

The News-Journal



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No Easy Solution

One unfortunate phase of the price problem is that everyone seems to be looking for a pat solution, which will solve it in one fell swoop.

The fact is that the problem is simply the sum total of innumerable other problems and forces, some of them of extreme complexity. For example, high wages contribute to high prices. Foreign aid contributes to high prices. Government fiscal policy, which is still strongly inflationary, contributes to high prices. Our record national income (increased printed money), which no one wants to reduce, contributes to high prices.

The worst illusion of all is that a return to price control of the OPA type would solve the problem. The government could set a low price for an article—but it couldn't make anyone produce that article if the price involved an operating loss. Price control would drive goods inexorably into the black market, which would then become the real market. Most dangerous of all, price control would be completely impossible unless it involved the strictest kinds of wage and other controls—and subjected the nation to some kind of an economic dictatorship.

During the next year, prices may go up or they may come down. No one knows, and, as the experience of the past year or two shows, the forecasters are almost invariably wrong. But, in a free economy, where open competition exists all along the commodity line, down to the chain or independent store from which you buy your goods, the price will be an honest price. It will be an accurate reflection of present-day costs and conditions. And that is all that anyone can expect.

LIBRARY NEWS

Two books, "Petticoat Surgeon" by Van Hoosen, and "The Have More Plan", by Robinson, have been presented to Hoke County Library by Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Gatlin, Jr., in memory of the mother of Mrs. N. L. McFayen, Mrs. Malcolm McLean.

A new book by Frances Parkinson Keyes, "Came a Cavalier", is now in the library.

Two story hours were held in the library last week, one on Friday afternoon and one Saturday afternoon. Fruit was served after the stories were read.

The library will be closed starting Wednesday, December 24, for the Christmas holidays and will open again Monday Dec. 29th.

MORE ABOUT Recorder's Court

Fayetteville, was charged with careless and reckless driving and assaulting Hugh Archie Cameron on with his truck as a result of a minor traffic accident here last week. He was found guilty of careless driving and sentence of three months was suspended on payment of \$25 and the costs.

James Dad Thomas, Roscoe McMillan and Eddie White, all colored, were charged with violating the prohibition laws. Thomas had not been apprehended, White was found not guilty, and McMillan was found guilty and sentenced to serve four months, sentence to be suspended on payment of \$50 and the costs.

MORE ABOUT SCHOOL NEWS

State Commission for the Blind was very successful. Seventy-four pupils had their eyes examined and approximately 26 of the 74 had glasses fitted. The date for the colored clinic has been set for the second week in February.

Mrs. E. B. Campbell, senior health nurse, reports that all schools in the county have had

their fall checks made on all pupils and that routine visits will be made to the schools from now on.

The school personnel of Hoke county wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

HOKE HIGH

Miss Mayme McKeithan's art classes have just completed a unit on Christmas painting. Scenes, calendars, and card designs done by the pupils in water color are on display in Miss McKeithan's home room. The pupils have also mounted pictures of the Nativity and famous Madonnas which they are studying this week.

The group pictures made for the annual came this week, and they are on display in the study hall.

Miss Watson has recently given the Kuder Preference Test to all the members of the senior class. This test helps to find the vocation in which pupils show particular aptitudes. These tests were administered as part of the guidance program the high school is carrying out this year.

Twelve of the forty-two seniors have already been accepted at various colleges for work next fall.

The first home game of basketball will be played Friday evening, December 19 in the high school gymnasium. Everybody is urged to come and support the team.

The first year home economics girls have just completed a unit on social and personal grooming. The second year girls are making winter garments, and the third year girls are finishing a unit on "Home Making as a Vacation."

Miss Alice Copeland attended a District Teachers meeting in Laurel Hill Tuesday of this week. The District is composed of Hoke, Scotland, and Richmond counties.

Members of the high school

band will play Christmas carols at Ephesus Church at 6:00 o'clock Sunday afternoon, and again at 8:00 they will play at Rockfish Baptist Church.

On Tuesday, December 23 at 3:30 o'clock the members of the band will give a program of Christmas music on Main street. The following pupils in the high school made the honor roll

for the second six weeks grading period: Hal Gore, John McLaughlin, Betty Jane Ashburn, Joyce Conoly, Joan Sinclair, Frances Bobbitt, Annie B. Cameron, Janet Hodgkin, Patricia Ritter, Raye King, Nellie Thames, Patsy Holt, Dorene Duncan, Thomas Bobbitt, Fredia Moss, Elease Moss, Elizabeth Suddreth, Alice Sutton Matheson, Milton Mann, Anne

Gore, Pat McNeill, Bonnie Kate Blue, Bobby Murray, Katherine Blue, Nancy Cole, Miralyn Johnson, and Janie Veasey.

At a senior class meeting held recently superlatives for the year 1947 and 1948 were elected. They are Jack Lee and Nita Gullede, most popular; Lockie MacDonald and Bonnie Kae Blue, best all round; Bobby Murray and Mira-

lyn Johnson, most versatile; Al Clark and Betty McNeill, wittiest; Neill Blue Sinclair and Gwen Gore, most original; Bobby Murray and Miralyn Johnson, most likely to succeed; Neill Adams McNeill and Nita Gullede, friendliest; and Lockie MacDonald and Katherine Blue, best athletes, Zeb Moss and Nancy Lee Cole, most studious; and

Foster McBryde and Nita Gullede, most attractive

The annual Christmas lunch will be served in the lunch room at the high school.

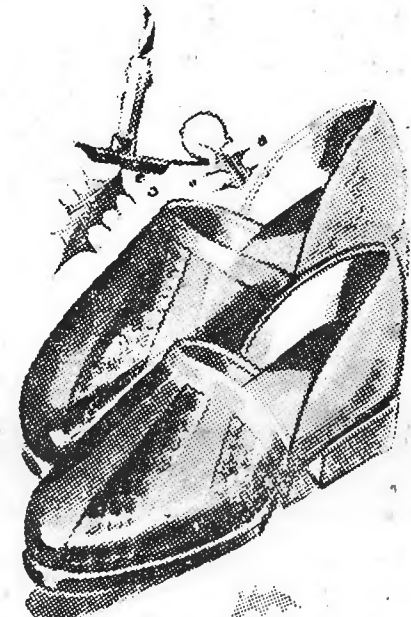
"Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," a film showing the history of food preservation, was shown to the girls in Miss Copeland's home economics classes one day the first of the week.



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