

# The Polk County News

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### WHAT INDEPENDENCE MEANS TO AMERICA.

A century and a half ago the American Colonies declared independence from Great Britain, established the foundation of the United States of America. In support of the Declaration of Independence, the delegates, "with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence," mutually pledged to each other their fortunes and sacred honor.

The famous document aimed its protest against the King, and at a time in the world's history when the result was doubtful. It was not only a declaration against the political system, but has been the fountain head of the American ideals of independence in action and thought. The generations that have come since 1776 in both Great Britain and the United States have ever reconciled the Declaration of Independence and the necessities of the time. Americans are proud of their racial characteristics and in the attributes of the English language that the rich heritage which has contributed to the people that flows from the Mother country.

It is but a tribute to Great Britain, and a source of pride to America, that the offspring found itself in possession of the land and the resourcefulness to develop into a great and sustaining nation. Clothed with this independence in government and freedom from the religious and social restraints of some measure have kept the people of Europe in the shadows of strife, the people of the United States can join in friendly intercourse with all civilized nations in helping the world to attain its highest destiny. America has never felt her independence of the civilization and learning of the world. Independence is never to be translated as isolation, rather to be construed as placing a nation in the position of asserting greater influence for good and of rendering better service to the human race.

With such independence—the national self-reliance which is the goal of intelligent citizenship—may the people of the United States celebrate the anniversary which time and history have woven with the American ideal of liberty.

### "FRIENDLY TRYON."

There have been slogans and more slogans adopted by cities all over the country. Some of them have been catchy and well phrased; others unmusical, untrue, and next to impossible. However, there is one slogan that Tryon can approve with the assurance that it carries a goodly measure of truth. The slogan is "Friendly Tryon."

It seems to us that with all the wealth and material resources a community might possess, there is nothing to compare with pure and genuine friendliness. Real friendship is not forced. There is no studied or stereotyped courtesy in true affection; it comes naturally and pleasantly, and its never-ending flow carries the life-giving elements that make for happiness and contentment.

The friendly town is the home town, where the neighborly spirit exists. And despite our local ups and downs we cling to the belief that Tryon is one of THE friendly places of earth.

### ORGANIZATION AND PROGRESS.

Organization can be either a benefit or a detriment. There is such a thing as "over-organization" afflicting a community. In this day and age the projects that have the greatest chance of realization are supported by organized efforts. The government itself is a result of organization. In fact, there would be no schools, no churches, no cities, without some kind of organization. Even home life is a by-product.

The great danger in organization is that of stifling individuality and preventing democracy of thought. An organization attains its highest ideal when, instead of using its power to suppress the right of private opinion to be asserted and multiplied, the right of private opinion, it enables private opinion to be asserted and multiplied and affords a means through which individual ideas can be put into action. An organization that does not and will not preserve and give freedom to this democracy of thought does not deserve to function and eventually will die of its own cumbersome weight.

### MILLIONS FOR THE PUBLIC WELFARE.

When a man makes money in legitimate business, he necessarily renders service according to the accepted standards of financial success. When he shares his profits by charitable acts through philanthropic institutions, he has rendered a double service.

To the long list of wealthy benefactors is added the name of Sebastian S. Kresge, who has announced a donation in the sum of \$23,000,000 to be used in research and social service.

There are those who discredit benefactions sponsored by great wealth. But so long as the system of private capital remains, there will be multi-millionaires; and the people may as well get some of their money back through the donation route.

It seems quite consistent for the party conventions to adopt the two-thirds rule, since the rest of the country obeys only about two-thirds of the laws.

"All the average man expects his wife to be is a sweetheart, a valet, an audience and a nurse."—Chicago Journal.

You left out one thing—a dumb Dora when he's doing the living.

## THE POLK COUNTY NEWS WEEKLY CARTOON

### Foolish Season Is Here



REPEATING WHAT IS SOUND.

Since newspapers have been established, since towns and cities have been built, since commerce has unfurled its sails on the high seas and turned its wheels upon the land, the idea of community loyalty has been kept before the people in changing phrases. The trade-at-home idea has been exploited for all that it is worth. And it is worth a lot because what it expresses is economically sound. Being sound, it has lived and thrived. It is GOOD BUSINESS for any community to encourage local business. It is the community asserting itself for every citizen within its boundaries and trading zone.

No merchant, newspaper or civic body desires to impose upon the people of the community any impractical program or scheme of development. But the mathematical certainty of a trade-at-home campaign to foster community thrift and enhance the wealth and stability of the home town is the assurance of a right motive.

Remember this: The eagle on the dollar is symbolic that the dollar is capable of flying away. A DOMESTICATED fowl is the one that stays at home. Let's keep our dollars DOMESTICATED as much as possible by keeping them at home.

Ten years to life is a short sentence for a judge to say, but a long one for the prisoner to serve. It doesn't make much difference whether there's a war or not, we all have to fight for a living.

The evolution of politics: Federalist, Nullificationist, Abolitionist, Secessionist, Prohibitionist, Modificationist, with a sprinkling of Republicans and Democrats to keep the parties going.

What worries the average morning newspaper reader is which scandal will fit in best with his eggs, toast and coffee.

And now Louisiana wants to put on a Florida boom. Westward the trend of boomers wends its way.

The only reason a lot of us don't have to go to the poorhouse is because we're already in one.

This country blows in more for face powder than the rest of the world blows up with gunpowder.

### STATE HIGHWAY PATROL

(Charlotte Observer.)

The proposition for a system of constabulary to patrol the highways of the state appears to be gaining in favor. It was of endorsement by Chairman Page, but the legislature, being somewhat rattled by the shouters of economy, could not "find the money," so the proposition was passed up to another term. There is probability that it will be received with its political aspect strengthened by popular approval. Indications point to the fact that we are to have an independent sort of legislature—one that does not care whether it is sent back or not—and therefore one which may be inclined to legislate regardless. Some members have been elected on a distinct understanding that they will undertake to clear the books of some of the superfluous laws—and the start might be made by wiping off the statutes under which the "motorcycle cops," as they are called, would be invited to look for a different occupation. The public is subjected to too much unnecessary annoyance through the activities of this agency, operating indiscriminately on laws of their own construction. The need is for a state patrol which would look after the reckless drivers and to make the highways safer for the public. The idea is caught by the Asheville Times, which remarks that "the human slaughter, week by week, on the main highways of the state, due in most cases to preventable accidents, can only be checked by vigilance in licensing drivers and in patrolling the trunk line roads with a uniformed force that would send to the roads for sixty days part of the motoring public which is in sad need of control and of education in safety measures."

### A NEWSPAPERS DUTY

(Asheville Citizen.)

In every community are some people who seem to consider that a newspaper should express no opinion contrary to theirs, and that it is their right to denounce it for such non-conformity. They seem to consider themselves super-persons—they come monthing demands for "an apology" or a "retraction." The High Point Enterprise recently had experience with this spirit. It printed an unfavorable criticism of a play presented by a company which appeared there under the auspices of the American Legion, saying in effect that it was a poor show. Thereupon some few legionnaires hastily assembled and passed a resolution declaring the show to be a good one, and that the Enterprise had some "motive" inferentially a bad one—in discrediting the company. The Enterprise did not follow the example of the remonstrants who sought to suppress its opinions. On the contrary, it published the adverse criticism of itself on its front page, and then, repeating its original criticism, calmly announced that criticism of amusements offered the public is "a department of the service the Enterprise must render its readers, and they are not to be influenced by any group." The real newspaper not only recognizes the absolute right of others to hold opinions contradictory of its own, but often publishes these at its own expense. It will not, however, give unlimited space or privilege to those who, intolerant of the opinions of others, demand the right to talk it down in print—free.

### PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES FOR 1928

By Albert L. Berry

Governor Smith of New York will unquestionably be the nominee of the Democratic party in the convention for president in 1928. The fact that he can carry New York will make him a strong candidate with his party. Now that Bryan is out of the way, Democrats will no doubt be able to get the adoption of a plank in their platform modifying the Volstead act. To find just how strong the modification sentiment is, it is proposed to submit a referendum proposition to the voters of the different states by signed petitions. This is now being vigorously carried on in Illinois. It is very doubtful whether any individual state can affect the prohibition law, even if it voted wet on a referendum vote. The Eighteenth Amendment is drafted into the Constitution of the United States. Any change in the Constitution would have to be made through the same channel and by the same majority of the states as the passage of the act required. In order to do this, it would be necessary to pass a resolution by a two-thirds vote of both houses; then it would have to be ratified by both houses of the legislature of each of the thirty-six states. The modification of the act, or the nullification of the Eighteenth Amendment, if endorsed by either of the political parties, would bring out a clear issue and would be the leading issue of the campaign. The Republican party has some very strong and prominent men who have lined up on the side of the modification of the Volstead act. Such men as Ellhu Root, Senator Wadsworth, Senator Gare of Pennsylvania, Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, and others.

Unless President Coolidge should refuse the nomination for president to succeed himself, he will probably be the nominee of the Republican party. The next strongest man would probably be Ex-Governor Lowden of Illinois, who has a large following with the western farmers. If, however, an amendment to the Constitution to admit the sale of light wines and beer were favored by a majority of the voters of a number of states, then Senator Borah would probably be the Republican candidate.

President Coolidge would stand on his record, Ex-Governor Lowden on farmers' relief, and Senator Borah on sustaining the Volstead act as it now stands. As a compromise candidate, former Secretary Hughes might secure the nomination.

### NORTH CAROLINA MOON SHINERS ONLY PIKERS

Mr. Lawrence Purdy calls attention to the report of the commissioner of internal revenue for 1925 in which it is claimed that Montana with one-twentieth of the population of New York found thirty-five times as many stills in proportion to the population as New York and seized 9,000 gallons of mash. If this is true, the moonshiners and bootleggers of North Carolina are only pikers. There is a fate in names. In the original Flathead "Missoula" means "the water of surprise." Missoula is the town in Montana where the officers found the largest amount of liquor. Senator Walsh of Montana said the source of the information was not reliable. Peach Crop Filling Out. Reports from Gramlin say that the peaches in the large orchards around there are filling out. They are mostly Elberta peaches of the finest quality.

### COTTON TALK

(Gastonia Daily Gazette.)

One of the most entertaining elucubrations on the cotton situation we have read in a long time is this from J. S. Oliver, gatherer and disseminator of cotton news. Under the head, "It Looks as If Cotton Were Coming Back to Life," he says:

"Much is heard of the ample supply of cotton available, and of the fact that no shortage is even remotely prospective. But there is no secret about this—everybody knows it. More thought should be concentrated on what the low price portends toward rehabilitating the run-down textile industry with its probable quickening of consumption. Increased consumption means increased demand.

You know, mills have prayed for years for this price level, so don't believe all the hard luck stories you hear about them. An apparent oversupply of any commodity does not necessarily imply that prices are to run still further down hill, or even stand stationary around the low levels. Prices never wait until improvement has actually occurred—they discount it. Another thing—this crop is not yet "made" by a jug full. Many things can yet occur, and probably will, to change the color of the outlook fabric in a twinkling.

Right now we are getting some alarming weevil reports about which the general public knows nothing at all so far.

"If the bureau comes even anywhere near confirming the 'private' estimates of a 14,000,000-bale crop, there won't be even the tip of a bear's tail left to wiggle. While some mills have curtailed drastically, others must have quietly increased their output, otherwise consumption would not be holding up as it is. Total exports are going to fool a lot of people; they are mounting higher each week. Remember how downcast the cotton business was in July, 1921? Right then prices started climbing—slowly and nervously at first, then with a great rush, and kept advancing for two years until the price touched 37.65—27 1/2c, or 2735 points above the low."

### Why Banks Break.

(Raleigh News and Observer.)

There would be fewer bank failures if the bank examiner were directed instantly to close up banks when their officers and directors are found lending large sums to themselves. Nearly all banks that break owe their condition to the use of depositors' money by officials, who do not put up adequate security. It may be that directors should be permitted to borrow from a bank in which they are officers, but in every such case the security should be double the amount borrowed, and it should be approved by the commissioner charged with bank supervision. As to officers of a bank, they should not borrow at all, or if at all, the collateral should be nothing less saleable than government bonds.

### REVISE IT NOW OR LATER

(Greenville News.)

Short and simple, like the annals of the poor, should be the South Carolina state constitution, in the opinion of Dr. D. D. Wallace of Wofford College, one gathers from his talk at the Furman Institute of Politics. That is a sound idea. The constitution of a state is merely a statement of fundamental principles of government and of limitations to legislative and official power, and it should be set forth as clearly, succinctly and as unequivocally as possible.

Although South Carolina's present constitution is rather voluminous for a document of this kind and contains much specific legislation both in the original text and in the multiplicity of amendments that have been added to it, it has a fairly honorable lineage. It is built upon the constitution of 1868, which, although drafted under the influence of the radical regime in South Carolina, was based upon progressive and enlightened constitutions and constitutional principles of other states. The 1895 convention resulted mostly from a demand of Ben Tillman and his supporters for constitutional provisions that would effectively prevent the negroes from registering to vote in any large numbers.

There is undoubtedly a need for the South Carolina constitution to be revised and simplified with a view to harmonizing its numerous amendments and expurgating from it much useless, obsolete matter. Whether or not that is sufficient grounds for calling a constitutional convention, however, is a question for debate. Considerable talk is under way over the state about the necessity for more economical and more efficient government, and it is probably true that to bring this about some substantial constitutional changes might be desirable or even necessary. The state of popular opinion as yet, however, is rather nebulous on this subject. Should it crystallize into some definite views, a constitutional convention might prove of the greatest value to the state in remoulding the basic structure of the government and at the same time re-writing and simplifying the entire constitution. Until there is such a crystallization of opinion, a convention would probably be little more than a codifying body animated with no particular purpose in preparing a new constitution.

### Typhoid Inoculation.

(Greenville News.)

The Piedmont section of South Carolina is remarkably free of typhoid fever, but it could be entirely free if there were unanimous acceptance of the preventive that medical science has devised. The human race enjoys possible immunity from only a few diseases, and typhoid is one of them. The typhoid serum, in fact, is almost one hundred per cent combative when taken before contraction of the bacillus. It would seem that a disease as drastic as it is would be avoided by all citizens, but for reasons of procrastination, fear and inertia the number of citizens who take the inoculation is still very small.

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