

H. Y. Belk

AND HIS NEWS OF NEBO VALLEY

Miss Mary Lee Johnson visited her sister, Mrs. Nell Crow over the weekend in Charlotte.

I said in last week's column Miss Hazel Ware visited her sister, Mrs. Sue Belk in Nebo Valley, not Hoyle Ware—I don't know Hoyle is there be one.

Mr. Bill Ross from the Cora village visited your reporter Sunday.

Robert Jones and wife are visiting in Statesville.

John Starnes joined the Navy last week. Says he may see the

world if he gets around.

I met an old man in Shelby, old and grayed. Said he, I married when I was up in years. I had saved a small fortune. I had more than I could spend; in four years time she spent it all, and sent me adrift. Now what will I do? Stranger, I said, if I were you, I'd marry again. You might hit the jackpot and win, but who wants an old man and him broke? If he has money most any old gal could take him for a spin. Why then do men get in love? Can't help it. Why do women doll up so? I know, just so they can fool the men. Why don't men doll up? Shaw, they know they can catch a gal any how. If you don't believe what I'm preachin', stop in at one of these Road Houses, where they sell wine and beer after dark.

Maybe the reason so few people divorced in the good old days was that Reno hadn't been found.



Our next Sheriff will be a good man. I care not who he may be. The car has about done away with our home life. People are going to and from all over the earth. We travel so much we hardly know where home is. Time changes most every thing. I know it has changed our home life greatly in these past 30 years. We stay home so little, we don't know who is our next door neighbor. Maybe he don't know it. We act like strangers when at home to each other. If they should come to see us we wouldn't be home. The collector always finds us. If they don't they come back and charge us for another call.

All the time speaking of high priced eggs. It is true the hens that lay the eggs can't vote, but their owners can.

I asked a small darkey boy why a hen cackled when she layed. He said Mr. it seems to me she's glad she got shut of the egg. He asked me, Why don't a rooster lay, all the time crowing around. I said, see he's not built that way. He's all the time busy entertaining the lady hens. He said, I hadn't thought of dat. That reminds me why eggs are so high. The Government has 90 million dollars worth of dried eggs on hand. Don't know why they will do with all that chicken fruit. The people overseas don't want no more dried eggs. They want whiskey. North tells me the Huns don't eat dried eggs any more. They are getting back on their feet. Cursing the U. S. A. for running Hitler off. If they were to come over to America and run Truman off—take over, we'd sure care, too. We are very peaceable so long as we can dominate the world, but all the time looking for old Joe to drop bombs over, when Joe has no bombs to throw. Joe, dear old Joe never saw a bub, unless he met him on the street. We have lots of them on our hands to feed and clothe, but most anyone can bum a cigarette.

One by one the Democrats—Republicans too, are coming to see that opening diplomatic relations with Russia by F. D. R. was a grave mistake. Its better we have learned by now to be on the right side and love than to be on the wrong side and win. We hate war then why do we agitate war in time of peace, and then have to fight again?

It was the old saying about if it rains on the first day of the year 15 wet days are bound to follow. Whoever invented that old saying was a little touched

in the head. According to Radio Station WTUS it rained 21 days this January and gave a total of 15.54 inches. This was over in Tennessee. Since the memory of man runneth not, the contrary and available records show no contradiction, in such a deluge in all for Jackson, Tenn. I got this information from one of our Herald readers over in Tennessee. Mr. R. F. Dover who lives in Med. Tenn. All his cotton got washed away. In 1872 the U. S. Government set up a system of keeping permanent records concerning the weather for every town of any size in the U. S. A. These records indicate that in no year since has as much as 15 inches of rain been measured during any January. The next nearest was in January 1898 when 11.10 inches of rain fell. Normal average rainfall in that part of Tennessee is in January 4.44 inches. Taken over a period of 55 years, it must of been a wet spell—it rained forty days.

There is no long range meteorological indication that there will be any particularly long dry periods in 1950. But we must remember the unexpected always comes, so it is best to always take your coat with you when you go out. Like Monday morning the sixth, it was fair not a skiff of a cloud to be seen before 12 noon folks were running through a down pour of rain hunting shelter. The radio said no rain in sight. What does man know about the weather any way? We know it rained and we hope it will again, but who can tell, Grady Cole.

Some boys in Oklanoma City were showing a Texas rancher the sights of the town.

What do you think of our stock yards asked one. Oh, they are all right, but we have branding carrels in Texas that are bigger, he said.

That night they put some snapping turtles in his bed. When he turned back the covers he asked what they were. Oklahoma bedbugs, they replied.

He looked at them for a moment, so they are, he agreed. Young ones, aren't they? We have larger ones in Texas, they sting you too.

Sisters, and you brethern too. The real test of your religion is what happens between Monday a. m. and Sunday night p. m. That's the acid test. Keeping your religion active all through the week. You can't fold it up and put it in your hand bag and find it on Sunday when you start over to the church. It just won't be

findable. You got to cultivate it else it can't grow. People are prone to do a good part by their religion on Sunday, but during the busy week most of us don't take time to cultivate it during the week. We let get all contaminated with worldly things. Believe it or not, sisters.

Our American freedom is truth—the Great Truth. Freedom is the whole truth. When freedom is weakened or destroyed, all freedom is in danger. The same is true of your Sunday religion. You can't fold it up and hunt it up on the Sabbath morning. Religion is business just like any other profession. You got it or you not got it. You keep it or lose it. You can't lose it too often and be continually seeking to find it. I rather like the idea, some claim we can't fall from grace. I know we can't keep falling else we might not climb back up to a high state of sanctification. What is that? I better change the subject right now. I don't want to get flabbergasted with no one that knows about the same as I do about these mysterious things, so I ring off and leave it with the preachers, they know.

Right how things may look rosy to the Southern Democrats, but my dear sister, brother, you vote just wait till Harry starts his next campaign fighting to land the next election by ramming his Civil Rights measure down the throats of the Southern voters, that is when the fur will begin to fly, and fiery crosses will start to burning. That's when the fire works will start in Dixie Land. That will be known as the "Knock Down and Drag Out" Campaign the South ever celebrated. Who knows but I might be right. Then they will tell the people, Hush my dupes, lie still and slumber, Holy men guard our nation. Heavenly blessings will be falling on their heads without number. But wait until he starts spraying you with some of that colored stuff that he's got in his saddlebags. After the sickle man declared he would mow 'em down and give 'em hell. He pleads for cooperation, Hiram. Can you beat that for cooperation?

Now Cleveland county is getting ready to start a campaign for a new Sheriff. In our county usually the man who works the hardest gets the most votes. All these running are married men. All will likely have the same chance with the lady voters. They won't be looking for a husband among the constituents. All these men know the sheriff business. They grew up that way. They were taught by their fathers the whole business, so we cant doubt either one of them. So we are in for a good man. I care not which wins the office. Now if only two were running then it would be a 50-50 race. As it is all are going to look for a big majority of the votes cast. Well, boys that being the case, you better get out and work to see who wins and winds up with the shooting arms. Its a fact, then too, you most spend if you win.

The deluge of strikes that are tying up the nation, just look for more and more as the days go by.

If the Truman crowd carries on its plans of increased taxes, how in the heck can the people expect to have the taxes reduced. When the President called for \$4 billion dollars more to balance the budget who killed cock robin. It has never been proved, and you can't prove to me where all these taxes go.

I reckon the Republican party is about shot, but one thing about the so-called negro party,

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