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## Going After The Doctors.

Twenty-four Doctors are Violators  
of Vital Statistics Law.

The Bureau of Vital Statistics is going after the delinquents among the doctors, undertakers, midwives and local registrars of the State. During the past six weeks twenty-five prosecutions have been made. The doctors seem to be the chief offenders as only two of the twenty-five prosecutions were undertakers. Still others, it will have to be admitted, were guilty of negligence and carelessness in regard to their duties to the State as a whole. Three of Ruwan's doctors, one of Wilkes', three of Stokes', three of Forsyth's, two of Duplin's two of Rockingham's and two of Davidson's, have recently been called to answer the charge of failure to report births and deaths. Cabarrus, Wake, Cumberland, Cleveland, Orange, Harnett, Martin and Yates follow with one prosecution each.

Perhaps the reason some of the doctors were caught napping is due to the recent amendment, made by the 1915 Legislature, to the Vital Statistics law. It changes the time of reporting both births and deaths to the local registrars from ten days to five days.

To those acquainted with the Vital Statistics law and its importance to health work, it may appear that the difference of five days would be of little consequence and that just as births and deaths are reported, it should be sufficient. But the department that keep the books for the State's life and death interests (not financial, however) must deal with accurate figures and must insist on the requirements of the law. Only through the firm application of the law, in case of violators, is the department able to do accurate and efficient work.

## U. D. C. District Convention.

Murfreesboro, N. C.—The Third Annual Convention of the 17th, District held its formal opening at Chowan College on the evening of May 4th, Miss Gertrude Lawrence, President of the Norfolk Harrell Chapter, Murfreesboro, Presiding. Invocation was made by Rev. C. W. Scarborough, a Veteran. Addresses of welcome were made by Miss Ester Wynn in behalf of the Hostess Chapter and Miss Sue Lawrence in behalf of the Childrens Chapter, response by Mrs. Patrick Matthews our District Directress, who gave us much interesting historical data in connection with our town. A musical program was rendered by Misses Faucet and Elliott and Prof. Mitchell. "The Little Rebel" was given by Miss Vann.

Business sessions were held at the Masonic Hall at 10:30 A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. Among the delegates and visitors present were: Mrs. Scarborough, Misses Willie Boone and Ruth Davenport of the Hertford County Chapter, Winton, Mrs. Patrick Matthews, Miss Mary Pruden and Mrs. J. N. Vale of Belle Battery Chapter, Edenton, Miss Lullie Barham of Newsoms, Agnes Scott Chapter, Miss Katherine Sinton of Lee Camp Chapter, Richmond. Reports were read from Elizabeth City Chapter, Hertford County Chapter, Belle Battery Chapter, and Norfolk Harrell Chapters, which were very encouraging and interesting.

A reception was given by the Norfolk Harrell Chapter in honor of delegates, visitors and Veterans on the evening of May 5th, at the Oaks, the home of Mrs. C. T. Vaughan, the first President of our Chapter, which was decorated with red and white roses, maiden-hair fern and Confederate flags. In the receiving line were Mrs. C. T. Vaughan, Mrs. Matthews, Miss Gertrude Lawrence and Miss Mary Pruden.

Miss Katherine Sinton presided over the punch bowl. Salad and ice courses were served, favors being small Confederate flags.

## "More Light Turned On"

May 3rd., 1915.

DEAR EDITOR:

An article appeared in the columns of your valuable paper last week signed W. R. Howard, which so grossly misrepresented facts and at the same time questions my veracity to such an extent that I beg you to please let me have another word and I am through with this unpleasant affair. To begin with there are three parties circulating this petition, yet Mr. Howard sets out to say what methods all of them used in persuading men to sign his petition, I have never claimed that the wording to his petition contained such malicious charges but the verbal statements spoken at the time they present the paper is what is so objectionable to me and a great number of others who signed. Mr. Howard states none of them brought any charges against any of the board when they are doing this daily, as Mr. Howard stated in my presence and before witness, that the Road Supervisors paid Mr. R. G. Harrell, around \$25.00 to drain his farm that the ditch ran up a hill and could not do the road any good, this is not a serious charge is it? When the truth was it cost the township only \$5.50 and Mr. Harrell paid half the cost, and this was the only available water course and has greatly drained said road. Now Mr. Editor, I did not wish to have to bring names in this matter but Mr. Howard consumed so much space in your paper and is not a subscriber at that, I am forced to come out with a part of the hidden facts. When Mr. Howard says it is not their aim to throw out Mr. Teaster, as expiration of time will save them that trouble, he betrays his own self, closing his little plea of innocence, by saying that if the present board was giving satisfaction he was not aware of the fact, another slip that you can see through, he also asked Mr. B. N. Edwards if he would sign his petition to throw out Mr. T. J. Teaster, and put in Mr. J. C. Benthall, using these identical words and Mr. Edwards replied that he would not. Why has Mr. Howard all at once become such a jealous guardian of the road funds, it may be true that public officials at times have to pay a big price for work as most people charge heavy when the county has to foot the bills. A few years ago Mr. W. R. Howard charged the county \$2.50 for putting up a little sign board at the cross roads here and they refused to pay him but 50 cents, immediately the sign disappeared and hasn't been seen since. I also say to the public the original petition is different in some important respects from the copy he published in last issue of the Herald which he borrows to read to prove some of the parties carrying around this petition does not at all times fully explain the invisible purpose. Mr. R. L. Edwards, J. J. Futrell and myself asked if there was a vacancy or would it interfere with any one of the present board if we signed for Mr. Benthall, and he said he supposed there was a vacancy, and their aim was to present this petition at the April commissioners meeting but became shy and now says they are preparing for June meeting. Begun their petition quite a while ahead of time didn't they? Mr. Howard claims he does not know why I am not on his side when I fully explained my position to him and he is the first one of the authors of the petition that informed me that it was their aim or hopes to throw out Mr. T. J. Teaster, when I became suspicious and began to investigate. I thank him for this information. I could state many other things but space forbids and this is enough about this affair, the whole trouble came from a gentleman loosing his job on the road machine, and his pal, sympathizing with him began this petition. I have no fight to make if the honorable board ap-

Continued on page five.

## Prays That President May be Wisely Guided.

Dr. Bowie Calls Sinking of Lusitania Climax of Violation and Burning.

## HIGH TRIBUTE FOR WILSON.

Rector of St. Paul's Denounces Talk of Nobility, Under Cover of Which Men and Nations Do Ignoble Things.

Lamenting that perversion of conscience which "set evil for good and good for evil," and resulted in the destruction of the Lusitania and the death of innocent men, women and children by German submarines, Rev. W. Russell Bowie, D. D., rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, yesterday morning expressed sympathy with the lonely man in the White House wrestling with the grave problem as to what action the United States shall take, and saw in the misguided course of the German empire a lesson which individuals and communities might take to heart.

Dr. Bowie compared the stand of Germany to day in its array against the world with the situation in which the kingdom of Judah stood at the climax of its national resources. "The rulers of Judah and the princess of Jerusalem," he said, "refused to believe that any serious harm could befall. They thought the nation would be protected by God's favor. They exulted in the belief that they were a peculiar people, marked out for a manifest destiny that nothing could check; and they turned the privilege of their greatness and their culture into the presumption that these things could not be overthrown."

## Talk of Nobility, and Under Cover of it do Ignoble Things

"But Isaiah, like others of the heroic prophet line, spoke with the terrible plainness of clear conscience against the false confidence of his people. They might not dare to set aside God's sanction and boast of God's protection; they might not talk of nobility, and under cover of it do ignoble things. Yet this was what they did. 'Woe unto them,' he cried, 'that call evil good and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness, that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.' This people were on the brink of judgment and disaster because they had become so obsessed with the idea of their consequence in God's world that they had lost the discrimination of conscience as to the things that give a people a right to endure.

"As we look at the facts in our world to-day, we of America cannot but feel that one great nation peculiarly stands in danger of repeating the dreadful error of Israel. We shall not speak nor in unfair prejudice of the tragic horror of two days ago. The decision of America's course in the light of the sinking of the Lusitania rests now in the hands of one whom the nation trusts. Thank God that in the seat of authority in Washington is a man great and sane and wisely patient, yet most true to honor and to truth.

## President Wrestles Alone With His God

"There is something deeply significant in the statement in the papers that the President had denied himself to all visitors—even members of the Cabinet—and had set himself to think through his problem alone—alone from human counsellors, yet, doubtless, not alone. For he must go to day in the high solitude of his own soul to stand before the face of God, and in that still communion to seek to find for himself and for us the ways in which the nation's feet should go. Out of the depths of the heart's earnestness must we pray that he may be given light to choose aright, that America—in peace if possible, but whether in peace or not—may be faithful to

honor and to righteousness and to the service of humankind.

"We wait, therefore, for those in authority, possessing more information than we, to pass upon all the facts in the present tragedy. This is not the time, nor are we the persons, to try to forecast results. But this is the time to try to read such spiritual truth as there may be for us to understand. And that truth is the dreadfulness—now as in the long ago days Isaiah—of that spirit in a nation which makes it so obsessed with confidence in its right to live and triumph that it dares to violate the moral sanctions in the light of which alone a people has a right to live.

## Climax of Policy of Violation and Burning.

"The sinking of the Lusitania and the murder of women and children which that sinking meant, so awful as scarce even now to be credible, becomes the more sinister when it is seen as the climax to a policy in the course of which the violation of Belgium and the burning of Louvain were the earlier steps. It is a policy, more than once voiced, that makes 'military necessity' an excuse for almost any ruthlessness—an arrogant madness which fashions its own morality and sets evil for its good and darkness for its light.

"Not of the great body of the people of the German empire do we speak now. Through self-deception and the tragic blindness of a misguided, a nation may be led into self-betrayal. But those who chose for a great people the policy which in this war it has followed, those who teach it that its divine destiny is to dominate the earth, no matter what divine realities it tramples in the process, lead it to a shame and disaster which though it tarry, yet will come. It may not be from the wound struck by its enemies; it may be through the deeper death of the suicide of what is finest in a nation's soul. God is not mocked, and they who think to defy the conscience of the universe shall find the truth of the prophet's awful words: "Therefore, as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness and their blossom shall go up as dust."

## Must Look at Possibilities of our own Obliquity.

"But the ultimate purposes of what we have been saying is not to condemn another people. It is to open the door into an interpretation of truth also for ourselves. As it is possible for nations, so it is possible for individuals and for communities to make the mistake which Isaiah condemned in Jerusalem. The essence that perversion of conscience which he meant when he spoke of a right to succeed, grown so great and overweening that moral sensitiveness to the good or evil of the means to that success is destroyed, may come to a man in business who frames or accepts for himself rules of conduct which set justice and brotherhood at naught, and justifies this on the ground of business necessity. It may come to a community when that community tolerates some vice because it is profitable, and is callous to the sacrifice of lives which go as the victims down that scarlet way of shame which is worse than the death that men and women died the other day at sea.

"When we look at the moral obliquity which caused that tragedy, let us look also at the possibility of our own. Let us be sure that in our personal life and our civic life we keep our conscience true to those sanctions of God along the high path of which alone can honor lie."—Richmond Times Dispatch.

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