

# Mount Airy News.

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## COOPER SHOULD RESIGN

Lieutenant-Governor W. B. Cooper, of Wilmington, should resign his high office and retire to private life. Several days ago he escaped conviction in Federal court; charged with conspiring with others to break a bank in his native city. He must yet stand trial for other charges connected with the defunct bank.

Mr. Cooper was an honored citizen of his part of the state three years ago. He was supposed to be a man of large means and marked ability. His friends represented to the citizens of the state that he was entitled to the honor of being his party's candidate for the high office he now holds. Taking the word of his neighbors the people of the state made him their Lieutenant-Governor, which means that should the present Governor die he would become the Governor.

Three years have gone by and it is now shown to be a fact that Mr. Cooper was not the man that his friends represented him to be. He is not a man of large means. He is not a man of great ability. So far as any one seems to know now, he is a fallure in the world and deserves no high honors from his fellow citizens. No one would today nominate him for any high office. We are not charging that he is guilty of any crime. He may be as innocent as a babe. But he has proven himself to be unfit for high positions of trust. Think what a predicament the whole state would be in if fate should decree that he sit in the Governor's chair tomorrow. Every decent citizen will rebel at the thought. No man without recognized ability and honorable name among his fellows should remain in the position he now holds. He should resign.

## THE CASE OF A WIDOW

A United States Senator told our national legislative body last week about the predicament of a widow, and those who have robbed her will now answer to the government. The story is that in a western city a man died and left his wife and two little girls. He also left them \$9000 in money. One day not long ago the woman received glowing descriptions of rich and valuable land down on the Rio Grande river on the border between this country and Mexico. So impressive was the description of the fortune in store for her, if she would only invest in some of this rich land, that she sent her all and got a deed to what she thought to be the rich spot of the earth. Her holdings proved to be a desert spot of sandy land with no water and no vegetation and absolutely worthless.

Her case got to the ears of the Senator along with thousands of others and now the land companies down there will be prosecuted for fraudulently using the mails. This story goes that there are twelve of these land companies in operation and that they have sold land in two counties down there to the amount of thirty million dollars and that the land is worthless. They are also charged with being able to influence courts in that part of the country and hush up all prosecution.

Part of the story is that North Carolina is one of their favorite hunting grounds and that many citizens of this state have been caught in the net of the land frauds.

But why will a widow risk her all in this way? She is waiting in a restaurant and receiving \$12.50 per week on which salary she is barely able to support herself and her two little daughters. Her \$9000 is gone, and plenty of others will fail to profit by her example and go and do likewise.

## A HUMANE ACT.

Governor Morrison did a wise and humane act a few days ago when he permitted a prisoner in the penitentiary to return home and be with his wife in her last illness. The man was serving a term of several months and his wife lay dying at his home. The Governor permitted him to take a vacation of thirty days to be with her. She passed to her reward and now the man must return to the prison and serve his time. To our way of thinking this is a noble act on the part of the Governor and deserves to become the custom of our people when the circumstances are such as to justify it. It is one thing to punish a man and another to be cruel to him. No man with a spark of gratitude in his makeup could fail to appreciate the act of the Governor, and this humane treatment may cause the prisoner to take an altogether different view of prison life and be the means of making a better man of him.

## FOR LOWER TAXES.

When the world war came on the country had to find a way to raise immense amounts of money. One of the ways to raise it was a tax on incomes. Every single man who has been making more than \$1000 and every married man who has been making more than \$2,000 knows what this income tax means. It means that he pays four per cent of his income over and above the low allowance, which is \$1000 for the single man and \$2000 for the married man. There are in this country some rich men and some very rich ones. To meet the needs of the country a much larger tax was placed on the men who have large incomes than was placed on the man of small incomes. The increase in the rate of taxation was such as to make the rate for the man with a million dollars income pay 58 per cent of what he made in taxes. Millions of dollars have been contributed to the government by these very rich men as the result of the present law.

Now that the war is over and the country is getting back to peace times and the expense of the government is less, there is an effort on to reduce the tax rate.

Mr. Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, has a bill before Congress that reduces the rate but there are enough men in Congress who disagree with him as to his ideas of making the reduction to defeat his plans and make another necessary.

The objection to the Mellon bill is that it favors the very rich too much. Another bill has been introduced that is now being considered and a great political fight is being waged in Congress over the issue.

In this country there are a few very rich men. Secretary Mellon gets credit for controlling the aluminum supply for years and piling up a fortune of five million dollars. Rockefeller got control of the oil of the country and made himself the richest of men. And others have done likewise. Every one knows of the Dukes, Reynolds, Carnegies.

Now there are men who are experts in taxation and they contend that the nation in self protection should demand and collect from these very rich men as much as one third of their annual income, in the way of taxes. If this is not done in time all the wealth of the nation will be in the hands of a few men to that extent that they can control the business of the country.

Secretary Mellon is leading in this fight in Congress and he has many very rich men with him. He would make the rate what his opponents call low for the rich man. It is over this point that the contest is waged. How much shall the man with a million pay? is the question. Democrats are asking for a much lower rate on the small tax payer and a much higher rate on the big tax payer than is provided for in the Mellon bill. It may be weeks before the issue is settled.

## THE LENGTH OF A MAN'S LEGS

On Tuesday, Feb. 12th the same being the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, Congress paused for a short time to do honor to his memory. A member made a short speech in which he recalled many of the traits of character of the famous man. He told how Lincoln had spent his life in the backwoods of the west and how he was frowned upon by the society folk of the eastern cities when he became prominent.

On one occasion the high brows planned to humiliate him. He was the guest at a dinner at which many notable persons were present. On the opposite side of the table from Lincoln sat a lady who undertook to humiliate the backwoods statesman. Her method was to ask him an embarrassing question. "Mr. Lincoln," she said "How long should a man's legs be?" Instantly the famous man made answer. "Madame," said he, "It has always been my opinion that a man's legs should be long enough to reach from his body to the ground." From that day no one tried to get smart at Lincoln's expense.

## Dry Kiln Burns Second Time.

Ed Inman's dry kiln at his chair factory was completely destroyed by a fire that was discovered about midnight Saturday. This is the second fire in this kiln, the first one being about two months ago. This time the kiln, which was of lumber construction and filled with turned chair stock, was a total loss. The other fire destroyed only the contents and Inman was able to repair it. He will now build a kiln of brick. The loss this time is estimated as being around \$500. There was no insurance.

## Miss Underhill Here.

Miss Mary Underhill, instructor of English at N. C. C. W., Greensboro, gave a very entertaining reading of "Lillem" before the Woman's Club at the hotel last Friday.

Miss Underhill is a fascinating speaker with the faculty of making her hearers see and feel the characters of the play, as she reads it.

## UNREASONABLE REQUESTS

People constantly make unreasonable requests of newspaper editors. If they happen to do something commendable they are perfectly willing for it to be told in the paper, but if they get in trouble, like for instance being caught in the police net, they implore the newspaper man to keep their names out of the paper. Every paper in the land is constantly being embarrassed by people whose lives ought to be above reproach but who have been caught in some trouble. According to them the roughneck who gets drunk or into some other trouble ought of course to be played up in the paper but the better class of people should not be mentioned when they fall into the same pit.

Any paper that is worthy of the confidence of its readers can do but one thing in such a situation—treat all alike. Papers as a rule are careful never to make statements about people that can not be substantiated, and in the matter of crimes and misdemeanors they rarely make mention of charges until the papers have been issued or the court has passed sentence. If people who run with the better element of society want to keep their names out of the police records and therefore out of newspaper columns, they should cease to do the things that will land them in the police courts. No paper can be true to itself and to its readers if it omits from its columns the names and misdoings of people who claim to belong "higher up."

## A RELATED OBITUARY.

It is not always possible to learn of the important news items that develop about in the county. We have just learned of the death of two citizens who for many years were subscribers to The News. Even at this late date, long after their passing, we are making this notice.

J. S. Emmerson, of the Dobson section of the county, died at an advanced age. He was a genial, friendly old man when we knew him and always had a kind word and a warm handshake. He never tired of telling of his civil war experiences, and he truly had something to tell. One of his stories was about the time he lay on the battlefield with a minnie ball through his body. No one expected him to live and for three years the wound refused to heal. But he recovered and lived to tell the tale many a time. He must have been as much as 80 years of age at his passing.

Nancy Anthony was a poor woman, as the saying goes, and lived the humble life. She never knew the life of luxury, but was a toiler who enjoyed life and lived far beyond the age of the average old person. She never tired of telling how she became a subscriber to The News. She would take your time often to tell how one day her little grandchild that had come to her home to be in her care learned her ABC's and learned to read with no other text book but an old worn copy of The News. In some way the child got in possession of a copy of the paper and Mrs. Anthony declared that she learned with no one to assist her until she was able to read the new testament. When the family found that the little girl could read the paper they promptly subscribed and for many years continued to have it come to their home.

## THE TURK AND HIS WIVES

It will be a sorry day when the world can no longer abuse the Turk. Now they are telling how a shortage of women in Turkey is bringing about a reformation in the marriage circles. The Koran the Turk's bible, permits as many as four wives. In actual fact but few Turks have more than one wife. The very rich men take to themselves many of the fair sex, and the very poor do likewise, for the reason that the more wives the poor man has the more help he has in his farm work. But there is now a shortage of women and the government is taking steps to cut out the plural wives.

The Turk long ago learned that if a man takes more than one wife then it is necessary that he have three or four, for they say two women even in Turkey are unable to get along together. But make it three or four and then suppose one woman goes on a tear the others line up against her, and so, in the life of the Turk, where a household has more than one woman, it is the custom to see three or four. In this way is the road to family harmony.

Since it is written in the Koran that a man may have four wives, it may be a long time off until the Turk is induced to confine himself to a single companion.

## Co-operative Tobacco Raisers Take Notice.

The local Co-operative Tobacco warehouse will close Mar. 29th. This notice is given now so that all co-operative tobacco raisers may get their tobacco in before that date. Yours truly, Joe Dobson, Mgr. 2-15c.

## LOCAL DAIRIES GET CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH.

There is not a tubercular cow among the four dairy herds that supply Mount Airy with milk, according to the tests carried out by Dr. A. G. Farmer, Veterinarian of the State Department of Agriculture. Up to the end of last week he had given the tuberculin test to over 400 cows in the immediate vicinity of Mount Airy and only one of them had reacted to the test in a suspicious manner and that one belonged to an Italian near the Quarry. This cow belonged to a family that used the milk for home consumption but since Dr. Farmer tested her, she has been put under observation pending further tests. It is likely this cow may not be infected.

The dairy herds supplying milk locally were all free from the trouble. Dr. Farmer reported to The News of having tested for Ed Davis, 11; G. L. Shelton, 23; C. W. Taylor, 12 and Martin Memorial Hospital, 12 cows. Although a false report had been circulated around town to the effect that some of these dairy cows had proven to be tubercular, Dr. Farmer gives them all a clean bill of health.

This news will come as a matter of congratulation for not only Mount Airy people but for the entire county. Unless some tubercular cows are found around Elkin, it is unlikely that any diseased cattle will be found in the entire county, for the investigators have found from experience that the native cattle are singularly free from the infection and where they fall to find it present in the dairy herds near town, some of whose cows have been imported from disease-infected centers of other states, then it is likely the country herds will be free from the trouble.

Dr. Farmer reports that cattle owners are co-operating with him most heartily. In fact not only dairymen but farmers as well seem pleased of the opportunity to ascertain whether their herds are diseased or not.

## Daugherty's Resignation Expected.

Wednesday's daily papers carry the information from Washington that Attorney General Daugherty, under fire in the oil scandal, is expected to resign at any time. On Tuesday he conferred with the President for two hours. It is feared his resignation under fire will embarrass other members of the cabinet.

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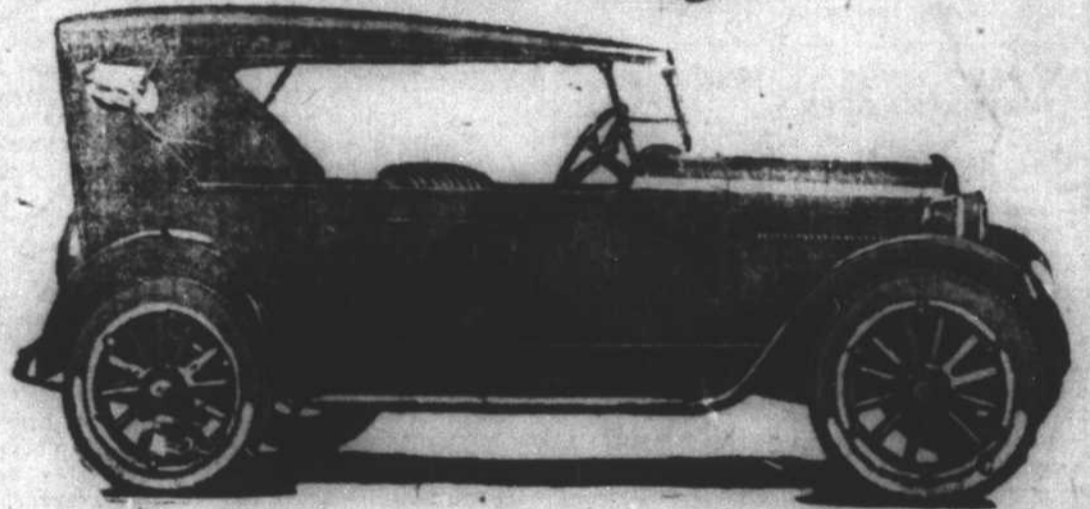
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