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... and what doth the Lord require of thee, but
to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly
with thy God?—Mica 6:6.

Females; At Designers' Mercy

The latest from Paris, we are told, is wasp waists, which are described as cinched with belts. These are the hot-stuff creations of one Christian Dior, the wire services report, and his latest "lily of the valley" line recently has plunged the style world into a tizzy.

We have nothing against Dior, or other designers cashing in on a good thing—the tendency of women to bow to every style change that is supposedly the latest thing. We do, however, pity the women of America, and other countries, for their subservience to the designers, although their hardship is caused by their own weakness.

Foreigners are often amazed at the number of good clothes not used by the average American female. Whereas in England or Germany, or other countries, the average female never lets a perfectly good garment go to waste hanging in the closet—simply because a style has changed—that is standard procedure in this country.

One of the reasons for this is the sheep-like obedience the women of this country show to hot-shot designers. We suggest once again, that women show more individuality and a little resistance to the annual style changes which necessitate a new wardrobe. For the few rich the cost of that new wardrobe may be insignificant, but for many American females, the cost of keeping Daisy in that fashion swim is often enough to sink Willie in the financial swim, while the designers and the clothing trade march happily ahead.

George Washington

If there is one American whose courage and fortitude during the years of hardship and discouragement gave the nation its opportunity to achieve greatness through independence, it was General George Washington. The nation's first President, and the General who won a war against Great Britain to make the colonies independent of that nation, is rightly remembered each February 22nd and honored as the Father of His Country.

However, the proper observance of Washington's birthday anniversary did not come about overnight after his death. The colonies and the states were slow to recognize the magnitude of the accomplishment and contribution of General Washington. Not only had he won independence for the colonies, he had served as the first President, and he had set the precedent for a two-term limit for Chief Executives.

Moreover, he had established the foundation principles of American governments—one of them being staying out of the affairs of other nations. That policy was the wisest course for the young nation at that time and this doctrine allowed the country to grow and prosper during its early years.

In the last years of life and the first years after his death, political feeling in the country between the parties was so strong that some of the observances suggested for Washington's birthday anniversary were denounced as political demonstrations. Only slowly did the nation come to recognize its founder, and military hero, as his services to his country merited.

After he died, on December 14th, 1799, the Congress—then meeting in Philadelphia—proposed that February 22, 1800, be observed throughout the country with exercises in honor of the first President of the country. This congressional proposal was widely acted upon and exercises were held in the principal cities.

Subsequent observances of Washington's birthday and today observances of the birth of our first President, and military hero, is general

throughout the nation. This is appropriate since Washington is often under-rated both as a general and as a President. Every American citizen owes as much to Washington, or more, for his freedom and the independence of his country as to any other American hero.

ECONOMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Happenings That Affect the Future of Every Individual Nation and International Problems Inseparable From Local Welfare.

Those who read the accounts of the opening sessions of the Big Four conference in Berlin must have had that "this is where I came in" feeling. Soviet Foreign Premier Molotov made his usual violent denunciations of the West, and particularly the United States. He then demanded that Communist China be recognized and invited to the conference, thus making it a Big Five matter—despite the fact that the Berlin meeting had been called primarily to deal with German unification.

This, of course, is an established Soviet technique in all diplomatic dealings—to divert, to bring in the irrelevant, to stall, and to denounce. That is why almost endless discussions and meetings have produced practically nothing in the way of results. According to U. S. News & World Report, the incredible total of 120,000,000 words—enough to fill 680 big books—have been spoken in formal negotiations with the Communists in the last eight years. The magazine adds wryly, "The one tangible result: a truce in Korea that the Communists considered to be a victory."

The question can be asked, why do we go on talking? One reason is that words are better than bullets; conferences, no matter how unproductive, are better than wars, and there is always the hope, far-fetched as it may be, that this time or the next time there will be something resembling a meeting of minds.

Another, and more immediately cogent reason may be that talking—both in Berlin and elsewhere—is giving our top people a chance to make clear what is truly a new American foreign policy.

The best exposition of that policy can be found in Secretary Dulles' recent speech before the Council of Foreign Relations. In it he announced a drastic change in the old policy which was based upon local defensive power as a defense against Communist aggression and which, therefore, often gave Communism the initiative. "Local defense must be reinforced by the further deterrent of massive retaliatory power," he said. "A potential aggressor must know that he cannot always prescribe the battle conditions that suit him... The way to deter aggression is for the free community to be willing and able to respond vigorously at places and with means of his own choosing." Mr. Dulles added a sharp and specific warning that if Communism starts the Korean war anew, "... the United Nations response would not necessarily be confined to Korea."

The Secretary spoke, naturally, in the carefully-phrased language of diplomacy. But there should be no confusion as to what this policy involves. David Lawrence described it well, in these words: "Hereafter, when there is a war, the United States will fight it with maximum power—no holds barred. There will be no ban on the use of the atom bomb and no ban on the hydrogen bomb... Soviet Russia is put on direct notice that, so far as the United States is concerned, any military attack will be resisted instantly and without reservation. There are to be no 'privileged sanctuaries' anywhere on the territory of the enemy. An epochal change has been made in our historic strategy in war."

This is the position the United States is now trying to unequivocally explain to the entire world.

The Christian Viewpoint

Prepared by the Department of Bible
Presbyterian Junior College
Maxton, N. C.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together," (Heb. 10:25 AV), wrote the author of Hebrews to the early Christians. It is a wholesome thing for us all when we gather together and unite in such a prayer as this: We have come to Thy house, Our Father, even as of old the children of Israel assembled in the temple to worship Thee. We thank Thee that Christ, by his redemption on the cross, has rent the veil assunder so now we may draw near to Thee to address Thee as Our Father in prayer with nothing between our souls and Thee. We come, O Lord, as Israel of old from many places. Thou seest that some of us have come from the place of sorrow, where at some recent time we have buried someone dear to our hearts. Give us the joy of morning for the night of sorrow, because Thou, Christ, hast risen from the power of death and hast promised to bring with Thee those who sleep in Thee. Thou seest that some of us come from a lonely place. May we find fellowship in Thee and with Thine other children who are gathered here with us to worship Thee. We are thankful for kindred hearts along the way of life, those who trust Thee and are trying to find Thy paths amid life's complexities and problems, and are fighting the good fight of faith. Thou seest that some of us come from the busy whirl of life's activities. Give us a quiet hour with Thee that calm and peace may still our surging souls. Thou seest that some of us are tired, tired of the burden and heat of the day. Give us to drink of Thy refreshing grace that we may bravely press on in the straight narrow way. And some of us come from the place of dread and fear. Help us to know that Thou dost rule the affairs of men even as Thou dost cause the planet to find its way around the sun. Help us to trust and not be afraid, for what can man do unto us whose souls are safe in Thee? And some, Ah God, come from the place of failure. We have sinned, we have stumbled and fallen. We thank thee, O Lord of all righteousness, as we look up to Thee with penitent hearts, we do not receive a frown. Thou alone hast the right to hurl the first stone, but Thou dost not even turn away. Rather we hear Thee say, "Thy faith hath saved thee." "Go, and sin no more." We thank Thee for Thy grace which lifts us up. And Thou seest, Father, some of us are come from the place of preparation where we have sought to put on the whole armor of God, Guide us now to spiritual warfare for the glorious advance of Thy Kingdom of truth, peace and love. And feed us with the Bread of Life. Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

Mom Can Use Them at Last



News For Veterans

Korean GI Bill veteran-students who go home for vacations or between-term school breaks should be sure to get their GI allowance checks on time, under a new system announced by the Veterans administration.

VA said it will follow its new speed-up policy only during all breaks in school which extend past the end of a month, and which normally would cause delay in receipt of GI checks. Such breaks include spring, summer, and winter vacations, Christmas and Easter holidays, time off between semesters, and the like.

Under the new system, VA will allow a veteran-trainee to fill out his monthly certification of training—a form required by law—on his last day of school attendance, rather than after the end of the month, when it's normally due. These certifications, signed both by the veteran and an official of his school, must be received by VA before checks may be sent out. By permitting a veteran to complete the form ahead of time, VA virtually has done away with any chance of delay.

VA explained that a veteran who goes home for a vacation stretch-

ing past the first of the month obviously would not be available to sign his certification at the proper time. If it were not for the new procedure, he'd have to wait until he returned to school to sign it. As a result, his check would be late. By signing before he leaves, the veteran is assured that the certification will reach VA on time, eliminating the possibility of a late allowance check.

This same principle will apply in the case of a veteran who finishes his final examinations, and who leaves school before the official end of the term. He, too, will be permitted to fill out the certification on his last day in class.

Q—Premiums on my National Service Life Insurance policy are under waiver, since I've been totally and permanently disabled for many months. I have a term policy, but I'd like to convert it to a permanent plan. May I do so, while premiums are being waived?

A—Yes, you may convert your term policy to any permanent plan other than endowment. And you won't be required to take a medical examination.

SALEM ADVENT CHURCH NOTES

The Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society met at the church last Tuesday night for worship and business. Mrs. Louis Lane presented a chapter from the mission study book, "India, Give Me Thine Heart." It was the privilege of the society to vote the final thirteen dollars on the recent improvement program, involving several hundred dollars.

Prayer meeting was well attended, and Pastor Joyner led an appreciative congregation in a study of Acts 16:16-40, where prayers and songs of faith were found revoking an unjust jail sentence. Another interesting study will be had this week, on Wednesday night.

The Youth Fellowship of Loyal Workers social, at the home of Josephine, Joyce, and Faye Hatch on Thursday night, had to contend with the bogey man of school and other activities, but those present had an enjoyable time.

Secretary J. V. Stephenson, of the Home Mission Board of the Eastern North Carolina Conference, was present for the morning worship hour Sunday. After telling of the work of his board, a number of members were secured for the Conference Church Builders Association. Mr. Stephenson was accompanied by his wife, and a son and daughter.

After the morning service, the

Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Joyner went to the home of the Rev. and Mrs. George Lane to enjoy one of the Sunday dinners for which the Lanes are famous.

The Sunday morning sermon dealt with the thrilling story of transfiguration, and pointed the way to a modern application; in the evening there was a thrilling portrayal of how even the most savage of pagans have found the solid rock foundation that is in Christ.

STORK-TISTICS

Negroes:
To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Melvin, city, a son, February 11, 1954.
To Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hardison, city, a daughter, February 12, 1954.
To Mr. and Mrs. James McIvers, Dudley, a son, February 13, 1954.
To Mr. and Mrs. Walter Vann, Faison, a son, February 15, 1954.

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SLATE-COLORED JUNCO
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Junco Bird Has No Fear Of the Snow

With the possible exception of the Chickadees and Tree Sparrows probably few birds have put more grins on the faces of those who must stay indoors in winter than the Juncos. Even husky hikers enjoy the birds as they come into a wind and snow-swept clearing and see the birds gaily gathering a breakfast of weed seeds when all other animals seem to be elsewhere.

During the spring and fall migrations north and south, the birds seem to be most abundant. Then their flocks are easily identified not only by their slaty color but by the flashing, white outer-tail feathers. The combination of grayness and white outer-tail feathers is completed by a light-colored bill that contrasts with the darkness of the head. In the male the head is more conspicuously dark than in the female.

Juncos measure about 6 1/2 inches and have a wingspread of 7 to 10 inches. They weigh about 7/10 of an ounce, may fly as fast as 17 miles an hour and have a body temperature of over 108 degrees F. Their light weight permits them to land on fluffy snow without sinking in as would larger birds like pheasants and crows. As a result, when deep snows come the Juncos continue their merry existence while the larger birds become bogged down. Hunger means little to a bird that can get a shower breakfast food by merely pecking almost any dead weed-top that thrusts its head above the snow.

There are eight species of Juncos to be found in North America with the total rising to twice that number if we recognize both species and subspecies. Collectively they practically cover the continent except for the extreme northern barrens and the lowlands of Mexico. They are also to be found in Siberia.

The common Slate-colored Junco nests in the northern part of the United States and into Canada. The nest is usually on the ground under some sort of cover and is made of grass with a finer lining. The 4 to 6 eggs are bluish, greenish or grayish, thickly spotted with fine purple, brown or lilac marks. The eggs are about 4/5 of an inch long and are incubated for 11 or 12 days. There may be one or two broods a year.

A third of the winter food is probably the seeds and fruits of such noxious weeds as ragweed and smartweed. The remainder is probably the fruits and seeds of such common weeds as amaranth, lamb's quarters, Russian thistle, and sunflower. While it might seem that the great flocks of Juncos feeding on enormous quantities of the fruits and seeds of these noxious plants might be helping in weed control it is doubtful if this service is appreciable. As in many other kinds of wildlife, whether plants or animals, there is usually a harvestable surplus of weed seeds. It might be better to recognize that the weeds that feed



WHAT'S NEXT?—Women have been "fishing" for things in their crowded purses for so long that it comes as no great surprise that someone finally came up with the above purse design. Created by British designer Elizabeth James, the sequin-scaled, feather-fin bag's displayed by model Hazel Fenman in London.

News of the Negro Population

(By Mrs. Maude Kornegay)

Those attending the funeral of Restus Cole in Newton Grove Monday morning were Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Grady, Mrs. Mary Carter and sister, Rena.

Mrs. Jodie Peele has been confined to her home for several days with illness.

The Dew Droppers of New York gave a musical program at Carver Friday night for the benefit of the community center. Robert Kornegay, son of Mrs. Mary D. Kornegay, is a member of the group.

Mrs. Hattie Royal was a dinner guest of Mrs. Elsie Simpson and daughter, Ethel, Thursday. She visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hargrove while in that section.

Quarterly meeting was held Friday night at the Mount Gilead Baptist church with the pastor, the Rev. W. E. Battle, of Rocky Mount, officiating.

Friends in and around Mount Olive are glad Russell Faison, Sr., is well and hope Mrs. Faison is improving.

these birds render us a service since without them the snowy season might be bleak indeed whether we go outdoors or remain within, seeking our nature experiences from the window-feeding station.

The National Wildlife Federation through distribution of its stamps is encouraging an understanding of all matters of nature, including the plight of Juncos and of weeds.

—E. Laurence Palmer.

Williams' X Roads

(By Mrs. Billy Farmer)

Mr. and Mrs. Othal Price of Goldsboro, Mrs. Street Price of Zion visited Mrs. Ralph Price Sunday.

Miss Shirley Lewis of E.C.C. in Greenville spent the week end at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Turner, Jr., and children of Rones Chapel were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Billy Farmer Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Kilpatrick visited Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kilpatrick near Mount Olive Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmie Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Farmer attended the Good Neighbor class meeting in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Vernon at Mount Olive Monday.

Billy Jones of Rones Chapel and Billy Farmer were visitors in Norfolk, Va., Tuesday.

Mrs. James Price of near Mount Olive visited Mrs. Laura Price Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Harrell and Mrs. Jimmie Harrell of Kennedy's Crossroads visited Miss Carrie Williams Monday.

Bill Farmer, Jr., was a visitor with Steve Waller at Smith's Chapel Tuesday.

In 1950 Buncombe county had the largest rural population of all North Carolina counties—46,285.

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