The Morning Star

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1921.

Beware the Garbage Can

Makers of home brew have another enemy to Note the following report from Auburn, N. Y., published in the New York Herald:

The humble, battered garbage pail has been raised to a post of dignity. It is now the ally of the Volstead enforcers. Auburn garbage coffectors now are trailed by revenue sleuths who keep to leeward of the wagons and note the contents of all pails dumped. . If they smell sour mash or hops, good night for the home brewer. The alarm has been sounded here. Look out for your garbage pail, it may betray you.

Here in Wilmington the open pail or barrel used for the reception of refuse has been a witness to a lack of civic pride, of regard for sanitation, and of a sense of beauty, but we have not yet had it revealed as a witness to the presence of home

The Auburn story seems probable, though we wonder why trailing the wagons is necessary, since the smell of sour mash is usually sufficiently strong to be observed without close examination.

There may be few garbage pails in Wilmington receiving such burdens, and Volstead enforcers may not think it necessary to use such methods of induction, but one can not but wish that the garbage pail could be raised in dignity of appearance to keep pace with its dignity of function. If it can not harbor hops, it seems unwise to allow it to give food to all the flies who wish to make it a base of supply, and who succeed in preventing a fly famine. And if it can serve as a prohibition officer, why not make it serve more efficiently in its present capacity, that of home

Now that the "humble, battered garbage pail" has been brought before the public, we should let the whitelight of publicity beat upon it and its place in society.

Willard Aspires

Jess Willard wants to come back.

At forty he pretends to believe that he can defeat Jack Dempsey, the greatest piece of fighting machinery in the history of the ring. He has even advanced an alibi for the terrible trouncing he received at the hands of this same opponent less than two years ago. Back on his Kansas farm, big Jess has managed to forget the battered hulk, which, blinded with its own blood, staggered from the arena at Toledo.

There are several reasons why Willard should not be allowed to face Dempsey again. Not the least important is the fact that boxing is steadily becoming humanized. After degenerating into a most brutal pastime, it is gradually being raised to a higher level. A repetition of the spectacle in Toledo, when Willard was literally cut to pieces In three rounds, will not help the efforts of those who are seeking to make the future of boxing safe. If Dempsey could deal out such punishment when Willard was in trim, it stands to reason that he can renew with interest today.

Another reason is a more personal one. Every other American ever fortunate enough to annex a world's fighting championship died fighting when the better man came along. Willard quit cold after his opponent had worn himself down. He threw away his crown when every expert at the ringside believed he Ead an even chance of weathering the storm had he resumed the fray. But Willard quit. Now he wants to be king again. The king is dead. For the best interest of boxing

The President Getting On His Feet

The appearance of President Wilson at a Washing theatre is accepted as another token of his gradual return to good health. It is said to have been his first visit to the play-houses in nearly eighteen months. He gave evidence of being fairly capable of handling himself, requiring only the "slightest assistance on leaving his car" and leaning without noticeable weight upon a walking cane. It is not to be assumed that the President is near normal health again. He has come back from the brink of the grave; few men, perhaps, would have come back at all under the circumstances. Authorized reports from the White House tell of consistent gains, and it will be the earnest hope of the American people that the gains will continue until the Woodrow Wilson of yes-terday shall re-appear. There should be many years of distinguished service before the retiring President. The prospect of liberal contributions from his pen during the next several years should, alone, be sufficient inspiration for a popular wish that he may regain every whit of his old-time

The Good Roads Bill

The fate of the proposed State system of modern highways has not yet been sealed, favorably or otherwise, but the news from the Capital is of the kind to inspire confidence among the men who have labored so unceasingly to bring this blessing to the people of North Carolina. Governor Morrison, differing from legislative leaders in respect of certain details of the proposed measures, has demonstrated his readiness to waive relatively minor considerations in order to reach the larger goal. Gaining some of his points, he appears quite willing to concede some to those whose views diverge from the line followed by his own. The result, if not a situation of entire harmony among the road-builders, is at any rate indicative of the spirit that must be present if a constructive law is to be enacted.

The Doughton-Connor bill has been reviewed in the news columns of The Star. It now seems to have the right of way. The proposed serial issue of fifty million dollars worth of bonds has fully met the demands of the State's good roads workers generally. It is possible this total will be reduced before enactment of the law. That is a matter of less consequence than the issue respecting modes of construction and maintenance. There now appears to be no doubt whatsoever that adequate financial provision will be made to guarantee a complete system of highways in the State. The Doughton-Connor bill, in its essential features, has the support of good roads advocates at large, and we hope it will win the favorable attention of the General Assembly.

Mr. Kramer's Little Story

John F. Kramer, Prohibition Commissioner, has returned to Washington with a refreshing little story illustrating the naivete of one of our Western Carolina "moonshine" authorities. authority in question seems to have set up a mountain distilling school where the quiet art of generating a kick was expounded and explained at so much a lesson. The entire plant was stolen after a time, and the "professor" lodged a complaint with the county officials. "Much to his surprise," we read, "he was placed in jail and later given a heavy sentence in the penitentiary for violating the Volstead Act."

Mr. Kramer's story would have been more delightful if he had not proceeded to violate one of the elementary principles of story-telling byhis effort to make it argumentative. To say that "there are a number of people in North Carolina who believe that whiskey making is a part of their religious duty" may be to speak the truth in a certain literal sense. We do not pretend to know the private beliefs of every person in the State, and the phrase, "number of people" is one of fair safety. Mr. Kramer continues: "And they receive encouragement and are given distinguished consideration by many good citizens in private, business and professional circles of life." Without pausing to note the manifest absurdity of a statement that any violation of the law is encouraged by "good" citizens, we may observe that the Federal Commissioner has stepped quite beyond the bounds of good taste and discretion by his inference of general disregard for the Volstead Act among the better citizens of North Carolina. The impression inevitably conveyed by the elaboration on his little bit of moonshine is that the representative people of the State will pause at any time in support of the law in order to pay honor to the illicit distiller. Mr. Kramer should learn how to tell a story.

Shifting Residential Areas

A factor in housing little considered in most discussions of the question is the instability of American residence sections. Because of the rapid growth of most of our towns and cities, and the lack of foresight existent when the towns were planned, or sprang up, a section that was desirable for homes five or ten years past may be utterly unfit today. Industrial developments menacé health, either by spreading fumes, or by causing dirt and noise and other conditions equally undesirable; or business houses encroach upon homes, the town house of the leading family becomes a boarding house, and new areas must be opened for development as residential areas. Real estate men open rival sections, scattered homes are built, with vacant lots in generous proportion. If a certain section does not "take", it languishes and dies, factory sites creep in, and the search for a place for a home begins again.

"These changes in residence centers," according to a student of housing, "entail a terrific waste and economic loss. It is impossible to estimate how much the national investment is impaired by shifts that ought to be needless

"The amount must run into hundreds of millions annually. The loss is not merely economic. It falls on citizenship and on the family life as well. Any obstacles thrown in the way of home owning is an obstacle to good citizenship. The economic hazard that a man assumes in building a home, through the instability of residence districts, is one of the great drawbacks to home building. , In every city of any size there are thousands of families that have had the experience of losing the value of their homes. What must be their attitude toward the municipality that permits such injustices; what must be the effect of such an experience on a man's civic pride and citizenship?

Wilmington, whose growth has been comparatively of an even pace, has suffered less from this condition than have other cities. Now, however, faced with an increasing population, an enlarging industrial life, and a housing shortage, it will be well for the city to take thought of the morrow in the necessary extension of the areas in which homes are to be built, and in protecting them as building goes on.

Contemporary Views

Asheville Citizen: The United States leads the world in the total gross tons of merchant vessels launched in 1920, but the real test will come later when we will be forced to compete with the cheaper wages and the government subsidies of the merchant marine industry of other nations.

Charlotte Observer: One thing Mr. Fairfax Harrison, president of the Southern Railway, may safely count on, and that is, there is going to be a lively revival in the passenger business of his line just as soon as the patronage-dispensing machine of the new administration is put into workable order.

"KNIGHTS OF THE ROAD"

New Bern Sun-Journal: The professional tramp is with us again. Railroads running out of the larger centers report a steadily increasing number of "bums" riding "the blinds." Nearly all of them are headed south. Police court records as well as ocular evidence of "pan-handlers" selling all kinds of trinkets on the streets bear out the

The "bums" drift in, hang around for a day or two, and then take "the blinds" again, as is their immemorial custom. They are very adept too, in dodging inquisitive policemen, and to the kindhearted housewife they tell tales of wondrous hard luck, embracing everything from fortunes lost in oil speculation to the hard-hearted stepfather who drove them from home.

The fall in prices and the increasing number of unemployed in industry has started these gentry, who had mysteriously disappeared during the stirring days of the great war, upon their annual peregrinations. What became of them during the war no man knows. It is hardly conceivable that they were induced by soaring wages to take a job of work.

FARMING IN SAMPSON

Sampson Democrat: While the farmers of Sampson county will make no mistake in reducing acreage, yet if a sensible course were pursued by the farmers of other sections of the south, cotton would be, indeed, a money crop for all the growers. Sampson county raises its food supplies-more corn and bacon than its population requires. True, it is short on feed stuff, but if other sections of the south would diversify their productions to the same extent that Sampson county people do, there would not be the crisis now existing. Under the circumstances, it would appear just for our people to have to make the same percentage of reduction that the farmers who make no home supply of corn and bacon should make. But, since those people have so little sense as to destroy themselves, it is certain that Sampson county growers cannot risk their salvation to the good sense of benevolence. Hence, for their own financial salvation they must cut off their acreage of cotton, though, as they already make their food supplies, they have no recourse for recompensation but in the minor matter of raising more feed, since to turn to corn or bacon as a money crop is to come into competition with the growers of the west, who have as great an advantage over the south in the production of those crops on an economical basis as the south has over other cottonproducing countries in the production of cotton. Truly, it is a pity that the folly of a great proportion of the south in failing to make its hog and hominy should force our people into competition with the rest of the world in the production of foods, when otherwise they might utilize their acreage in the production of the south's own peculiar crop, and at a profit. But it is a condition that confronts; so, farmers, cut and cut to the

LEADING OUT OF DARKNESS

Columbia State: If all of the enlightened and educated people of South Carolina were aware of the work that the commission for the elimination of adult illiteracy is carrying on in South Carolina, if they knew of the keen wish and effort that have been shown by thousands of middle aged and some venerable men and women to learn to read and write, there would be no lack of generous support for it. The worthy causes that appeal to busy men are so numerous, that, notwithstand ing publicity that schools for illiterates have had, they pass unnoticed by the majority of the people and the commission is compelled to resort to a variety of devices to find means to conduct its activities.

If all the adults in South Carolina were illiterates the state itself could scarcely exist. It would fall back into the night of semi-barbarianism and, whenever one grown-up nian or woman is rescued from the thraldom of ignorance, he or she is enabled to take the first and the greatest step in the direction of worthy and useful citizenship. The illiterates are not to be condemned as unworthy people; in rare cases is the fault of their condition their own, but the man at disadvantage by comparison with his fellows, other things being equal, is the man most likely to be discontented and yield to evil influences. He is the more often the victim of imposition and the more likely to give away to unreasoning resentment.

WHAT GOLF DOES FOR THE TOWNS

Jacksonville Times-Union: Some of the larger cities and many of the smaller places have scouted the idea that golf was of any benefit, but a practical demonstration has been given during the last week of the value of golf, especially to the The President of the United States, or at least

who will shortly sit in the chair of the chief executive of this great nation, honored a number of smail cities on the east coast with a visit because they had golf links. He is a golf enthusiast and he wanted the exercise and at the same time wanted to see what was actually going on in Florida, so he stopped at St. Augustine and Ormond and Vero and Fort Pierce and of course at Daytona and Palm Beach and Miami but there never would have been the slightest chance of Vero and Fort Pierce entertaining the head or the nation had they not had splendid golf courses.

We have frequently commented on the growing popularity of golf, especially in Florida, which is the winter paradise of the people of these United States, who have the leisure to enjoy the game that combines exercise, skill, ingenuity and perserverance and acts as a stimulant to the human system. The cities that have adopted golf as one of the features of their entertainment have progressed wonderfully and those that have persisted in ignoring it are making less headway in the tourist business, which is a profitable business in Florida. Miami now has three or four golf courses and is planning more of them and we all know that Miami is leading in tourist trade. Palm Beach is

following suit with two or three courses and many of the other prominent resort cities and towns are coming along with one or two courses. We might fust as well recognize the game of golf as one of our leading pastimes and exercises and prepare to adopt it into our amusement family and if we do not we will be left in the rear and be classed as a back number. For a long time it was considered a fad, but it is now recognized as a real red-blooded sport for real men and women and it is bound to grow in importance and popularity.

Kinston Free Press: There seems to be a tendency on the part of some States to alter their prohibition legislation to conform to the Volstead act as passed Congress. Should this course become universal throughout the nation it would simplify matters and strengthen prohibition enforcement.

Raleigh News and Observer! It appears that the negroes in Norlina who participated in the recent rioting had plenty of firearms. "These cannot be bought from North Carolina dealers without permission from local authorities. But there is nothing to prevent their being bought in large quantities from mail order houses in other States. Here is work for Congress and the Legislature. Let Congress forbid the shipment of firearms through the mails.

Daily Editorial Digest

tional facilities as a whole if the this standard." Princeton plan should become a general torial writers. The News inquires:

nation like this one, endowed with huge institution that is top heavy."

In that position it is supported by most deteriorate. of the papers participating in the discussion. The Wall Street Journal, and relations between teachers and returned from the funeral attired even "at the risk of being charged student body that President Hibben ad- head to foot in the deepest development in the educational field Standard, which maintains that "it is obliged to decline all invitation swers one inquiry of the Denver paper every university

squarely: would be much better placed in me-, making no mistake." chanical employment. If 'all men are created equal.' as the Declaration of inglorious Miltons' Gray supposed. pressing for solution. universities lowers the standard and meet the point that . . the product from top to bottom."

cation of this policy to state universi- ously increased." Consequently the ties. The Detroit Free Press, for instance, believes that "in principle" there is much merit in such a move, since "any education institution that calamity if, when so many are genuinegrows continually must in course of time arrive at a point where increase insufficient facilities to satisfy their field, where they had been of numbers thereafter militates against | needs." the best and highest efficiency." But Furthermore, the New York World is councilman at large of Summit. to a state institution the solution is inclined to doubt the democratizing held up and robbed by three a not so simple, since the youth of the qualities of "a college education, bandits who had blocked the roads is "a monumental task," the Free bly the character of college instruction Press nevertheless maintains that "the would improve if only students of the lawyer, who tried to drive off. University of Michigan must develop best promise were accepted," it still patch outlines a similar course for "giving a study-club aspect to uni-

Princeton University is in the main figure and say no more shall enter. supported by the press for its recently Virtually the only limitation possible announced policy of limiting student is insistence upon a fair standard of enrollment. Such criticism as appears preparation; and the better our secis directed not at Princeton's particular ondary schools become the greater will problem, but at the effect upon educa- be the number of those who can meet

But "higher education by wholesale" The Rocky Mountain News as the Minneapolis Journal expresses (Denver) seems to state the case with it, does not meet with unqualified ena series of questions which are an- dorsement. "A university, like a city, swered in various ways by other edi- can become too big for its own good," the Journal continues, and while "stu-"Is the step announced for Prince dents who want advanced education ton to be commended or disapproved? and are fitted to receive it should not What ought a state, as a state, to do be denied the privilege," still "it is don't go into deep mourning for -open wide the doors to all and probable that several medium sized in- after a death in the family and sundry, or make admission a more stitutions of learning are better, both not. selective process? Is it possible for a for the student and the state, than one potentialities for great wealth and its | Applying the principle of "a little

distribution among the many, to be- field, well tilled" to education, the come too promiscuous with fts higher Porland Oregonian feels will "reeducational facilities? Is it possible serve the facilities of colleges for those to have a people over-educated in the who regard them seriously." Colleges, in its opinion, "are under little or no Viewed as the result of economic obligation to furnish a convenient fourconditions, by which "the general high year loafing place for anyone. Encost of living, naturally, has increased ormous pressure exerted by increasing the cost of education," the News feels numbers who really want to learn has that Princeton has merely taken the has made inevitable the choice be- deep rellef. step necessary to meet changed con- tween culling the raw material and ditions and still maintain its standards. permitting educational workmanship to

The doctrine of personal attention

shall not be so large that every stu-"It should be possible, by means of dent shall not have personal attenscholarships and endowments, for every tion from men qualified by experience sentiment. It is purely a conven boy and girl with the necessary self- and training and education to teach act, which is outside rational denial and intelligence to work his him." And the New York Herald adds icism. To berate an American ex way to the highest gifts a college can that "perhaps graduates of the popular bestow. But there is an economic universities, where classmen not only no more sensible than for waste in expending the time of compe- do not become acquainted with all tent professors on students with no their fellows but scarcely see them, cause she failed to put a bowl of hirst for learning. Those students may agree with Princeton that it is on the grave.

But the Princeton plan, it is contended, offers no solution to the prob-Independence so recklessly says, all lems presented by the "growing destudents are not. It may be doubted mand for higher education," which, the if there are really any of those 'mute Baltimore American believes, are "If it is valid They find themselves somehow. But for Princeton it is valid for every unidemocracies are forever disinclined to versity in the country," and the re- tions of his country is unworthy face facts. Easy matriculation at the striction policy "altogether fails to his undoubted talent and his und . the number able earnestness and industry of those who wish to share in the Two newspapers discuss the appli- | benefits of higher education has enorm-American feels that "as this is one of the most hopeful tendencies of the time it would be nothing short of a

Admitting that it economic side," and that "very probaits resources and its power of caring questions whether American colleges broke his arm for undergraduates so largely that it are "under no obligation to American can take care of all comers regardless youth to provide a higher education to of their number." The Columbus Dis- all who seek it;" and, in its opinion, up quickly and their money is

is made preternaturally easy for the to indulge in it. Like the of the steerage steward shift first class, These people are and

with an attempt to restrict education," vances as a prime factor in his decis- crepe veil hanging down her holds that there "has been no better ion is upheld by the Syracuse Post than the Princeton innovation. It an- should be the permanent policy of that classes for a year at least.

ly anxious to learn, there should be from the Baltusrol Golf club at spe

'Ohio State," since "we cannot, in fair- versities will hardly seem to comport ness, close the doors at some chosen with American theories of education."

By WILLIAM IVY

PARIS .- Practically the only foreign shipping. ments. A controversy is raging in the produce the seamen. tal ships and sut marines or other small

membered by every American and Thomas, who is now making a second threats of the robbers until near he every Englishman, for that matter-is trip in the United States and writing that when England talks about naval his experiences for a French weekly. The bandits then got out, held a armaments she can have only one pos- (At least I supposed that the previous whispered consultation and sible rival in mind, namely the United trip was his first, for some of his States. No other power could dream of comments were excusable only on the challenging British naval supremacy plea of unfamiliarity with the country now, and no other power has even so and its language.) much as planned a navy that could challenge It in the future.

every average Englishman is convinced thing go glimmering. In a new article that England must keep the lead in now under my eye he describes the the naval race, there is practically no discomforts of kitchenette life in New popular apprehension of a struggle York "which the New Yorkers endure with America. The American build- along with many other trials, for the ing programme is believed by the man pleasure of living in New York, which in a London street to be directed seems to them the liveliest of all the against Japan, and although Japan world's cities, and the one where are and England have a naval alliance it is found the men who have the most carrying out of certain projects not considered as operative against money, and where women find the America. In fact English sympathies greatest luxuries and amusements." would be largely on our side in such a fight, because of the anti-Japanese that, and if it amuses a Frenchman it is the first committee which sentiment in Canada and Australia.

tion in England really comes down to prefer to cook on an electric grill this: England is financially unable to rather than wear out their nerves run an armament race with the United over the servant problem, very well. States. States, if supremacy is to depend on But what is annoying is that a supcostly capital ships. She must, there- posedly serious writer in an undoubtfore, make up her mind to drop out edly serious journal should waste his and take her chances with American time over such superficialities, and good will, or else allow herself to be should moreover interpret them as repersuaded that safety can be secured vealing profoundly significant characwith smaller and less expensive craft.

It looks now as though-barring the possibility of a naval "holiday"-England would adopt the latter course, should write in, let us say. The Inde-In this connection the movement for pendent, a series of parallel comments agricultural development in the British Isles is significant. Given suffi- gravely set forth that the French above the mouth of the Escambla cient food supply to guarantee against were such a ridiculous people as to cluding that river and the Concession by blockade. England could profess the could be coul starvation by blockade, England could prefer living in France in spite of the is abandoned. wage a very satisfactory naval war with submarines and aircraft alone. To land and maintain an army on her shores would be, according to all experlence, an impossibility, and a fleet of submarine cruisers could do so much damage to the enemy's commerce as to make any victory at best a pyrrhic one. Colonies and dominions might, of

course, be lost, but their mere possession, in the absence of a merchant marine wherewith to exploit their commerce, would be of small advantage to the victor. It is ships, and more particularly sailors, that make a world empire. American naval authorities have in-

sisted on this point. A navy without a merchant marine is an anomaly. What nations really need navies for is to maintain possession of their spheres of trading influence, in other words, to protect their commerce. Probably one reason why this race

of armaments comes just now is that the territory which may be divided into "spheres of influence" is considerably enlarged. Not only are there the "mandate" countries—mostly former enemy colonies—but practically all central and eastern Europe will be exploited by foreign capital and reduced to a condition of economic dependency. That the United States, the only nation with considerable surplus capital

for export-should have a preponderant share in financing the industrial reconstruction of these dependent countries is a self-evident necessity. It is also quite understandable that after financing such development, American capital should be unwilling

to put itself at the mercy of British a final warning to the other vie

I had made a resolution not to permit myself to be annoyed by the ing its mark. Now one thing that ought to be re- American impressions of one Louis

There is nothing very noxious in all

to believe that typical New Yorkers The battleship-vs.-submarine ques- are money-worshippers, or that they legislative bill. teristics of the American people. I wonder what Mr. Thomas would

European News and Views

And so British-American maritime question in which the English people rivairy is quite on the cards. The are interested just now is naval arma- question, however, is whether we can

But M. Thomas continues his ab surdities, and one's hopes that longer Yet oddly enough, although nearly acquaintance might teach him some-

say if some visitor to his country on French life.

The occupants of the first and bile to reach the Parricage were P. Thomas, of Elizabeth, stockbrok

dirty-they're always washing

Mr. Thomas thinks we have no s

cemeteries are placed in grassy

urbs instead of in the heart of

city, close by our homes, because

months ago a young French Won

of a good provincial family. She

come to Paris, somewhat against

ruined her various chances for m

riage and for a business career, T

old lady was in fact the despair

the whole family, and I gathered

her demise would be greeted a

and looking fifteen years older

dances, theatres and other amusen

daughter who did not act similar

to complain of this French lady

stant assumption that what

until it imitates the social con

guests of Thomas Dehavoise to

AND RORRED IN 1179

Apropos, I happen to

the tyranny of an aged

grandmother who had

Well, the grandmothe

Let not Mr. Thomas

and died."

his car containing the robbers and wife when Huse jumped into this

machine and tried to start it. bandit riding on the running promptly fired at him, the built a Thomas increased his speed an worth, when he was ordered to s

Police automobile patrols were s out from Newark and Elizabeth w

news of the holdup spread, but trace of the robbers could be found HARBORS AND RIVERS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5,-The III mally presented in the house. It make which appropriations already are a able. Under the new rules the mittee handles no appropriations mally had such control to report

North Carolina and Virginia will view to its acquisition to the la

Waterway from Lake Charles the Calcasieu river and the in coastal waterway from Calcasica Louislana, to Sabine river, Texas Existing projects authorized

Suppose it were ida and Alabama, except that

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