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RANDOM THOUGHTS

by Doris Burton

When the Carnival was in town a few weeks ago, I went to see the fortune-teller—I, the hard-headed realist who has always laughed at such things. And it amazed me how accurate she was in her characterization of myself. I asked how she could possibly be so accurate and she informed me that certain things are gifts from God.

To some, He may give a beautiful voice, — to others dramatic ability or even just the ability to listen well; but to her, He had given that one thing — a knowledge of people.

Then she told me to make a wish for the one thing I'd like to have above all others. And I, like Solomon, wished for wisdom. Of course, I know that merely wishing for wisdom will not bring it to me. Only study, meditation, and time can bring it to any person. But if I could have it now, maybe I wouldn't need the six hands and legs or the three brains I so often wish for to accomplish all the things one woman has to do if she is a mother and homemaker.

Have you ever stopped to think of the number of things a woman has to know to be a success at that job? To name a few: house-keeper, cook, yard-boy, chauffeur, book-keeper, washer-woman, file clerk, and personnel manager. Then she has to keep peace among the children, to know when they are ill enough to call a doctor, keep track of all the many things they might mislay or lose; and finally, when father comes home, she must miraculously become the girl he married and be interested in his day and his welfare.

We have to be pretty smart, I think, if we do all that well. But no matter how well educated or smart we are, we're always going to run into situations we can't handle. Then where do we turn?

If the problem is a small one, we probably ask our friends or relatives for advice. But if it's so great that we can't bring ourselves to discuss it with another, we

turn to the God who created us. We ask for strength and faith enough to wait until He is ready to show us the way. And the solution always comes, — maybe not the solution we want, but remember that one's own way is not always the wisest way. It may be years before one realizes that He did know what He was doing and that His way was best.

That is how we attain wisdom. Maybe that is what wisdom really is — the knowledge that He is guiding our lives and that all we have to do is place ourselves in His hands and say, "Thy will, not mine, be done".

There are so many things besides wisdom that one might ask for. But what could one do with any gift if one hadn't the wisdom to use that gift constructively? Money would be no good, for it would eventually disappear from the hands of a fool. Love would not remain long in life of one without the knowledge to nurture it. Health could not be maintained for long unless its possessor appreciated it and took care of it.

With wisdom, all these things would be used intelligently. So my wish and my goal for all my life will be to attain more knowledge, so that someday someone might say of me, "She was a wise woman". Such a woman would have to be a beloved woman, and who could ask for any greater tribute than that?

Recent statistics compiled by Keep America Beautiful, Inc., indicate that there are 72 million licensed drivers in the U. S. today and 51 million registered vehicles piling up mileage at the unprecedented rate of more than 500 billion miles a year. This is an average of approximately 9,200 miles per vehicle and 7,800 miles per driver—if all were litterbugs, what would our country look like?

What is believed to be the world's thickest coal deposit—6 billion tons of lignite in an area of only 40 square miles—lies at Yallourn in Victoria, Australia.

Overlook On Life

By WARREN S. REEVE

Note: The idea of "Overlook" is taken from the Overlooks provided for viewing panoramas along the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Once I stopped at a kind of a recreational place near a river bank where they had some deer in a pen. One of these deer was crippled. Its rear legs would not support it. Wanting to stand up and walk around like its companions, it tried to raise itself up, only to fall and fall down. It would try again. Again, its legs would collapse just before reaching the standing position. Next time it seemed as if it would at last succeed. But, alas, no. Down it flopped!

I found myself almost spell-bound, watching it. One felt so sorry for it. Each time when it nearly succeeded, I wished I could share my strength with it, and give it the power to stand. But, of course I couldn't. Down it fell invariably.

Its repeated efforts to stand showed that it would not believe that it could not stand. It insisted that it ought to be able to stand. At least, so one fancied. (Actually, I suppose, the truer explanation would be that its memory was short: each time it forgot that it had failed again—and again.) Nevertheless the observer received the impression that it could succeed.

One could wish that we human beings were as determined to attain a worthy goal as that deer

was. If every nation were as determined to be a servant of the world rather than to be its ruler, would we be congealed with fear of nuclear destruction as many are now

To me, the most instructive feature of watching that deer was the effect of the activity of my mind on my body. After I had followed the movements of the injured creature for some time, I felt tired — perhaps as tired as the deer itself. Every time the deer tried to get up, I, mentally, was putting forth an equivalent amount of effort. It was I who was trying to get up, and I who couldn't do it. We might put it this way: I "lived into" activity of that deer.

My third observation is that we may, if we so choose, "live ourselves into" Jesus Christ. By concentrating our thoughts and interests incessantly on the accounts of His life and teaching, we may find ourselves "living through", to a degree, that Christ did and suffered when He was on earth. We may even go farther and say that by imagining Him living in the midst of our world today, we may live as if we were utterly identified with Him, in His thoughts, in His activities, and in His speech.

POETRY CORNER

Conducted By Edith Dederick Erskine

OMISSION

Not what we do—
 What we don't do;
 Not what we have—
 What we have not
 Creeps stealthily on us,
 Weeps in our hearts.

Edith Dederick Erskine, Weaverville, N. C.

RETREAT

The Springtime is an isle of dreams,
 And Wintry is the sea
 Between the shores of used-to-be
 And those that beckon me.

Yet, on a distant strand, I see
 A robin in her nest,
 Where Nature lays a pink corsage
 Across an orchard's breast.

And warbled notes from blooming boughs
 Drift ever down the breeze,
 Like benedictions for the heart
 Intoned in reveries.

NORTH CAROLINA YANCEY COUNTY

I, Evelyn H. Pate, Register of Deeds, for Yancey County, North Carolina, do hereby certify that the following report is a true and exact copy of the meeting of the County Commissioners for the months of July, August and Sept.

July— Debt	\$11,557.35
General	5,993.95
Poor	375.15
Aug. — Debt	\$14.58
Poor	558.45
General	11,549.95
Sept. — Debt	8,319.33
Poor	420.05
General	14,088.23

This is the 17th day of Sept, 1956.
 Evelyn H. Pate, Register of Deeds, Yancey County, N. C.

So let me muse through Winter days
 Of balmy days to be,
 And find a haven in my dreams
 From stark reality.

William L. Rathburn, Western N. C. Sanitorium, Black Mountain, N. C.

Attention Hemorrhoid (Pile) Sufferers

A Wonderful New Discovery Just Put On The Market. An ointment that has been used for the past two years by a prominent Mt. Holly, N. C. doctor who states "During the past thirty-seven years of general practice I have used all the well known and accepted remedies for the relief of Hemorrhoids—without a doubt the formula known as SUTHERINE gives the most satisfactory relief that I have ever used." SUTHERINE is especially recommended for the soothing relief of pain and itching in Hemorrhoid (piles). In many cases bleeding has been stopped. Ask for SUTHERINE at all drug stores.

BEE LOG STUDENTS ELECT OFFICERS

In recent elections held by the students of Bee Log High School officers and leaders were selected for classes and student body organizations.

New Student Government officials are: Howard Ramsey, President; Eudine Wilson, vice-president; Barbara Tipton and Wanell Edwards, senior representatives; Dora Mae Edwards and Ronnie Rabb, junior representatives; Kay Ann Edwards and Tommy Parker, sophomore representatives; and Margaret Wheeler and Darius Hensley, freshman representatives.

Senior Class officers are: Chester Hedrick, president; Ezra Fender, vice-president; Barbara Tipton, secretary-treasurer.

Junior Class officers: Elizabeth Randolph, president; Barbara Tipton, vice-president; Lee Ann Silvers, secretary-treasurer.

Sophomore Class officers: A. J. Howell, president; Elizabeth

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Wheeler, vice-president; Devon Randolph, secretary, and Avie Robinson, treasurer.
 Freshman class officers: June Peterson, president; Margaret Wheeler, vice-president; and Darius Hensley, secretary-treasurer.

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