

THE ELKIN TRIBUNE

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If Joseph and Adolf are destroying civilization, what can be said of the youngsters and their firecrackers?

According to Robert Quillen "Alimony is what a man is required to pay for depreciation when he trades in an old model."

If the earth just had to quake, we can think of two places it could have exerted itself more pleasingly than in Turkey.

"The fence straddler isn't always without convictions. Sometimes his pants get caught."—Chattanooga Times.

You are not only an optimist but something else, if you insist that your auto tag is in good enough condition to last another year without investing in another.

Stalin claims that he is only trying to free the Finns. It's not for us to smile too loud, for that's what we said about the Indians.

Mr. Hoover reminds that every dictator in the world was first elected by the people. Ain't got no reference to any allusions, have you, Herb?

The University of Tennessee is listed among the institutions lacking in academic freedom. Well, the football team was lacking in something at that Rose Bowl game.

And there is the Scotchman who never writes his name on Christmas cards so his friends can use them again next year—because he does as he would like to be done by.

Rural Electrification

In spite of the fact that public thought these days is mainly concerned with the goings-on in Europe, the approaching national elections, and the many local and national issues, the relationship between the public utilities and the people they serve is continually demanding consideration.

And that is so partly because government has entered the electric power field with its alleged yardsticks and its increasing urge to chart courses and determine policies. It must be admitted that the federal government's activities have served to quicken the pulse of private power producers, and its progress in rural electrification has prompted the utilities concerns to extend their lines as a method of their own defense.

But in this respect we submit that the people of this section, served by the Duke Power Company, has had less to complain about than those of other less favored areas. It is only natural that the utilities with their far-flung investments would want to protect them, would want to assure the making of money in order to permanently serve. But is it only fair to say that Duke has been less autocratic and overbearing in its relationship with the public than most concerns.

Duke has been and still is progressive, without being oppressive. Its management from the beginning has sensed the fact that if it would grow and prosper, the people it serves must also grow and prosper, and the records show that the Duke Power Company has contributed its mite to this progress.

And in no field has it showed a greater interest than in the extension of its service to the rural sections and in the education of the farmer to the economic uses to which he can hitch electric power. Duke officials feel strongly that electric service is playing and is going to play a very important part in the changing agricultural policy of rural North Carolina, and for that reason is spending time and money in counseling with the farmer and giving him valuable help in his problems. For he is a potential customer.

Two agricultural engineers are employed full time to counsel with farmers, individually and in groups, as to how they may apply electric service to their particular farming operations most profitably and advantageously. These men have nothing to sell, and their services are free and at the command of the farmer customers of the company, and the farmer customer has only to get in touch with the local Duke manager to obtain this service.

More than nine thousand miles of rural lines have been put into service by Duke, and these serve 60,000 customers, 45,000 of which are farmers, and each year adds materially to this service. And it is of record that electric rates in this area have been held to a lower average than is maintained nationally. These are facts that should be kept in mind when these relationships are under consideration.

Don't Expect Too Much

Don't expect too much of President Roosevelt's splendid address before Congress on the state of the nation, nor of his budget message which urged a slashing of expenditures which would result in the smallest national deficit in a decade.

Even his Republican foes had to admit that what he said at the opening of Congress, was on a high plane, and members of his own political family called his address a masterpiece. Even Senator Carter Glass called it "pretty good." And as for his budget message, that stands on its own with everyone whose sincere purpose is to strike a reasonable and justified balance between national income and outgo, taking everything into consideration.

The President recommended a big expenditure for defense, but asked for a cut of almost everything in the budget, including farm relief and public works spending. If these recommendations are followed, he estimates that the net deficit for the fiscal year beginning July 1, would be around \$1,716,000,000 as compared with nearly twice as much for the current year.

And then he told the legislators that those who call for further cuts should have the courage and honesty to specify where they should be made; and conversely those who insisted on increasing the suggested expenditures should be prepared to find a source of revenue to cover such increases. To vary his suggestions in either direction, would be the responsibility of the legislative, not the executive, branch.

We were warning not to expect too much of either message. And here's why: This would be a remarkable Congress if its members willingly agreed to deprive themselves of almost half of the contents of their precious pork-barrel which is one of the main factors that keep them in Washington. It becomes serious business when a representative can't point to something obtained for his district, and one may well expect a lot of trading that will total far above the President's budget estimate. And when Congress finally quits and the members go back to their fence-building, we predict that farm relief and public works will have allocations far in excess of the President's schedule.

And Mr. Roosevelt has enough political wisdom to anticipate this. He is friendly to farm relief and public works spending, and it is barely possible that he advises cutting them, with tongue in cheek. He didn't say anything about a veto, you notice. But he said and implied a lot about responsibility and where it should be placed.

Nothing to Brag About

Along with the heads of the various other State agencies, Director Bruce Etheridge, of the Department of Conservation and Development, at the end of the year gave a resume of the activities of his department. While it was necessary for Director Etheridge to point briefly and speak in generalities he made out a very good case for his department.

In his review was this reference to a matter that is of vital concern to the people of this section of the State:

"Approximately 12,000,000 acres of forest lands in 58 counties have been protected against forest fires by the forest fire protection branch of the State forest service. Some six or eight additional counties have wanted to come into the forest fire protective system, but lack of State funds made it impossible to include these counties."

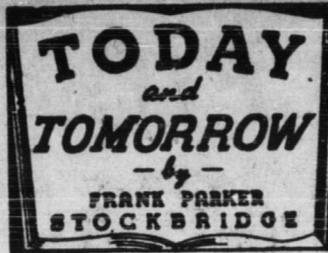
"The forest fire protection branch of the State forest service" looks well on paper and has a big and pleasing sound, and we have Director Etheridge's word for it that this agency has "protected" around twelve million acres of forests—and how? Thousands of acres of valuable but ruined timber assets are the answer.

Don't get us wrong! There is no purpose here to disparage the work of those connected with this branch of the forest service. With what tools they had they doubtless have more than earned their keep. And fortunately for all concerned they were able to call upon the CCC lads for help and get it, and upon frantic landowners who fought desperately to save their neighbors and themselves.

If the service of this agency is weak, it is because it has but a puny support from the State and not because those who man it are inefficient. And instead of bragging about its accomplishments in generalities that mislead there should be a pointing of fingers and a recital of losses calculated to impress legislators with the importance of upsetting the State's stupid complacency and the adoption of a policy of spending to save. For almost every year, forest fire losses reach a total that multiplies over and over again the amount spent for protection.

And such protection doesn't necessarily mean a network of expensive fire-fighting equipment, manned by a costly army of handlers. It means a more complete and rigid supervision that would provide adequate patrol. And heading the list of such responsibility should be the running down of hellions who set fire to the woods—intentionally and with malice. For the tales that come down out of the mountains reek with a cussedness that should be somebody's business. Maybe that is the duty of law enforcement agencies—but it is a duty apparently neglected.

All praise to Director Etheridge's fire-fighters, say we, but let's accentuate the praise with a brand of support that will assure a real summing-up. And above all should no county be reminded of the State's poverty, in such an important matter as this.



REVOLUTION . . . learning Five hundred years ago a single invention turned the world upside down. In the year 1440, as nearly as historians can figure it, Johannes Gutenberg set up a printing press in Mainz, Germany, and began printing sheets of paper and books from movable type.

The exact date is not important, nor does it make much difference whether it was Gutenberg or a Fleming named Coster who actually invented the new process of making many copies of a single manuscript and all of them exactly alike. Whoever did it, and whenever, it was perhaps the greatest revolution in human history.

Consider. Up to that time practically nobody knew how to read. Only the wealthy could afford to own books, and they usually had to hire men of learning to read them for them. The only educated persons were priests of the Church, and not all of them could read. King John, famous because he granted the rights of freemen to the English people, at the points of the swords of the barons at Runnymede, could not write his own name but had to make his mark on Magna Charta.

When books began to be printed instead of written by hand, everybody who sought to learn could have access to the learnings of the whole world.

CLERICS . . . superiority

The first books printed were religious books. Gutenberg's first important volume was the Bible, in Latin. The reason was mainly that the only folks who could write manuscripts were the clergy and the language of the church was Latin. Before printing, hundreds of young priests were employed to make copies of manuscripts and it was never certain that any two copies were alike. The first printing types were copied from the lettering of those clerical manuscripts.

We get the word "clerk," which the English pronounce "clark," from the Latin word "clericus," meaning priest. Anybody who could read or write must be a priest.

When printing came into use and anybody could learn to read the ancient exemption was abolished, but those who could read and write were, and still are, called "clerks." Perhaps the most important social effect of the invention of printing was that it ended the superiority of the priesthood over the ordinary man.

EVOLUTION . . . presses

Before Gutenberg, or whoever it was began to print on paper, many preliminary steps had been taken. Somebody had invented paper, probably the Chinese. Nobody knows just when paper was introduced into Europe, but it was brought by Arab traders from the Orient, maybe around the year 1,000. Up to then the writers of books had used parchment or vellum, made of animal skins scraped thin. The ancient Egyptians wrote on papyrus, which was thin sheets cut from the hard skin of reeds and flattened out.

Gutenberg's crude hand press was made of wood, and three hundred years later Benjamin Franklin was printing his Pennsylvania Gazette on a wooden press almost exactly like it. The Earl of Stanhope built the first iron printing press about 1780, and thirty years later the first power presses were designed for the London Times.

NEWSPAPERS . . . progress

It took nearly two hundred years after printing was invented for enough people to learn to read so that it was worth anybody's while to publish a newspaper. Most of the early papers went to jail for printing news the government didn't like. After another 150 years the principle of the freedom of the press was established, more people could read, but the cost of paper, made from rags, was so high that few could afford to buy newspapers.

The year before I was born, in my home town of Stockbridge, Mass., the first cheap paper, made from wood pulp, was manufactured. That invention speedily cut the cost of newspapers and books. I was a boy in my teens when Ottmar Mergenthaler invented the first practical type-casting machine, which cut costs of printed matter still further. Those two inventions, in one man's lifetime, have given us the modern newspaper.

I've been a printer since I was twelve and got out my own little paper on a hand press. I've been

Leap Year Hopefuls



making my living as a newspaper man for close to fifty years. But for Gutenberg's invention 500 years ago I might today be a cleric copying manuscripts in a monastery. Certainly I would be living in a world vastly different from that which existed before printing.

ANNIVERSARIES . . . six

This year of 1940 is certainly a year of great anniversaries. The 500th anniversary of printing, it is also the 400th anniversary of the setting up of the first printing press on the American continent, by the Spanish missionaries in Mexico, and it is the 300th anniversary of the first printing done in what is now the United States, by Stephen Daye, of Boston. It was 250 years ago, in 1690, that the first paper mill was started in this country, and 150 years ago that the most famous of all American printers, Benjamin Franklin, died.

When Gutenberg was starting his first press, in 1440, there was born in England a baby who was to write the first book to be printed in the English language, just emerging from its Norman-French swaddling clothes. His name was Geoffrey Chaucer, whose "Canterbury Tales" marked the beginning of English literature.

Cashwell's, Inc., one of Greensboro's outstanding department stores, has recently acquired the business here formerly operated by Marsh's Department Store in the old Smithey building on West Main Street, and have announced that they will operate it as an Elkin branch of their Greensboro store.

The Cashwell company is favorably known in Greensboro as a store with a reputation for fair dealing and value-giving, and the owners have stated that they intend making their Elkin store a credit to this community, and plan to fully cooperate in all worthwhile causes and projects at all times.

David H. Cashwell is president and general manager of the firm. G. Barney Cashwell is vice president. Mike Dunebour, who has been associated with the Greensboro store for some time, will be manager of the store here.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Bunebour stated that they are highly impressed with Elkin, and hope to be of service to the store's many customers and the community at large.

Cashwell's Inc., will hold an opening sale here starting Friday morning at 8:30 o'clock. Full details may be found in their advertisement located elsewhere in this issue.

Don't Like 'em Playboy—What do you think of modern night clubs, Pop? Oldboy—I don't like them. They have taken the rest out of restaurant and put the din in dinner. Patronize Tribune Advertisers. They Offer Real Values.

BOONVILLE

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Brown, of Sandy Ridge, spent the week-end with the former's parents, in Boonville.

Mr. D. H. Craver left today for Florida where she will remain for three months because of illness.

Francis Woodhouse, Mrs. J. A. Speas, and Dr. T. W. Shore are listed among the sick this week.

Dr. and Mrs. Tula Stinson and daughter, Nancy of Raleigh spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Hal Transou and family and James Transou visited Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Transou here Sunday.

Miss Carmen Frye, teacher of music in the Cherryville High School is still at home because of the delayed opening of school there.

Miss Amanda Hallman of Winston-Salem and Mrs. Robert Gaither of Cool Springs, spent the week-end in Boonville. Both are teachers in the local school.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Matthews of Winston-Salem visited in Boonville Sunday.

Miss Grace Brown of Raleigh, spent the week-end with her parents.

Miss Mary Speer is still at home due to the delayed opening of the Gibsonville school.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Coram had as their dinner guests Sunday, Mrs. Mary Mock and Mrs. Cornelia Burch.

Mr. Joe Fleming spent several days with relatives near East Bend.

Boonville basketball teams won a double header over Courtney high school in the local gym Tuesday night. A third game was played between the Boonville All-Stars and The Copeland Blues. Copeland came from behind in the last two seconds to win the game 25 to 24.

Mr. Joe Reece is ill at his home at the present time.

Mr. Harvey Gentry and Mr. Johnnie Canipe made a business trip to Charlotte last week.

Mr. Lloyd Mason of Yadkinville was a business visitor in town this week.

Rev. Raymond Connell, who has accepted the pastorate of Boonville and Jonesville Baptist churches preached his first sermon here Sunday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Connell have been making their home in Kannapolis.

Mr. and Mrs. Jessup Entertain Mr. and Mrs. R. Allan Jesup, who have recently moved into their new home in Boonville, entertained Saturday with a floating tea.

Mrs. Jessup received at the door and the guests were asked to register in an adjoining room. Miss Ruby Winkler presided at the registering table. The guests were directed over the house by Miss Dorothy Coram and Mrs. Ralph Coram. Mrs. Watt Deal and Mrs. T. M. Reece presided at the punch bowls.

Several gifts were received for the home.

Those attending the tea were: Mrs. Avalon Hall, Mrs. Walter Zachary and Miss Edith Jessup, of Yadkinville; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Smitherman, of East Bend; Mr. and Mrs. Sig Holcomb, of Elkin; Miss Edith Jester and Miss

Laura Cornelius, of Yadkinville, and Miss Paul Mathis, of Elkin; Irene Hall, of East Bend; Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Connell, of Kannapolis and Boonville, and the following guests from Boonville and vicinity: Mr. E. W. Caudle, Mr. and Mrs. Gorrell Stinson, Mrs. C. W. Riden, Mrs. O. C. Mottsinger, Mrs. Olive Smith, Mrs. J. L. Mottsinger, Mrs. J. J. Coram, Mrs. J. L. Jones, Katherine Jones, Mrs. W. R. Frye, Carmen Frye, Mrs. E. D. Mock, Mrs. C. R. Transou, Sadie Fleming, Mrs. Carl Martin, Mrs. S. C. Bohannon, Mrs. E. E. Hood, James Speer, Mary Speer, Mrs. George Williams, Mrs. Arlie Steelman, Mrs. Robert Transou, Amanda Hallman, Frances Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Hobson, Mrs. Roy W. Roscoe, Mrs. J. W. Shore, Mrs. James Amburn, Grace Hayes, Mrs. Robert L. Gaither, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Woodhouse, Mrs. F. M. Fletcher, Cleo Brendle, Velma Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Stinson, Mrs. Claude Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Walker, Robert Woodward, Watt Deal, Clint Hobson, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Martin, Ralph Coram, J. J. Coram, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Brown, Mrs. Ralph Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. Fred L. Key, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Canipe, Thad M. Reece, Mr. J. M. Speas, Fred and Edward Coram, Bruce and Nellie Sue Stinson.

Patronize Tribune Advertisers. They Offer Real Values.

WANTS

We buy scrap iron and metals. Double Eagle Service Co., Elkin, N. C. tfo

Lost or stolen: Black and white rat terrier dog. Answers to name of "Snippy." Reward of \$2.00 for return or information. Foley Evans, Elkin, Route 1. ttp

For Sale: one cow, will freshen in May; one Hereford heifer. Also white leghorn pullets, hens and rosters. Reason for selling, I am moving. Edward Freas, Traphill, N. C. ttp

Wanted to repair — radios. Our expert thoroughly knows his business. Prices right. Harris Electric Co., Elkin, N. C. tfo

When selling or buying produce see Early Combs, in the old city jail building. Telephone 308. tfo

Permanent Waves, \$1.00 and up. Shampoo and finger wave. 40c. Modern Beauty Shop, Louise Vestal, Ruby Gray. Telephone 340. tfo

Do you want plenty of eggs fresh, strong, fast growing young chicks? If so feed Panamin. We have it. Abernethy's, A Good Drug Store, Elkin, N. C. tfo

Wanted to buy all kinds of cattle, calves and pork hogs. See Hub Price at Basketeria. tfo

For sale: Two fresh cows. F. Bourquette, Thurmond, P. 11 tfo