

The Polk County News

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WHEN WE SAY ("TRYON")

A matter of identity every community has a name. It is Red Gluch or New York, Prattville or Montreal. The name matters little, so long as the community gets proper use of its resources and just recompense for its good works. The subject today is not New York or Montreal, it is ("TRYON"). And when we say ("TRYON") we mean more than the name and contributes to the financial stability of the community and the entire surrounding country the limits of which are determined by the influence of our people and institutions. ("TRYON") stands for more than the material framework the eyes can see.

When we say ("TRYON") we mean its stores and business and the hard-working men and women behind them. We mean the shops and industries where citizens labor to give their measure of service to the community and to bring food, shelter and happiness to their families. We mean the men who administer the local government and insure order under law. We mean the institutions that represent education and culture without which none can tell the outcome of civilization. We mean the children as they play, whose innocent bespeaks hope for the race and in whom we live again. We mean the farmers and country people who honor ("TRYON") by sharing with us their patronage. We mean the stranger and tourist who come our way and enjoy the beauties and attractions that ("TRYON") offers. We mean the civic and social organizations that strive to make our community more prosperous, more genuinely hospitable, more united. We mean the man of wealth who puts money into the community and contributes to the financial stability of the community.

We have named only a few of the factors that go to make up the community of which we are all proud. But it is by recognizing and fostering these and similar elements of community development that ("TRYON") may hold its place in the history of Polk County and in ("TRYON").

That we have stated what we mean when we say ("TRYON"), it is only fair to state what we don't mean when we say a GREATER ("TRYON"), and that is we don't mean MAYBE or PERHAPS!

SQUIBITORIALS

We'll Get To Work Subway

The great advantage in living and working in ("TRYON") is that we don't have to worry about strikes on subways like the people of New York City.

The Swimming Swedes

Sweden has launched a drive to compel every Swede to learn to swim. Good! When Sweden gets as overrun with automobiles as this country there will be no recourse for her pedestrians other than to plunge into the briny deep and swim to safety.

Has A Bootlegger A Conscience?

The Government plans to put gasoline into denatured alcohol to make it more difficult to secure a beverage. But why not put more poison? Will bootleggers then take the trouble to denature the gasoline? The move would seem to imply that bootlegging is fit to drink but it isn't, as the death records show. As long as alcohol is made somebody will be foolish enough to drink it, gasoline or no gasoline.

Political Complexion Changes

The Los Angeles Times, in jocular vein but half meaning it, has nominated Brookhart because most of the Iowa delegates are in California. If that is true it looks as tho the State is in for some conservative voting this fall.

Fame In Name

More Roosevelt, of Political fame, and Francis X. Bush of motion picture fame, are examples among thousands of more or less distinction who gave their Christian names to their sons. If the father is one who achieves, such a name has much value to the son; but if the son writes too much hecks promiscuously it is rather damaging to the father.

There Are Still Stills

Of 120 men and women were locked up during the 12-month year just closed in one of our American cities. The number of people would equal the population in any one of the towns and villages all over this country. If a town ever breaks to the effect that "a whole town of 866 people were locked up for drunkenness in one year" there will be something else doing in wet and dry circles.

America And World Peace

The Americans have not advanced any selfish proposals in connection with the disarmament discussions is the opinion of S. Gibson, the American Minister to Switzerland. It has a negative value; but what has America done in a posi-

SPARE THIS TREE



...tive way? Great, big, wealthy, powerful, intellectual, unselfish, sympathetic America ought to come out more positively and pointedly for disarmament while its star of empire shines brightest. There can be no danger in moulding world opinion toward amicable adjustment of international disputes. In such action America has everything to gain and nothing to lose. The real danger lies in allowing disarmament to die in conference when there is a chance of a century to revive it and make it bear fruit.

EVEN PRESIDENTS NEED VACATIONS

Congress has adjourned for the summer. The temperature rises in Washington. The White House door slams and a padlock put on the door of the garage. Some kind neighbor will look after the cat, or possibly it will be taken along. White Pine Camp, a beautiful spot in the cool Adirondacks, is the summer White House where President and Mrs. Coolidge are enjoying a season's respite from strenuous Washington.

The job of being President probably consists more of worry than of work. Every physical convenience is provided wherever he goes. Even his mental labors are augmented by a highly trained staff. It is the grave responsibility as chief executive of a great nation that bears heavily upon the shoulders of a President.

OLD FASHIONED NEWS

(From the Greensboro Daily News)
Those who like old-fashioned news, the sort of news that made the newspaper, cannot complain at yesterday's cargo of it. Testimony of the beating to death of convicts by a boss; of the razoring to death of her husband by an eye-filling young thing (she has occasionally been referred to as pretty, and at first it pleased the reporters to describe her as a "child wife"); a dozen dead in an inn fire; young woman killed by automobile and the woman driver of it jailed; a life sentence for complicity in a murder of front-page fame; gun fight in a street of a great city, seven people wounded; identification of the dismembered body in another serial murder mystery, the victim a young woman; 13 executed for plotting against a president's life; with a tale of conspicuous heroism of 100 picked men of the marines, 49 banks gone to smash in one state in one day, a new record made in traveling the circuit of the earth and a few more items by way of contrast—such was the front page. To be sure, there is the widely-held conviction that no front page that has not on it a good first chapter of a murder tale can be as newsy as one that has; and a lot of people evidently prefer their news high with incidentals of degeneracy, whereas all these tales, as tales, are relatively clean. But it was far from a dull page.

Such narratives are produced in this sinful world in sufficient quantity, right along, to satisfy the reasonable desires of readers in the way of old-fashioned news. But it is respectfully submitted as at least open to doubt whether the sage of ancient times who declared there was nothing new under the sun has ever heard an ex-convict testify to having bedewed his pillow nightly with tears as he prayed for a whipping boss. And when was a venture ever called before that had in it one man, let alone two, enamored in former days of the wife of the ac-

cused, ere she was a wife, and raising the question whether such relationship was pertinent to the question of eligibility as a juror to try a charge of murder? It may have happened before the present term of court in Albermarle; but if so it has happened so seldom that it is news. Both these features of the trial have that peculiar dramatic quality which playwrights hail as a rare gem discovered.

A HOARY LIBEL

(From The Asheville Times)
Henry Lane Wilson was the American Ambassador to Mexico when President Madero was assassinated. Shortly after this tragedy the charge was whispered abroad that Mr. Wilson was "morally responsible" for the death of the Mexican statesman and that he was too intimate with Huerta who, no doubt, plotted Madero's assassination. When this report gained enough currency to demand attention, Ambassador Wilson disproved it to the complete satisfaction of the American people. He brought forward conclusive evidence showing that he had really interceded in Madero's behalf after the latter had been deposed.

Recent events, however, create the suspicion that this charge may be revived. In resisting some of the claims for damages presented against Mexico by American citizens, it has been argued by our Southern that Madero had not been slain, there would have not been any such claims. The inference from this argument was that Mexico would seek to hold herself blameless by charging Wilson with the responsibility for Madero's death.

If such really proves to be the burden of Mexico's contention then she will breathe the breath of life into an accusation that has no basis in fact and that should not be exhumed. Such a defense on her part would merely suffice to create another source of discord between the two countries.

GETTING AT THE FACTS

Within the past few weeks there have been reports from what seems an unusually large number of counties of the charges of Superior court judges to grand juries in which attention has been called to the prevalence of particular offenses, chiefly offenses against the liquor and traffic laws. Whether there has been an unusually large number of such charges makes no particular difference. The process is unending. Generally the statements from the bench are in broad terms. It is impossible that they should be accurate in detail because the information upon which detailed statements could be made does not exist. It is easy to say that there are many offenses against this law or that law because such offenses are a matter of general knowledge, but further than that no one can go. For the state has nothing upon which to go. In spite of continued talk about law violations—millions of words—the subject has not been approached scientifically, and the state cannot have real knowledge of what it is doing to prevent crime, or detect criminals, or handle criminals until it knows the facts.

Reference has been made in these columns from time to time of the Missouri crime survey, which is the most thorough that has ever been made in this country, and no doubt references will be made again. The slightest glance at the results of that survey reveals the well nigh astounding ignorance that prevails upon the subject, generally, and in North Carolina, as in some other states, in particular. At the meeting of the American Bar association this week the director of that survey, Arthur V. Lashly, told something of what had been done in gathering information. He told, for instance, of a study of ten years' decisions of the state Supreme court in criminal appeals, seeking to find out, among other things, where delays originated. That study showed that the elapsed time from the date the crime was committed to the information was filed was, on the average, three months 27 days; from the date information was filed to disposition by Circuit court (equivalent to our Superior court), five months 27 days; from the date of the disposition by the Circuit court to the perfection of the appeal, seven months 19 days; from the date of the appeal to hearing by Supreme court, five months 16 days; from date of hearing by Supreme court, one month 27 days; from date of crime committed to disposition by Supreme court, 24 months 27 days.

Or, to note another bit of information, here is a statement of crime conditions in St. Louis for the 12 months running from October 1, 1924, to October 1, 1924:

In St. Louis, during the year of the survey, there were 13,444 murders and manslaughters, burglaries, robberies, larcenies, embezzlements, frauds, forgeries and automobile thefts committed. During the same period 1,420 cases (one in nine) were taken to the prosecutor by the police. The prosecutor, refused to issue in 456 of these cases, leaving 964 which were sent to an examining magistrate for preliminary hearing. Exactly 300 were discharged on preliminary examination, leaving 66 held for action by the grand jury or prosecutor. Forty of these were discharged because of failure of the grand jury or prosecutor to act. Of the 624 going to trial court, 66 were nolle prossed by the prosecutor; 2 were discharged by the court for various reasons; 110 were tried and acquitted, or discharged on numerous grounds—a total of 204—leaving 42 to be sentenced. Twenty-six of these were paroled; 20 filed appeals in the Supreme court; leaving 374 persons actually punished. Obviously a system no more efficient than this showing of 374 punishments out of 13,144 major crimes committed needs revision throughout.

Just as obviously talk of revision futility. You learn that for murder and manslaughter in St. Louis one person out of six is punished and for robbery and burglary one out of 25; or in Kansas City ten murders and persons guilty of manslaughter escape for one that is punished; for the 624 going to trial court, 66 for burglary, 50 escape for one punished. North Carolinians do not have information, nor the mass of additional information on the manner in which sentences are carried out, or what class of persons commits particular crimes, or how paroles are working, or whether the officers are able to make arrests in only one out of nine cases as in Missouri. Nor will the state ever have it until it sets out to get it.

Missouri got it by the contribution of \$50,000, chiefly by business interests. Fifty thousand dollars is not a small sum. But it costs the state annually nearly \$11,000,000 to try to protect the lives and property of its people and the losses through criminals in that state run to \$90,000,000 each year.

A lot of our ministers ought to practise before as well as what they preach.

How to become famous: change your name so it will fit nicely into headlines.

Italian earthquakes are caused by Mussolini pounding his fist on the desk.



by Harlan Eugene Read

THE KING OR THE FLAG

The recent and successful attempts of the monarchists to regain control of Germany by establishing a dictatorship, with Hugenberg as the Mussolini of the occasion, drew attention again for a short time to the stupendous fact that the kings have gone to join the dodo, the cave man and the prehistoric horse. The final destruction of monarchy became a certainty, as we now know, upon the day and moment that Austria, backed by Germany, declared war upon Serbia. At that moment the end of kings came. They had been the oppressors of the world for centuries. They had been in danger of overthrow since the French Revolution. They had regained their enormous private fortunes, secured at the expense of their people, mainly by abandoning their claims to divine right, and by allowing people to govern themselves. Through the centuries they retreated an inch at a time, yielding power only, not property; but their subjects still were loyal until the unfortunate moment that they undertook to shoot all Europe to pieces. When the great war was over the kings were gone.

Ever since then there has been a lot of literary rot about the superiority of monarchy as a form of government. This sentiment was particularly strong about the time that the fascists seized power in Italy formally maintaining the king upon his throne though leaving him stripped of power.

Mussolini, because he was successful, and because his administration was efficient, hypnotized a mass of people even in the United States into forgetting the Declaration of Independence and the basic theory of republics, that "consent of the governed" means formal consent secured by ballot and not by force.

It is amazing how many people there are in this country who, under the Mussolini spell, have forgotten the dark centuries in Europe when the Mussolini principle of

force was the only principle that lay behind governments. Defenders of monarchy are to be found in New York, St. Louis, San Francisco and all points between.

The chief claim made by the defenders of monarchy as a formal institution was, and is, that the king is a personality around which the sentiment of a nation can gather. In democracies this feeling centers around a flag, and these defenders of monarchy say they prefer a person, always picturing that person as a romantic, gallant, benevolent and efficient individual, and forgetting the corruption, the tyranny, the inefficiency and the licentiousness that has always characterized monarchs. Like the frogs that preferred King Stork to King Log, the reactionary prefers a flag.

Personally I prefer a flag to a king. I cannot consume the substance of the poor. It cannot commit adultery or waste the taxes of a nation upon harlots. It cannot bribe parliaments. It cannot issue letters of the seal. It cannot embroil nations in wars over family quarrels. It cannot get drunk, and does not upon occasions become insane. It is never under age. It cannot oppose the will of those who fight for it, nor levy taxes without the consent of the people. It is never a foreigner and always speaks the language of its makers. It does not oppose progress, makes no official appointments of evil friends, and hides no personal crimes within the glory of its silken folds. It arouses the idealism of a people without fastening upon that idealism the stains of apology for private lives that are vile and public acts that are injurious.

Democracy has not yet proven that it is the highest possible form of government. There may be improvements to come. But in its selection of an emblem it has chosen one that at least in theory represents the will of the people over whom it floats.

NEWSY TOPICS

And we used to be afraid of bicycles!

Many a man wears his hat over the weak end.

Knowledge is always worth whatever you can cash in on it for.

There are fewer automobiles stolen. Everybody already has one.

One great trouble with the world is, it takes too much for granted. "Dieticians and historians will parley over the rice and fall of China.

A fool and his money are soon parted; which is a lucky thing for the fool.

The proper proportion when buying a suit is two coats and three pairs of pants.

Africa is becoming civilized. It has been discovered that the women wear very little clothing.

The railroads make the long hauls, the trucks the short hauls, and the burglars the rich hauls.

The wets and dries each believe that "one-half of 1 percent" refers to the degree of correctness of the other's views.

Now that they are taking the quotation marks from around wets and dries you can look for two more words in the new dictionaries.

In the Mormon tabernacle at Salt Lake City you can hear a pin drop, but in some of our churches you can't even hear a coin drop.

The "average business man's 3000-word vocabulary" will be 3004 when he has mastered Geneva, protocol, reservations and adhesion.

The bootleggers have all the money. Money controls elections. What chance have the advocates of modification or repeal of the Volstead act?

Wives read the fashion notes and their husbands pay them. They can stretch the price of rubber but it will come back.

The next great political party will be the Nonpartizan Party.

Many of the advertisements we read are interesting if not true.

The coal industry does not need nationalizing; it need rationalizing.

If the coal people starve will it be a case of women and children first?

Lincoln's Double Lives In Nevada

Judge Chas. S. Bull, county judge at Reno, Nev., is not only acquainted with the man who looks most like Lincoln, but is exactly Lincoln's height and weight, six foot four, 190 pounds, and was born in a log cabin in February. As a youth in Texas he shot deer, turkey, split rails and excelled at wrestling and frontier sports. He has been cowboy, rancher, miner and traveling salesman. Since locating in Nevada in 1918 he has been in public life. He has never impersonated the character of the great emancipator except for government drives or in national holiday parades.

