the needs we all feel. He tries to key the words he offers as much as possible to the problems confronting the law-makers."

On the opening of the special session called by President Truman last November he prayed: "O God, our Father, we pray for Thy wisdom and Thy guidance for the members of this body as they meet in this troubled hour to consider what this nation should do about hunger that knows no politics and what that will not wait."

"We cannot escape history. That we have found out. May we also discover that we cannot evade responsibility. By Thy Holy Spirit awaken the conscience of America that our people may be willing to

Looking Back Over The Years

5 YEARS AGO

Joe Rose is named as a director of the First National Bank.

Rotarians contribute \$100 to Boy Scout camp near Lake Logan.

Haywood motorists are cooperating with the recent ruling which put a ban on pleasure driving.

Hilary Crawford is heard on National radio hook-up.

The Stringfield boys are in active duty and fourth has in application.

79 applications for tires are granted by board.

10 YEARS AGO

L. N. Davis is added to Board of Directors of First National Bank.

Dave Cabe is chairman of arrangements for the President's Ball.

Materials are on the ground in readiness for the erection of the building for the Boy Scouts in the town park.

Bobby Lee is promoted to Life Scout at Court of Honor held in Canton.

J. R. Boyd and R. G. Coffey have left on a ten-day tour of points in the south and southwest.

15 YEARS AGO

Bank of Clyde is authorized to resume work.

Economy and denial is urged by Ehringhaus in inaugural address.

Informal reception marks opening of Garrett Funeral Home.

Senator Roy Francis is named member of six Senate Committees.

Government will get 5,000 acres for Smoky Mountain National Park.

L. M. Welch, 90, Confederate veteran, dies at the home of Mrs. Robert Mitchell.

Mrs. Ed Bright leases New Carolina Cafe on Main Street.

MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Can a woman love a man whom she does not trust?

Answer: Yes, but only if she is immature enough to love him for what she wants him to be and to refuse to recognize what she knows he is. It takes a great deal of courage to face the fact that a person we love has not proved to be the sort of man or woman whom we fell in love with, and it's often all too easy to refuse to do so except at the moments when the painful truth is forced upon us. But a woman cannot love a man whom she does not trust if she is brave enough to admit that he cannot be trusted.

Can we know what goes on in an animal's mind?

Answer: One school of psychology maintains we cannot—I have even heard it called a "pure assumption" that a cat spits at a dog because she does not like him. But a writer in "Behaviour" says we

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Do you look for Henry Wallace to affect the presidential race this year to a very large extent?

W. C. Allen: "No. I have never known a third party to win an election in my 75 years observation."

Walter Crawford: "Possibly. The American Labor Party, which hold between 800,000 and 900,000 voters, has the balance of power in New York state; and if Wallace can get their support he may swing the electoral vote there to the Republicans... Wallace ought to go back to the Republican party where he originally came from."

C. O. Newell: "I believe he will. He has some ideas that the American people will consider. Wallace will wield considerable influence on both major parties."

Noble Garrett: "Definitely not."

Joe Tate: "I don't think he will hurt the Democratic party at all."

Father Of Three Joins Son In High School

SALEM, Oreg. (UP)—The way Frank Lockman, Sr., figures it, "you're never too old to learn." So, Lockman, 49, is going to school.

What's more, he is to be graduated from Salem high school next June. He will be getting his diploma a year ahead of his son, Frank, Jr., who is a high school junior.

Lockman, the father of three, some day hopes to share a law practice with his son.

Inside WASHINGTON

High Cost of Living, Hot Political Potato

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—The high cost of living, and its possible curative remedies, has become a hot potato (to mix a metaphor for both political parties. So hot, in fact, that there is talk of a bi-partisan agreement on an anti-inflation program to be publicized.

Only thing certain at this time is that some wartime controls, including rent, will be quickly approved at the regular session of Congress opening Jan. 6.

It is likely that the regular session will for the first time in United States history, impose restrictions on speculation in the commodity markets.

Controls that may be revived include government buying, allocation of scarce commodities and even consumer rationing if an acute shortage comes to pass, as predicted.

Republican reasoning is swinging realization that unless adequate controls are imposed, a situation may develop which will sweep in almost the whole network of restrictions.

STASSEN'S "HOT" ISSUE—It remains for Harold E. Stassen, first to announce himself a candidate for 1948 GOP presidential nomination (and conceded little chance unearthen what may be the "hottest" issues in next year's campaign. Stassen's demand that Edwin W. Pauley, special assistant to Army Secretary Kenneth Royall, reveal his grain market actions, touched off what promises to be one of the most investigations Congress has conducted.

With Pauley summoned before a congressional committee, he emphasized the issue by demanding that President Truman's "insiders" were speculating in the food markets.

The uproar already has swept political circles. The Republicans are certain to make capital of it when the chips go down and the president is campaigning for re-election.

Possible reward for Stassen may be the vice presidential nomination—if he wants it.

TROUBLE AHEAD FOR THE MARSHALL PLAN—Do for a probe of hidden wealth owned by citizens of European satellites is little Finland, traditional friend of the United States—a friendship developed largely by her persistent payments on her World War I debt.

Now forced to pay heavy reparations to Russia, she still pays her debt to the United States. However, the burden is heavy and if one debtor has to go unsatisfied, it's more likely to be Uncle Sam than Uncle Stalin.

Moreover, she is barred from benefiting from the Marshall Plan by Russia's order. Finland would like to ask the United States for a new loan, but again Russia stands in her way.

Important Developments

Haywood is much interested in the political developments among candidates for state offices over the week-end. Friday night Kerr Scott, commissioner of agriculture, announced that he would not seek re-election for the post he has held for about 10 years.

Immediately upon Mr. Scott's announcement, L. Y. Balentine, lieutenant governor, and often mentioned as a possible candidate for governor, tossed his hat into the ring and said he was a candidate for the post or commissioner of agriculture. Mr. Balentine was not alone in casting a longing eye at the place to be vacated by Mr. Scott. Several others want the post, but have not made formal announcement of their candidacy.

Haywood is vitally interested in the man who takes over as commissioner of agriculture, since that man would be in direct charge of the State Test Farm which is fast becoming one of the important agricultural assets in this county.

Mr. Balentine is a dairy farmer, and has often been in Haywood. His last trip here was when he was the principal speaker at the Livestock and Home Arts Show.

Of further interest in the political developments over the week-end was the announcement of Brandon Hodges, of Asheville, for the post of state treasurer, now held by Charles M. Johnson, who is a candidate for governor. Mr. Hodges had formerly been frequently mentioned as a possible candidate for the post of lieutenant governor, which is also being sought by Dan Tompkins, of Sylva.

The two announcements will have far-reaching effects on the Democratic primary in May.

The two announcements are of vital interest and concern to Haywood, and at this early stage, everything looks favorable to this county.

Two Extremes

Two stories that portrayed the extreme in acquiring an education were published side-by-side on the front page of The Mountaineer last Friday.

One story dealt with Miss Annie Queen working 9 1/2 years to get funds with which to start her college education, which will terminate this June when she receives her diploma from the School of Divinity at Yale University.

The other story was from an Army recruiting officer stating that of 178 applicants he had talked to here in a month, only six had enough education to meet the minimum Army requirement of the fourth grade.

We do not know the story behind the failure of the 172 boys not having sufficient education to even join the Army. Perhaps they have a reason, but certainly in the 172 there are some, and no doubt many, who could have acquired more education if they had had the ambition and determination shown by Miss Queen.

To get back to the statement of Miss Queen in summing up her suggestive advice, she said, "It isn't easy, but possible." That tells the story of anything worthwhile in life—it is not the easiest things that are worth the most.

As time goes on we hope there will be more young people with the determination of Miss Queen, and fewer and fewer of those like the 172.

Hotpoint products, in this issue, announce reductions in all lines of their products. That is a good example, and would do well to be emulated by the meat packers and other food providers.

They'll Do It Every Time

JUST MAKE IT PLAY. I DON'T WANT TO PUT MUCH MONEY IN IT. I'M GOING TO GET A NEW ONE.

SIX MONTHS LATER.

WHAT KIND OF A RADIO MAN ARE YOU? YOU JUST FIXED THIS NOT SO LONG AGO! NOW IT'S HUMMING AGAIN!

THANK AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO THE "PARKER" 609 RIDGE AV. PITTSBURGH, PENN.

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