

The Charlotte News

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SUNDAY MORNING, AUG. 27, 1911. SOME SUNDAY MORNING REFLECTIONS.

The falling off in the number of ministerial candidates in the protestant denominations has been noticed with considerable alarm for a good many years and matters in this respect appear to be getting worse rather than better.

A prominent New York clergyman, Dr. Isaac Crook, has recently made a careful study of the situation and publishes his results in the New York Christian Advocate. He tabulates the reasons responsible for the falling off of ministerial candidates upon fourteen heads and several of these are worth careful attention.

The notable characteristic of this line of reasoning is that it is secondary. There is a reason behind it which must be sought. The great flaming of ministers of the word in all the past ages would have given it little weight. Their call was compelling and not under any circumstances to be avoided.

Dr. Crook identifies a second group of reasons which may be briefly described as the greater attractiveness of secular professions. Beginning with Y. M. C. A. work and similar lines of endeavor in which the young man may earnestly serve God and his fellows without desisting from secular callings, the writer goes on to point out how the other learned professions with their more generous remuneration and their greater liberty of action seduce the ambitious youth from his plans of entering the ministry.

It is not until we come to what might be termed the third group of Dr. Crook's reasons that we begin to strike rock-bottom. He declares that the habit of family prayer has almost gone out of fashion; that mothers no longer seek to exercise that loving compulsion which was formerly such a powerful aid to a young man's decision in this matter; that the ministers themselves as a class are reprehensibly indifferent in the matter of presenting the claims of the ministry upon the

young men with whom they come in contact; that many of what should be a sacred profession are little better than clowns, seeking notoriety at any and all costs.

Here we are getting down to the crux of the trouble. The gradual omission of family prayers is one of the most characteristic signs of the unreligious attitude of the age. The time was—and not beyond living memory either—when in a large majority of the homes in this immediate section breakfast or supper would have been foregone with less of a shock than the daily gathering around the family altar. A better school of biblical and religious training could scarcely be devised than this family worship. To its neglect is largely to be ascribed the indifference to the affairs of the church so markedly displayed by the younger portion of the community—one of the principal proofs of which is this very matter of the decrease in the number of ministerial students.

With no regularly established family altar it is no wonder that mothers no longer influence their boys to the sacred calling. Without the assistance of its influences ministers who desire to lay the matter before the young men are at a loss where to take hold. Were it the single line in which there has been progress in the wrong direction it would be insufficient to explain the facts under discussion. It is one of many. Sabbath observance today is a very different thing from what it was when our fathers were children. And so with church attendance, Bible reading and other equally important matters.

What is the outlook? It is impossible to define its character exactly but there are to be seen not a few elements in the situation which give ground for hope. Foreign missions—and home missions as well—were never so thoroughly studied as they are today. The auxiliary bodies, such as the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. are filling an even-widening field. Hospitals and prison betterment point in a similar direction. Associated charities looking after the poor in all the larger cities give unmistakable evidence that the spirit of the Gospel is a very live influence even in this highly commercialized age.

Will these favorable signs justify an indifferent attitude towards the crying needs of the church, typified and brought to a focus by the dearth of candidates for the ministry? We do not think so. There must be a return to the old beaten paths. Family prayers must be re-established. Church attendance must again be insisted upon in the case of the young and be made attractive to older folks, too. The reading of the Bible—the highest intellectual importance as well as from an ethical standpoint—must be recommended to the rising generation as it has not been urged upon the present.

We do not believe the world is getting worse. On the contrary we believe that there is more genuine love for God and man in the world today than there has ever been. But mis-steps must be retraced and the good practices of the past, apparently slipping away, must be re-grasped with firmer hold. The situation today is not nearly so bad as it was in Savonarola's or in Wesley's time. Perhaps a successor of theirs will bring about the change; maybe it will come more gradually and as the result of the work of many lesser toilers. But come sooner or later we believe it will.

A California couple unable to secure a marriage license on land, boldly launched a boat and braved the waves until they were beyond the three mile limit which marks the boundary of the high seas. There the necessity for license does not obtain and two fond hearts were promptly united by the obliging minister who had accompanied them. This is what might be termed entering the uncharted sea of matrimony with unusual literalness.

The San Antonio Express voices the pious wish that the 400 clerical errors found in the new Texas code may serve to transform some bad laws into good ones. Alas! beloved. Clerical errors don't work that way. If the late Texas legislature did actually pass what might be called a good law, it would be a safe bet that something like three hundred of the above-mentioned errors would be found concentrated in it.

With the certainty of "Little Joe" Brown's entrance into the Georgia gubernatorial race, the world has merely to hold its breath until Hoke Smith by leaving Atlanta for Washington, sets free the dogs of war in the epithet-soaked arena of Georgia public affairs. And this set-to is scheduled to exceed in warmth anything Georgia has seen since Sherman burned his way from Atlanta to the sea.

And once again it has been proved that if a check-flasher only has brass enough he can get away with the goods right here in Charlotte. The adventures of certain of his predecessors, however, make it appear probable that the latest exponent of the art will have a chance to ponder the ups-and-downs of fortunes upon the famous good roads of Mecklenburg.

After a quiescence of some duration Coal Blaze erupted again in old-fashioned style. So far as we know no scientist has yet been bold enough to predict when this particular volcano will enter the "extinct" class.

The New York World is running a series of editorials, each dealing with the thought that Mr. Taft has committed political suicide. Even if our contemporary prove correct we do not think the poor man should be blamed because we haven't the slightest idea he meant to do it.

The Greensboro Record feels constrained to call attention once more to the fact that there is a state law prohibiting chickens from running at large. We'll bet for every time it is observed we can cite a hundred instances of its violation.

A man was killed in Buffalo the other night for a \$1 bill. He ought to have known better than to trapeze around with so much money on him in these times of the high cost of living.

Take it from us, if there is a clerk of court in North Carolina who has anything on Charles Cotton Moore of Mecklenburg, he has thus far carefully hidden his light under a large and dense bushel.

It is the irony fate that veterans should survive the dangers of four years war and the casualties of nearly half a century of civil life only to perish at length in a railroad wreck.

Minneapolis and Louisville having withdrawn from the contest it looks as if the next democratic national convention would go to Baltimore without further dispute. Suits us down to the ground.

Chicago eats 40,000,000 pigs feet a year, according to statistics. We had no idea the Windy City was such a souse.

THE MEAT PROBLEM.

To the Editor of The News. Since certain parties, mostly those having interests at stake, seem to take a special delight in condemning our farmers for bringing unsanitary food products into the city and selling them on the streets, it is full time for the other side of the question to have a hearing. Maligning our honest yeomanry as being unscrupulous and not trustworthy could be passed by in silence but for the fact that any clamor however false, will find believers and followers.

Recently a rampant rumor was going the rounds that a putrid piece of meat had been brought from the country to the abattoir. Failed to register his name. Singular indeed. Very mysterious; and that fellow is still at large. Go to the abattoir, take a look for yourself and be convinced that its managers ought not to be the first to throw stones.

In a recent issue of the Observer appeared a communication from an agent of the Swift Packing Company denouncing the home raised products, claiming that they were unsanitary and unsafe for use. No one, for a minute ever anticipated the butting in from such a quarter, and I will, forthwith, pay him my compliments. I hope and would like to believe, that the author of this outburst had no ulterior or selfish motives in view. Does he fear competition since the opening of the avenues of trade to the surrounding country? Does a vision of the future loom up before his mind's eye of fat steers coming into the city through unobstructed channels? Or, does he hear and behold in his dreams the lowing herds slowly winding their way over the mountain tops and down the verdant slopes of the Blue Ridge, making towards the Queen City—an ever welcome mart with open gates to receive them. Nothing to hinder this dream from becoming a reality. All barriers have been torn away. Our banner, waving in the breeze, has inscribed thereon that noble expression of liberty—free trade.

Notwithstanding all and every onslaught made upon our farmers the consumers in Charlotte refuse to give up their faith in them. Having tried their pure fresh and palatable meats and vegetables, they are satisfied. Serious objections are raised to the cold storage meats, owing to the peculiar taste, smell and toughness; and some go so far as to say that putrefaction sets in so soon as the ice is removed or within a short time afterwards. As a rule the markets appear to be clean and kept in good order, but this does not prevent the noxious odors, emanating from decaying meats, from infecting any good meats that may be on hand. Neither does it hold back the disagreeable smell that is wafted through the screen doors on to the sidewalks to greet the olfactory of the passers by.

Much the same comment might be made in comparing the stale vegetables found in the grocery stores, with the fresh articles handled in from the country. Chickens directly from the farmers yards have bright eyes and red combs and are generally fat. In the coops at the stores, confined for days and packed in close quarters, the very reverse, frequently, holds true. And I do not blame the merchants, either for they cannot help it.

I believe in having a genuine inspection of all meat, fruits and vegetables, and not a sham affair as is the case now. Our farmers would not have the slightest objection and would even covet an honest inspection. A disinterested man—a paid official for an inspector—is the crying need of the hour. H. L. HUNTER.

FROM OTHER SANCTUMS.....

A Besieged Bachelor.

Col. E. H. R. Green, the son of "Aunt Hetty" announced some time ago that he would marry if he could and the right woman. Since then his mail has been packed with letters from women who offer to take him as a husband. Said he the other day: "The letters come from women two blocks to fifteen thousand miles away. I hardly had supposed there were so many single women—and widows—in the world." The multimillionaire bachelor seems to be making a joke of it, and perhaps, if he is really matrimonially inclined, he has his eye on a woman who is not included among the long list of eager correspondents, many of whom no doubt would not have written to him had they known that he would give some of the letters to the press for publication, which they have reason to regard as a breach of confidence.—Nashville Banner.

A Fine Idea.

It is a fine idea of Rodman Wanmaker to erect a colossal statue of the American Indian in or on the margin of New York harbor, and after several members had uttered their appreciation of Mr. Wanmaker's project the house unanimously gave its assent. It is pretty certain that the real man is not on his way to extinction. The being, a white man, is not on the continent than there were when the white man intruded upon their hunting grounds. But the contemporary Indian is not an heroic or a picturesque figure. The aboriginal Indian was both, despite some deplorable notions he had on the subject of the means of carrying on warfare. Furthermore, except from the Quakers of Pennsylvania he received pretty bad treatment at the hands of the white men. An artistic memorial of the race which the white men found on the ground, located at the chief gate of entrance to North America, appeals to a fine sentiment.—Philadelphia Record.

The "Mona Lisa" Theft.

The theft of the Mona Lisa from the Louvre, if stolen it is, not mislaid or hidden as a bad jest, is comparable with the theft of the works of art. The Mona Lisa has been stolen from public or private galleries, and other great paintings out from their frames in churches and abstracted. But Leonardo's masterpiece has been the crown-jewel of the art possessions of France and its loss attracts a corresponding attention. As the most famous existing portrait of a woman it has the most striking quality in the Louvre, if not in all Europe, and its inheritance from Francis I's collection had given it a combined artistic and sentimental value which made it one of the choicest of French national possessions. Its theft will be a matter of keen interest and concern in tens of thousands of American homes where there are photographic reproductions of the work.

Great art-works are more exposed to mutilation than to theft. Numerous paintings in the Louvre have been slashed with a knife or otherwise defaced. Poussin's "Le Deluge" among them, and following the conviction of a woman for mutilating an Ingres in 1907 the French Minister of Fine Arts employed a band of soldiers to guard the works of art.

The Senate Prospectively.

If, as now seems to be conceded, Arizona passes democratic senators and New Mexico two republican senators, the admission of these two new states will not affect the political complexion of the senate. When, however, the seat of the late Senator Frye is filled by a democrat, and Colorado, as is most likely, sends a democratic colleague for Mr. Guggenheim, the first public majority in the senate will be reduced to eight.

This, as best, is but a narrow margin, and when it is considered that the 13 insurgent republicans are not in accord with their party brethren. It is easy to see that the republican control of the upper body is more in name than in reality. It was even demonstrated in the vote upon the cotton bill that if the regular republicans refrain from voting, the democrats can carry their measures without the help of their allies in the ranks of the insurgent republicans.

The situation is interesting because it means that if the democrats carry the country in 1912 they will have control of both branches of the national legislature. This happened in 1896, when Cleveland entered on his second term, but the democratic majority in the senate was so narrow that the democratic leaders were greatly embarrassed when they came to consider the tariff bill. Every diverse interest had to be satisfied, as the defection of one or two senators menaced the passage of the measure. This condition will not prevail in the senate in 1912, provided the democrats elect their presidential candidate, because a democratic victory will probably displace Briggs, of New Jersey; Richardson, of Delaware; Dixon, of Montana; Guggenheim, of Colorado; Borah, of Idaho, and Brown, of Nebraska. These changes would give the democrats a clear voting majority.

This situation, if it occur, would be most satisfactory that, which prevailed in 1893, because it would leave the democrats no excuse for failure to carry out the pledges of their campaign.—Washington Herald.

The Noell Case.

Judge F. A. Daniels sentenced Charles Noell to fifteen years in the state prison at hard labor and in so doing he struck a blow for the sanctity of the home and the good name of the state. We of North Carolina have read of white slave cases in the crowded cities of the north and we have wondered at the villainess of men.

The Noell case brings the horror close home.

Comparatively few people seem to realize the gravity of the case against Noell. They see nothing so terrible about "abduction," the charge under which he was tried, and there were many who said that the case against him was weak. Those who sat through the evidence in the court house, however, saw deeper and they were horror-stricken at the glimpses of human depravity revealed in the trial. Much of the most damaging evidence against the man was inadmissible because of the absence of the woman who calls herself his wife.

To Messrs. Phillips and Bower, who aided Solicitor Hammer in the prosecution, are due the thanks of every good citizen. Mr. Hammer fought the case with his usual skill and ability, greatly endearing himself to the people and adding to his already enviable reputation.

That the case has attracted statewide attention appears from the following editorial in the News and Observer Sunday: "The 'white slave' man was found guilty in Davidson county and properly sentenced to fifteen years in the penitentiary. His sex devil accomplice will be found and should be given the same sentence."

As soon as Wiley Black has finished his sentence for "blind tigers" and other crimes he should be given fifteen years for his practice of white slavery, and the sex devil who conspired with him to carry on that infamous traffic should be soon put in the pen. There is no punishment severe enough for such a heinous crime. In fact, hanging would be too good, though the law does not permit it.—Lexington Dispatch.

A Kaffir Jane Addams

"I once had a conversation with a Kaffir woman still in her untouched primitive condition, a conversation which made a profound impression on my mind than any but one other incident connected with the position of woman has ever done," declares Olive Schreiner, in her new book "Woman and Labor," which reports many strange observations of women in the wild Africa where she was born, for use in comparison with the state of civilized women.

"She was a woman whom I cannot think of otherwise than as a woman of genius. In language more eloquent and intense than I have ever heard from the lips of any other woman, she painted the condition of the women of her race; the labor of women, the anguish of woman as she grew older and the limitations of her life closed about her, her sufferings under the conditions of polygamy and subjection."

All this she painted with passion and intensity, yet, combined with a deep and almost fierce bitterness against life and the unseen powers which had shaped woman and her conditions as they were, there was not one word of bitterness against the individual men, nor any will or intention to revolt. Rather, there was a stern and almost majestic attitude of acceptance of the inevitable.

This "ignominious savage," declares Mrs. Schreiner, first made her understanding the position of women—an understanding now so important, in view of the position taken by the Schreiner book, "Woman and Labor." Says she:

"It was this conversation which first forced upon me the fact which I have since come to regard as almost no race will ever rise in revolt, however intense their suffering, and however clear their perception of it, while the welfare of their society requires their submission."

Taft and Roosevelt.

Mr. Sydney Brooks, the English writer who now and again makes an incursion into American affairs for one periodical or another, has an article in the issue of the Fortnightly Review in which he gives the result of a number of interviews with Colonel Roosevelt, held at the offices of the Outlook and at the home of the ex-president. The article is interesting from at least two standpoints, the first being the manner in which its author attempts to state with authenticity what he has seen and heard, and the second being the manner in which he denies that it is authentic and taking upon himself the responsibility for what it contains. He says "Although I shall be using as nearly as possible the ex-president's ipsissima verba, I and I alone, am to be held responsible, means: Though I shall tell you exactly what he said, if he has said it, he decides that it is not what he wishes he had said."

The second interesting thing about the interview is the freedom from restraint with which the former President discussed President Taft and his administration, for nobody who reads the Brooks article will doubt that it is the mind of Colonel Roosevelt's mind upon the subject.

Mr. Brooks says Colonel Roosevelt is frankly disappointed in the present president; that he chose him for president because he thought him the best man available, though not the ideal man; that he did not expect gratitude, but that he has been disappointed; that he confesses an error of judgment in selecting him as his own successor, but that while recognizing Taft's shortcomings he is not to be reckoned as an anti-Taft man. Then comes out the information that while the Colonel is not to be considered a candidate for the presidential nomination, still, if the president should be "unmistakably overthrown" by him, he would not stop up his ears to keep from hearing it, and that under circumstances of that kind he "would be willing to enter the race for the White House once more."

Mr. Brooks gathered further that the democrats have shown shrewd and courageous leadership in congress, and which they "have thus far disappointed their foes and amazed and delighted their friends," and intimates that they have thereby laid out for any standpat republican who may be nominated, William Howard Taft preferred, an extremely rocky, thorny and danger-beset road. The impression created upon Mr. Brooks mind by what he has heard is to the effect that if the democrats should name Woodrow Wilson as their standard bearer, and the republican flag should be borne again by Taft, the colonel would be torn by conflicting emotions as to "under which flag" he would fight, though he gave the impression that he was in closer sympathy with Wilson.

Mr. Brooks also learned somewhat that for an ex-president to break with

Recall of Judges to Be a National Issue In Coming Election

(By JONATHAN WINFIELD)

Washington, Aug. 26.—That the president's veto of the Arizona and New Mexico statehood bills has made the recall of judges a national issue, to be fought out before the people of the entire country, during the approaching campaigns is the emphatic opinion expressed by many members of congress.

Members of the house committee on territories, the majority of whom believe that Arizona should be permitted to incorporate the recall in its constitution if she desires, believe that President Taft's action has done more to crystallize the issue of the initiative, referendum and recall than anything else.

Members of the committee, at a meeting which was called to consider an attempt to override the president's veto, did some plain talking. Before the president's veto, it was pointed out, the recall was more or less a state problem, to be fought out among the states themselves. Oregon now has the recall of the judiciary. The California legislature has voted to submit such an issue to the people, and they came along Arizona, which incorporated the recall in its constitution. The initiative and referendum is employed in several states.

President Taft has now made the recall a national issue and one to be decided by the states. The president declared that he would never approve a recall of judges, and the recall of the judiciary of Arizona so long as it contained the provision. Such a course on the part of the president, it is said by members of congress, means that the progressives of the country have been furnished with another weapon with which to go before the voters.

The echo of the president's veto message will be heard in the next campaign, where the initiative, referendum and recall is gaining ground among the progressive republicans, as well as the democrats.

Regardless of what action may be taken by congress toward admitting the two new states, the national issue will be there just the same. Whether the president's veto is overridden, or whether congress be allowed to pass a certain extent and yields to the dictate of the White House by requiring that the recall be eliminated from Arizona's constitution, it will have but little effect on a future agitation of this latest and growing movement.

Representative Martin, of Colorado, one of the democratic members of the house committee on territories, summed up the situation by saying: "The president's veto of this statehood bill has made a national issue of the recall. I may as well be frank and say that the initiative, referendum and recall is gaining ground in this country, regardless of what congress does or does not approve about it. The will of two or three hundred lawyers in Washington is not going to shape the mind of the people. These doctrines are sure to take hold in this country, and as a result there will probably be a number of political funerals later."

The statehood bill passed both the party that put him there "would involve a tremendous wrench," without saying what would be wrenched, and intimates strongly that while the colonel would probably hesitate to wrench himself, he would not be so squeamish about his followers, many of whom would vote for Wilson in preference to Taft, "even though the ex-president had to sacrifice himself at the first personal predilections to his sense of party loyalty."

It is a fine, illuminating article, and while it holds up no quotation marks to guide the reader in picking out just what the colonel said, it certainly has plenty of earmarks to give it the necessary verisimilitude, and it will doubtless pass muster for Roosevelt tender wherever circulated. Mr. Brooks says that while not quoting the colonel as to anything at all, he understood he was not to given even "the substance of his major indiscretions," which leads the reader to wonder how big the biggest of them could have been.

Again, for the last time, it is a most illuminating article.—Baltimore Sun.

Mr. Taft's Course.

The most important result of the special session of congress is the rehabilitation of the democratic party in national affairs—not from the standpoint of partisan advantage but from the standpoint of the public welfare.

It is infinitely more important in the light of Mr. Taft's most detestable plan to commit political suicide, as manifested in his use of the veto power to destroy tariff legislation to reduce the cost of living.

enate and the house by a large vote. In the house the majority was overwhelmingly in favor of admitting both the territories to the Union. The house thought it had gone far enough when it required that Arizona should vote again on the recall of the judiciary. It was also required that New Mexico should consider a proposition to make its constitution easier to amend.

This left the matter up to the people. If Arizona still wanted the recall, congress was willing that she should have it. If New Mexico preferred its present constitution, congress was willing that she should have it, providing that a second election so registered the will of the people.

The president, however, set his foot down on the recall, regardless of a second election. He let it be known he would never approve a statehood bill with such a provision as is in the Arizona constitution. The president gave the people of Arizona no alternative. They must either eliminate the recall or stay out of the Union.

The temper of the majority of the two bodies of congress, especially the house, was not improved when the veto message was presented. There was immediate talk of overriding the veto. The house thought it had the votes and the senate stood "very close." Then was suggested a possible compromise so that the states might no longer be kept out. The house committee agreed to talk of compromise with the understanding that no matter what the result might be, it should not be construed as an admission on the part of the house that it was wrong and the president right.

"The position of the house," said one member of the committee, "is that the people of Arizona and not the president have the privilege of naming a constitution. The veto of the president means that he is dictating the constitution of a sovereign state. Even if congress yields to the president's demands, it will not be an admission that we think he is right about this matter, but our action will be based on the desire to let in these territories without further wrangling."

Lawyers in the House point out that the president admits that Arizona may elap the recall of the judiciary constitution as soon as it is admitted to the union. Oregon has the recall and she is in the Union. Arizona would have similar rights and, if forced to temporarily omit the recall could later amend the constitution so as to include it. This fact led some constitutional lawyers of the house and senate to think that the president's veto is a rather useless document, if Arizona is really determined to have her own way.

The president had no objection to the New Mexico constitution, but since the two territories have been linked together in their long fight for statehood, New Mexico must wait also until the recall of the judiciary is settled.

There is no doubt that the president has made the recall a national issue, and his veto will be heard from in the approaching national campaign.

moral force. It became hardly more than an attachment to one republican faction or the other, and nowhere was it taken seriously. Democrats themselves had begun to doubt the fitness of the democratic party to govern, and when a democratic house of representatives was elected last fall it was common belief that the democrats would proceed to make good on themselves at the first opportunity. None of these pessimistic prophecies has been fulfilled.

Under the leadership of Speaker Clark and Mr. Underwood the democrats in the house have followed an intelligent and consistent course in respect to all questions that came before them. They have carried out their promises with moderation and common sense. The democrats in the senate in the main have followed the leadership of the house, and there is little in the record that requires explanation or apology.

Had there been a republican house, no Canadian reciprocity bill could have been passed, no corrupt practices act would have been enacted, no steps would have been taken to compel further reductions in the duties on raw wool. The duty on raw wool might further have been let in on the operations of the sugar trust and the steel trust, nothing would have been done to eradicate the corruption that is inevitable when one party is too long in power. Even in so far as Mr. Taft has been progressive he would have been thwarted by the very elements of his own party with which he has now declared himself. All these reforms have been forced by the mere fact of a virile opposition which could command public support and confidence.

Thus far the Democratic party has proved by its record in congress that it can keep its head. We have an opportunity again that can intelligently voice public protest against republican wrong. We have a two-party republic in place of a one-party republic. Thank to the cost of progressive democracy under sane leadership, Mr. Taft's surrender to privilege finds the country with means of redress.—New York World.

SALOON AT TAILOR SHOP.

New York, Aug. 26.—In explaining to Deputy Commissioner Dillon why they were off post, Policemen William Sheehan and Edward Finland revealed a new view of the utility of saloons.

The strenuous exercise of patrolling had literally torn a sheen coat button from his chest, Sheehan said, and having no needle, thread nor even a sewing machine upon him, he had to enter a saloon to procure an ice pick with which to anchor the recalcitrant button. Sheehan declared his knife was of no use because a round hole could only be made with an ice pick. Finland said he went in to assist Sheehan. The deputy fined each 15 days' pay.

Bad handwriting is often used to cover a lot of poor orthography.