

## The Chatham Record.

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Editor and Publisher

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There was no greater incentive to soberness in saloon days than the fear of losing a job through drunkenness. Henry Ford is applying the principle now to his employees. He announces that the smell of liquor on an employee's breath means dismissal. He will not see his men aid and abet law violation. Let all employees follow the same course and there will be fewer buyers of booze and shortly fewer makers and sellers. A man who patronizes law-breakers himself deserves little consideration. And as the Greensboro Patriot points out, one in sustaining a liquor seller may also be encouraging a killer, as was indicated a few days ago when a negro bootlegger in Greensboro shot a man dead.

It has proved very easy to secure a loan fund for the retirement of cotton. But does it mean anything? If all the cotton growers belonged to the Cooperative Association, and that association could secure the funds, as it undoubtedly could, it could announce definitely that four million bales would be retired with an expectation of a large cut in production next year, and a response in rise of price might be reasonably expected at once. But the mere fact that funds are provided to loan on stored cotton, with no assurance that any large quantity will be stored, is having no effect on prices. The average man cannot store his few bales. In the first place, convenient facilities are lacking. We doubt if Chatham county has a single storage room meeting the demands of the loan corporation. In the second place, the average farmer owes more than his cotton will bring and his creditors will demand every cent it will bring. So on the market it goes, and the storing is done by the buyers and the loan fund benefits them. They can hold for higher prices. The Cooperative folk have come out squarely, saying that the loan corporations will do the farmers no good. They are peeved, and probably justly, that the engineers of the attempts to finance cotton did not use their agency, and declare that the professed friendliness of the administration to the cooperatives has proved to be merely buncomb, or, to abbreviate, pure bunk.

Mr. J. L. Griffin had notice a few days ago of the meeting of the board of trustees of Wake Forest College in Wilmington during the Baptist State Convention. One of the matters to be considered is that of the election of a president to succeed Dr. Poteat, whose resignation takes effect next commencement. It may be that a decision will not be reached so early, but we shall not be surprised to see John E. White elected and the agony over. Dr. Poteat has made a great executive, but his real forte is teaching, and it is to be hoped that he will continue his work as a member of the faculty till he is eighty. He is seventy now, and for a number of years has been determined to resign the presidency at that age. Dr. White, whose father, Rev. J. M. White was rector near White's Bridge on Rocky River, is now president of Anderson College, Anderson, S. C., also pastor of the Anderson church. It is a mere prediction, a guess, on our part that he will succeed Dr. Poteat, but watch and see if it is not a good one. Dr. F. W. Sikes, now president of Clemson College, S. C., will doubtless also be considered. Both are Wake Forest men, members of the famous football team of 1889 and 1890, and have won laurels as teachers and orators.

It is tough, but a fellow has to keep up his courage. The past eight months we have been climbing out of a hole a thousand dollars deep and had got our chin over the top. But alas, the gentle slope we hoped to see before us is mighty steep and rugged. Ten-cent cotton hits the Record hard. This is our third fall here. The first two there was not a living gathered. The crop of 1924 was drowned; that of 1925 parched. A good crop, despite early prospects, has been raised this year, but the price is killing. But we are only one of many to meet another discouragement when strength has been taxed to overcome former ones, but nothing is lost so long as courage doesn't fail. The editor of the Record set in and learned the printing business rather than be beaten here, and has done two men's work, with the result that he has climbed out of a mighty bad hole into which he had been flung, and now he must keep going.

Queen Marie is still galivanting over this country. She has had only one serious proposition put up to her since reaching America and she declined to take that. A committee of Baptist leaders asked for an audience to put in a plea for Roumanian Baptists who are persecuted, but her majesty declined to meet the brethren.

At last rain enough has fallen to make it possible to break land for the winter crops, and it has fared off so that the work may be done. Thousands of acres will likely be planted the next few days in Chatham. Let the farmers remember that if they have little or no cotton next year there will be more land for winter crops and more time next spring and summer to harvest them. Again, we call for some one to test out barley. If it is harvested two weeks earlier than wheat it gives a better opportunity to make a full crop after it. But not a minute to be lost if a test is to be made.

You will find a batch of editorials on the front page. As county news has not developed to any great extent this week, we have fallen back to our former reliance of editorials.

## SAMPSON GOES DEMOCRATIC

The overturning of the big Republican majority in Sampson county last year has constituted an interesting study throughout the state has been a source of interest.

There were several factors in producing the surprising result. First, the main organizer and the furnisher of the funds for propaganda, liquid and printed, was lost to the Republicans when Clerk of Court Sessions was convicted of robbing the pension funds. Second, when this writer sold the Sampson Democrat to the purchaser of the Republican paper and bound him to make the paper he should publish either Democratic or Independent, the Republicans lost their county organ, for while the Sampson Independent has been open to both parties on the same terms, it could not be used as a partisan support for the Republicans. On the other hand, the establishment of a new Democratic paper gave the Democrats an effective organ. Third, as the editor of the Record, in Sampson and here, has pointed out as likely, the Sampson Republicans have doubtless become tired of being treated like step-children by the state organization. This writer suspected a lack of real interest in maintaining the majority when George Butler, who for a quarter of a century has urged the support of the schools on an equal per capita basis, declined to accept the Republican nomination for the house of representatives in a year when his pet subject is under serious consideration. Briefly, we are almost confident the Butlers are not grievously disappointed in the result. Fourth, friction was developed in the Republican ranks by the renomination of a man who has held office eight years, as opposed to the custom, except in the case of clerk Sessions, who was above party law, of rotating at least every six years. And, fifth, the low price of cotton answered the long-time taunt of "Cleveland and five-cent cotton."

Two or three more or less influential Republicans positively advocated ousting the ring as did the Democrats of Johnston two years ago, and urged this step through the columns of the Democratic paper. Moreover, political feeling had become practically nil in Sampson county. This, we may modestly claim, is largely the result of the attitude of the writer as editor of the Sampson Democrat. Just here we recall very vividly being taking to task nine years ago by a few Bourbons for the manner in which we treated the Republicans in the paper. In fact, Sampson should never have been if it had not been for the attitude of a few men. The natural thing for the Populists to do, when that party succumbed was to go back to the Democratic fold, but Sampson Populists had had a real grievance against the Democratic organization, and would not submit to turning over the county government to the element still in control of the Democratic organization. Name did not count with them in the face of the alternative mentioned. They intended to hold the county under whatever label might serve, and they did it for thirty-two years, and would be doing it right on if the same rancorous feelings had continued to exist.

The Democrats have paid dearly for their folly in the early nineties and at later crises when the Populist element might have been won over. Time and again the fence was made higher instead of being thrown down flat and the wanderers being invited to come in and make themselves at home. In fact, fusion and its train of evils may be traced back to the fusion of the Democrats and Negroes in the election of the Democratic county ticket in 1892 over a majority of the white folk of the county who voted for the Populist ticket.

But a new spirit has prevailed for several years. There was no county in the South in which a man was freer to vote his convictions and retain the respect of his neighbors. That spirit was the forerunner, we are sure, of the surprising result of the recent election, when every Democratic candidate save one was elected, and he losing by only eighty votes to a Republican who had held office only one term.

We believe that Sampson will remain Democratic if the new county administration proves wise. The county with its big voting population has been almost voiceless in the choice of congressmen, judges and solicitors. The county can now come into its own in the affairs of the districts and the state. The case while compared to that of Johnston is not identical. The partisan spirit, or lack of spirit is more favorable in Sampson for the perpetuation of the change. Besides, Johnston had nothing to gain from a state or district point of view by becoming Republican. Rather it was all to lose. Accordingly, when the pique at the Democratic ring was exhausted Johnston again gave its big Democratic majority. Sampson has much to gain by taking its old-time place in the Democratic ranks, and as the Republican element of Sampson embraces some of the best people in the world, now that the ice is broken, we may confidently expect to see them take their proper place in the Democratic ranks and retain it.

Al Smith sentiment is undoubtedly growing. Yet we could almost wish that he had lost prestige at the recent election sufficient to prevent his candidacy from bringing about a religious war in the party. But instead of losing, he has gained prestige, and his nomination for the presidency looms up as a strong probability.

It is Armistice Day—a great day that. Yet when the anniversary arrives we always recall the unnecessary, and apparently inexcusable slaughter in the battles of that morning. Two fine young fellows from Sampson were killed that morning, two out of less than a score killed on the battle fields of the whole war.

State Superintendent Allen says that education has made over the state the past ten years. That is easier said than proved. The same conditions, forces, and spirit that have

built the roads of the state have multiplied school facilities. It is yet to be seen what effect the multiplication of school facilities will have. However, a census of what the graduates of high schools and colleges for the past fifteen years are doing to increase production, effect transportation and distribution on a more modern basis, and otherwise adding to the sum total of wealth and happiness would determine in a measure the prospective value to the state of the millions being spent for education. We see the profession of law, the insurance agencies, the filling station business, and many other jobs overcrowded, but see few educated boys turning to the farm or to factory work. There are few, or no, apprentices, and a youth who has spent \$2,000.00 for a college education does not feel disposed to start at the bottom. But probably necessity will force a distribution of energy and effort, but it will be economically hurtful to the individual and to the state for full-grown men to have to learn trades after they have spent the years of their youth in school, studying things that lead directly to only such employment as draws its recompense from the toll of those who have less schooling but more apprenticeship training. McGirt of Wilmington has been one of the prime movers in road building. What college did he attend? Ask about others. But, mind you, college education is a good thing, but work is the real miracle worker. Teach the student to work and all will be well.

We approve the discounting by the Greensboro News of a compliment containing "most" for "almost." Forty years ago when one used "most" that way he placed an apostrophe in front of it to indicate the shortening from "almost." But it really seems today that many folk do not know that there is such a word as almost.

Note the addition to the T. M. Bland Co.'s advertisement in which they say they will allow credit customers 15 cents a pound for cotton on their accounts and a dollar a bushel for corn. This is truly meeting the folk more than half way. It means, almost assuredly, that the company is sacrificing its profits and loaning the customer goods through the summer without interest. Any customer that doesn't appreciate such generosity and do his best to meet his obligations is deserving of very little consideration. It is a time when every one must make a sacrifice or the business of the community will be utterly disrupted. The failure of one man to do his best to meet his obligations may mean that a dozen others shall fail, and many feel embarrassment. If a bucket brigade were trying to put out a house fire, the failure of one in the line to pass on the buckets would cause the loss of the house, unless some one else did more than his share. The neglect and carelessness of the easy-going make it terribly hard on others. Let every Chatham county citizen resolve that the disruption of business shall not be due to any slackness or lack of effort on his part. Hard work will not kill, and doing without some things in order to meet the obligations of honor will prove a satisfaction rather than a hardship. These last sentences are not with reference to the Bland proposition but merely suggested by it.

Governor McLean is right in contending that the elementary and the secondary schools should be provided for before the granting of the greatly enlarged demands of the University and other state colleges. He suggests, and reasonably, that students pay the real cost of dormitory accommodations, thereby encouraging private capital to erect rooming houses for students. Others think that a college course should be made as cheap as possible whatever the cost to the taxpayers. Governor McLean sees the cost of a professional education as an investment and feels that the state is not justified in giving it for only a small percentage of its cost. He is right. Moreover, if students had not developed an extravagant life at the colleges there would be more reason for the state to assume the burden. But, actually, the extravagances and frills of college life today are costing more than all the expenses of the average college student in the nineties. If the students have money to throw away in these extravagances, let them pay at least half the cost of what the state furnishes them. To develop a more economical life at the schools is itself of great importance. Some of the young men are living on a basis that their incomes will probably be unequal to sustaining when they enter the work-a-day world. Besides, there are boys going to college now that ought to be serving apprenticeships to trades.

Dr. Knight charges bad business management in allowing seventy million dollars' worth of school houses to remain unused half the year. It would not help matters altogether to use them eight months. But some one made a suggestion in one of the state papers the other day that would solve the matter. The Record believes that six months of school term. The suggestion mentioned is that the schools be operated in two terms of six months each. The summer term being for the elementary pupils, say to the sixth grade, and the winter term for the larger pupils. That arrangement would serve three of four economical purposes. First, the school buildings would not have to be enlarged for a long time. Two sets of furniture would make a five room school building serve the purpose of a ten-room building at present. There would be required only half the present amount of fuel. Well equipped teachers would have all-the-year employment, teaching an elementary grade in the summer term and a higher grade in the winter. This would answer the demand for prepared teachers, and the smaller number required and the greater demand upon their scholarship should serve to cut out a portion of the hair-brained bunch that can never teach well because they never learned well. The suggestion is a radical one, but as a teacher of 25 years' experience, we

see in it much of merit. Teachers need a year's pay; but like other folk they should give a year's service to

Rev. Jonas Barclay and wife returned Tuesday evening from a visit to Mrs. Barclay's sisters, Mrs. Alice Mason of Stanley and Mrs. John O. Rankin of Gastonia. While away they attended the funeral of Captain Mark Holland of Mt. Holly, a first cousin of Mrs. Barclay. Mr. Barclay, being a former pastor, assisted in the funeral exercises, which were begun at the Mt. Holly church and concluded at the Dallas church, where the interment took place. Very large congregations gathered at each place to do honor to the memory of this much beloved man.

## A FINE OCCASION

The P-T Association Furnishes a Delightful Program Friday Evening—Prof. Waters Writes Play for the Occasion

(Reported)

The Parent-Teachers association of the Pittsboro school held its regular meeting in the school auditorium Friday night. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. R. H. Hayes. Invocation was offered by Rev. C. M. Lance, pastor of the Pittsboro Methodist church. A short business meeting was held at which reports were made from various committees and grade mothers, the most interesting being from Mrs. W. P. Norton who attended the district meeting in Raleigh Thursday. The treasurer reported a goodly balance and an enrollment of 95 members.

The members of the association were pleased to hear Mrs. E. E. Moffit, of Richmond, Va., who organized the first Betterment association in Chatham and Wake counties.

The entertainment of the evening was a play, "The Tie That Binds," written by Prof. J. S. Waters, chairman of the program committee. In this play was shown the relationship which exists between the home, parent-teacher association, the county superintendent and the school. The climax was reached when these forces came together in a united effort for the good of the school and the child.

In addition to the parent-teacher program, was an exercise given by Little Betty Bell, Loula Foushee Hinton, Sarah Lance, and Fletcher Mann, Jr., members of Mrs. C. M. Lance's kindergarten class. Cake and lemonade were bountifully served the large number present.



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