



1937 A. D. Another milestone in our steady march toward the grave has been passed and here we are getting ready to write something else about Will Holcomb...

Always pretty much of a spendthrift, it appears Mr. Holcomb has tightened up during the last year. He's even cutting down on his electric light bill...

And it's being told he burned up three dollars' worth of gasoline the day before Christmas driving about the country trying to run over an old hen for Christmas dinner.

So far as we know, Mr. Holcomb hasn't made any New Year's resolutions, but we understand M. Q. Snow has. It is said he has resolved not to make any resolutions that will cost him anything.

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THANK YOU FOR A GENEROUS PATRONAGE DURING 1936 Your patronage and friendship during the past year has meant much to us and to you all we want to express sincere thanks with the wish that during 1937 we may continue to serve you. IN ORDER TO START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT In order to make a fresh start for 1937 we will appreciate it very much if those who are behind in their accounts here will come in and bring them up to date. Turner Drug Co. Phone 64 Elkin, N. C.

note, has been very ill for the past week. Mrs. Harrison Felts has been confined to her bed for the last week or so. We are glad to know that Mrs. W. C. Bell is improving after a month or so of illness.

During the year to ensue, there are now living in the United States alone approximately 25 or 30 thousand people who are destined to be killed by automobiles. There are thousands who, before another new year rolls around, are destined to be crippled, perhaps for life. Yet, we work up all sorts of horror when the newspapers tell of several hundred soldiers killed in Spain and pay scant attention to the THOUSANDS of men, women and children whose lives are daily snuffed out on our own highways.

If the United States should go to war everyone would immediately start tearing their hair over the horror of men being slaughtered, and would cry to the heavens over the casualty list. Yet it's a fact that only a few people pay more than scant attention to the small headlines which, at the end of a year, point out that over 30,000 have been killed and a hundred thousand or so injured on the highways.

Somehow, it doesn't make sense. You remember the recent infantile paralysis epidemic that made its appearance in this state. You remember how schools were closed, children barred from theatres and public places in the fight against the disease which claimed only a hundred or so lives. And all the time, everyone in this state was in far more danger of suffering death from an automobile than from an infantile paralysis germ.

But perhaps it was figured that something could be done to halt the death toll of the disease while the auto death toll appears to be with us forever in spite of half-hearted efforts to do something about it.

One of the half-hearted efforts to do something about the highway death toll was the drivers' license law passed in this state. So far as we have been able to figure out, this license law is about as big a farce as anything we know of. It didn't take incompetent drivers from behind the steering wheel. Anyone who said he or she could drive had merely to apply to receive a license. Why even we got one.

It's different in some of the other states where laws have been passed designed to weed out bad drivers. We know of a young man in New Jersey who was required to put on glasses before his driver's permit was issued merely because his eyes were not quite normal. More than that, he had to take a complete physical examination, plus proving to a member of the state highway patrol that he really knew how to handle an automobile and knew all the traffic laws. All drivers in that state have to pass the same examination.

In contrast, we know of a man in this state who, in his entire lifetime, hasn't driven an automobile over 50 miles. He simply hasn't had the practice and experience to make a good driver. Yet he got his drivers' license without any trouble.

And now, to start the new year off right, and while we are all worked up into a bad humor, we'll end by going on record with the statement that the state school bus system is the biggest disgrace ever to blot the name of North Carolina. Passenger buses are required by the state to place experienced drivers at the wheels of their conveyances, while this same state allows school boys to take into the hollow of their hands the lives of thousands of school children who must need ride the school buses if they are to get an education.

Politics! SWAN CREEK Rev. N. T. Jarvis filled his appointment at Swan Creek Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. He read the twelfth chapter of Romans. His text being the first verse of the same chapter. His subject was "Present your bodies a living sacrifice." There was a very good attendance. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Bell had as their dinner guests Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. James Wagoner and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Myers, Mrs. Lizzie Swain and family and Rev. N. T. Jarvis. Born to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cheeks Saturday, January 2, a fine baby boy. Mr. Ed. Forster, we are sorry to

note, has been very ill for the past week. Mrs. Harrison Felts has been confined to her bed for the last week or so. We are glad to know that Mrs. W. C. Bell is improving after a month or so of illness. WILL NOT RE-SELL TO SPAIN Washington, Jan. 3.—The Mexican government officially assured the United States today that airplanes and other war implements purchased in this country will not be re-exported to Spain.

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Saturday—HIS WORD IS THE LAW IF HE'S QUICK ON THE DRAW! Here comes Dick Foran on his most dangerous task... carrying Uncle Sam's mail through enemy hold-ups and Indian ambushes! Don't miss the screen's new hard-riding sensation in the most thrilling role of his career! CALIFORNIA MAIL starring Dick FORAN LINDA PERRY MILTON KIBBEE TOM BROWER JAMES FARLEY ED COBB Directed by Noel Smith A Warner Bros. Picture Comedy—Serial—Cartoon Adm. 10c - 30c

News Adm. 10c - 25c FRIDAY NIGHT, 12 O'CLOCK—MIDNIGHT SHOW Francis Lederer Ann Sothorn —in— "My American Wife" Admission 10c - 25c

NEXT WEEK, MONDAY-TUESDAY—GABLE MEETS HIS MATCH IN MABEL! A story as big as the stars it unites... in a show as great as all those other famous Warner Bros. musicals the world has cheered! MARION DAVIES CLARK GABLE CAIN and MABEL ALLEN JENKINS · ROSCOE KARNST WALTER CATLIT · DAVID CARLSON · ART CAVANAUGH · Directed by LOYD WILSON Music by Elmer Bernstein Lyrics by Lloyd C. Rockwell A Warner Bros. Picture A Capitol Production News—Cartoon Adm. 10c - 30c

WEDNESDAY—FAMILY SHOW—"THE CASE OF THE BLACK CAT" Adm. Only 10c COMING! JAN. 14-15—"RAMONA" in Color! JAN. 18-19—"LIBELED LADY"