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FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1921.
Butler's Folly
Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, too circumspect a politician to be a great educator and too didactic a pedagogue to be a successful politician, has made another bid for an unenviable fame.

If America had had at its head at the end of the war a man who knew human nature, who knew history and European diplomacy and was acquainted with the fundamental principles of a firm political and social philosophy, the state of Europe and America would have been much more happy than it is today.

The papers of the country have been pondering the probable causes of this splenic assault. The Springfield Republican is reminded of what the learned Doctor had to say last summer, upon his return from the Chicago convention about General Wood's candidacy.

Some day, perhaps, observes the New York Evening Post, we shall have a specific catalogue of Woodrow Wilson's stupefying mistakes and a statement of just how they could have been avoided.

A Swell Affair
The excellent prospects for failure do not lessen our sympathy for the efforts of certain members of Congress and others to keep the Harding inauguration within fairly simple, modest bounds.

No sooner did Mr. Crisp of Dare get the eye and ear of the new speaker yesterday morning than he advanced with a measure for the frustration of the tick in Dare. Today it will be somebody else, and tomorrow and tomorrow.

friends and will veto nothing until he is duly installed in office, and Congress, could hardly be expected to behave charitably about a request for a hundred thousand or so. Hence the outlook is for a swell affair in all important particulars.

The Poverty of Our Legations
There is one appropriation at least which the coming retrenchment should not cut, if the conditions portrayed by a special correspondent of the New York Times are true.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921, the Department last winter requested \$1,310,000 for "contingent expenses of foreign missions."

The latter is the course which has been followed. As a result, the United States Charge d'Affaires at Sofia, Bulgaria, is liable to eviction now because he can not find suitable quarters for which he can afford to pay.

It has long been said that only a wealthy man could afford to accept one of the more important ministerial posts, because of the meagre salary and the great need of a dignified social position, which the salary could not maintain.

Moreover, with the popular and correct opinion of this country as a wealthy one, it must seem incongruous, and an evidence of lack of respect for the foreign governments, that we house our representatives so poorly.

Tick Time Again
The author of the News and Observer's "Under the Dome" column offers a gaily facetious lament in behalf of the General Assembly upon the early arrival of the cattle tick in the midst of the members.

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a number of friends there. It has received hospitable treatment in the past and will not be noticeable for its absence in the future unless warning be definitely served now that its friends have departed or changed their minds.

Letters to the Editor

WILMINGTON'S GROWTH
EDITOR OF THE STAR:
One living in Wilmington and seeing the improvements going on from day to day cannot appreciate the almost magical changes which have taken place in the past few years.

The physical development of Wilmington reviewed from any angle has been wonderful. The banks are beautifully housed and their statements show resources indicating ample facilities for business, and above all a thrifty, industrious population given to the saving habit.

The back country which some years ago was thought to be unsuitable for cultivation with any profitable returns has responded to the touch of the hand guided by intelligence and is yielding returns perfectly amazing.

But, the most impressive thing about Wilmington is the spirit of its people. The great throbbing city of Atlanta with very few natural resources, a mountainous country without large mineral resources, with no navigable rivers or sea frontage has become the great city that it is largely through the spirit of its people.

Tuskegee, Ala., Dec. 28, 1920.

Contemporary Views

RUBBERNECK
London Post: Two ladies, one carrying an infant, entered a bus, and their conversation proclaimed them of American origin.

NOT THAT KIND OF INVESTIGATION
New York World: Much may be said for a legislative investigation of the Municipal Government of New York City, but it is not said in the superheated rhetoric of the statement by Senator Robinson and Assemblyman Steinberg.

Probably New York City suffers more from official stupidity and incompetence than from outright dishonesty—which, for all that, may in many cases exist.

New York Herald: Archaeologists have found in New Mexico a forty-five story apartment house once tenanted by 1,000 Indians.

New York Herald: Dr. Bimon Flexner tells us of evil parasites so small that they pass through the pores of earthenware.

Jobless—But Gay

It is a genial place to be—a theatrical agency. It is likely to be full of good looking, well dressed people with all the style that only stage folk can put one, and it is filled with a spirit of camaraderie that is good to feel.

They get out jobs. I heard of one of a well known actor who, since he played in the "Cave Man," six months ago has not had one offer.

They can still laugh
"Do you know anybody that has got one?" was the reply. Any everybody would be glad to get one in the way in which they must be able to laugh or else they had better stay away until they can.

The causes of the present unemployment grow out of the enormous over-production of plays that took place during the war.

People flocked to the theatres. The thought of the moment could be distracted from the shadow of the morrow to come.

The result of the over-production of the past year is that theatres in New York are now at a terrific premium.

Picture manufacturers are beginning now to make fewer films, and to specialize more on the perfection of each one.

It also means that the demand for actors may be slightly less in the future, although this is not probable.

There are not, he states, probably half as many as 5,000 motion picture people unemployed in the east.

The announcement that the Shubert theatres were about to be given over to vaudeville is said to have had an effect in attracting large numbers of vaudeville performers to New York.

The last and perhaps the most unfortunate cause of the present state of unemployment is the widespread failure of road companies.

Shows under reputable producers, which have had success in New York, have failed on the road during the past year, either from the increased railroad rates, or from the substitution of inferior actors in star parts.

But the larger proportion of the failures has been due to the newer, irresponsible managers, who take a company out, allow their salaries to lapse, and "strand" them in some small town without the means of getting back.

Daily Health Talks

DAMPNESS AND NO HEAT
Our politicians, as ever eager to seize the more popular horn of a dilemma, base a great deal of their noisy talk nowadays on the popular belief that insufficient heat in living apartments or offices or stores predisposes occupants of such apartments to some disease, preferably pneumonia.

No doubt it is a reckless and ill-considered impression, as I say, that the conventionalized landlord, skimping about 10 degrees Fahrenheit on the heat through every cold spell, is in reality acting as a good friend of his tenants.

Landlords as a whole are indeed execrable creatures. I hate nothing more than landlords unless it be getting up bravely and early in the morning. Nevertheless, speaking from the viewpoint of good health, we must grudgingly concede to the landlord an important role in keeping us well.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
A Lady's Hand
I saw by the paper where a lady praised your hand lotion. Just now one of my chief occupations in life is holding hands.

Answer—Here is the lotion I suggest for softening and whitening the skin of the hands or face.

What is the difference between hyperthyroidism and exophthalmic goitre? (Bertha)

Answer—Hyper means more or excessive—hyperthyroidism means excessive function of the thyroid gland, which produces an excess of thyroid secretion.

BUDDHISTS OPPOSE THE S. A.
TOKIO, Nov. 24.—(Correspondence of Associated Press)—A Buddhist salvation army has been formed with headquarters in Tokio and according to one of its leaders, it is determined to "fight the Christian salvation army out of Japan."

persuaded a friend in The Bronx to sell his boarding house and put the money into a new company. He re-housed the company, took them to Baltimore where they stayed one week without "renting big pay."

A daring "shoe string" manager, who was formerly a motion picture star, has stranded two companies within the past month. Members of the companies were rescued by the Actors' Equity association.

Nothing can daunt them, these theatre people, because they always keep their faith in their own ability to act, their willingness to pull each other out of holes, and the confidence that they are "good looking when they are made up."

There are any number of stories about these privateer producers who ply their trade with a picturesqueness worthy of O. Henry.

Or there was another manager who

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q. How is President-elect Harding's middle name pronounced and what does it mean?—V. M. T.

A. Gamalle is pronounced gam-malee, and is a Hebrew word meaning "my reward is God."

Q. What was the earliest adding machine?—R. A. R.

A. The earliest known adding machine or instrument of calculation of any importance is said to be the abacus. The Chinese lay claim to its invention.

Q. When the government sent home from France the remains of a slain warrior, what are the relatives notified?—J. W. D.

A. The war department says that the relatives of a deceased soldier whose remains are to be brought over from France are notified by the commanding officer of the war establishment at the time the body leaves France.

Q. Who were the Bashi Bazouks?—D. S. S.

A. The Bashi Bazouks were Turkish irregular troops, natives of the peninsulas of Asiatic Turkey and possessing the worst reputation of any of the wild and turbulent and ready to plunder and kill at any time.

Q. What is the longest river in the world?—A. W.

A. The longest river in the world is the Mississippi-Missouri, 4,184 miles. The widest river is probably the Amazon, its width being 90 miles at its main mouth.

Q. What is the derivation of the name "Rotten Row" in Hyde Park, London?—A. W.

A. The name "Rotten Row" is supposed to be derived from "Rotten Row" or "King's Drive." The king is the only person who may drive down it in a carriage.

Q. Who said "Be good and let the world be better"?—S. S. J.

A. The quotation is from a poem "A Farewell" by Charles Kingsley, the verse from which words are taken.

Our Reputation
The bank that is known for the service it gives and the friends it keeps; for its readiness to advance the interests of our community; and, above all, its strong position and ability at all times to care for the needs of its depositors.

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"Oldest and Largest Savings Bank in North Carolina"