

The Observer

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PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1930.

BLACK-BELT WAYS OF THOUGHT

Did some one holler "bugger" it seems to us that we have heard much of this kind occasionally with recent weeks. The Richmond News Leader must have heard something too for we find it commenting upon the subject. "We do not share the apprehensions of some of our far-South contemporaries," says the News Leader, "that political equality of the negro such as Mr. Taft desires means the enforcement of such a policy by the Federal power, which will have the effect of disturbing seriously the progress, prosperity and tranquility of the South. And for the reason that the South will not submit to negro political equality, she hath said it and means it. As regards this issue she will continue to pursue the policy that has brought her progress, prosperity and tranquility to the end of rendering these conditions all the more permanent. That is as true as the laws of the Medes and the Persians, Mr. Taft's desire, and for the fifteenth amendment and construction of that amendment to the contrary notwithstanding."

"Apprehensions of some of our far-South contemporaries," the phrase accurately locates the cause mentioned. The contemporaries in question fear a condition which exists nowhere in the country and which is distinct from any approach to existence precisely where the negro is most numerous. The best treatment for the negro, political and otherwise, does not remotely imply political equality. It does imply that political equality, including the right to divide land much or how little surface, the negro should have, must for the good of both races remain permanently in the white man's hands. Our far-South contemporaries' must not be assured that the negro will obtain less political status in their States than anywhere else. The attainment of political equality for the negro is a goal which should be held in every State throughout the country. The white man will defend the negro's suffrage precisely as he controls everything else, and where ever the negro is most numerous, he will exist the more that affecting the nation to improve strong central forces. That politics is not to be held in a hellish black belt, which the Republic and Democracy have established in the Southern States, is a fact which the Southern States have not yet learned. Lessons have been learned, but it is a fact which the negro is not yet able to see. It is possible for the negro to be controlled either by votes of his own or by holding the balance of a vote. Inevitably, the negro of the black belt will continue to be the political thought of the white man, and we can say with simple truth that the narrowing black belt, the narrowness which shaped present political conditions have already passed away.

Mr. Taft and his party will withdraw from Charleston about the 15th of January. North Carolina and Montana on Monday, January 27th. The President-elect has a long and busy day of not making Charleston his point of departure. Charleston is nearly the isthmus of Panama than any other port on the Atlantic or Pacific coasts, the navigation is easy and direct, and facilities for the handling of the big ships are ample. All this Mr. Taft has known all along and the various misrepresentations have been quite lost upon him. He knows also, presumably, that on the day he sails there will be a rise of tide at Charleston of five feet, ten in Chesapeake, added to a ship channel of 27 feet at dead low water, will give the North Carolina and the Montana over five feet of water under their keels. All these statements we make upon the very highest authority. They proceed originally from an editorial written by Deacon James Calvin Hemphill, of Charleston, who has just returned from an ambassadorial mission to Mr. Taft and knows everything about sailings of warships for Panama that is worth knowing.

Now what on earth does the House ways and means committee mean by substituting secret sessions for open in its tariff deliberations and swearing all members to inviolable secrecy? We can only guess that the majority members wished to escape well-deserved criticism of themselves and cripple the whole tariff discussion.

SILVER AND ORIENTAL TRADE

In view of not a few people's opinion that American exports of cotton goods to the Orient are seriously embarrassed by depreciation in the price of silver, definite reports upon the subject from our consular representatives in the far East have a value worth considering. These reports, called for by the State Department at the request of Senator Lodge and made to cover all business relations affected by silver prices, indicate that while the commercial difficulties complained of are real enough they proceed from the metal's constant fluctuations in value rather than from the mere fact of its tendency on the whole toward depreciation. In Japan, where the gold standard obtains, there are no unsettled conditions from this cause, but in silver-standard China dealings with the great commercial countries have been injuriously affected by changes in the price of silver which make the profit or loss in a transaction largely dependent upon the rate of exchange. This enormous increase in the risks of business, converting every merchant into a gambler and demoralizing trade. A rising tendency, as would naturally be expected, stimulates imports of goods, subject, however, to the hindrance which the chronic state of fluctuation exerts whether the tendency be upward or downward. At least such are the views expressed by a majority of the consuls reporting from China, including Consul General Denby, at Shanghai. In other large fluctuations in the value of currency in the Shanghai and many other hundreds of cities, however, banks who had dealings with foreigners, says Mr. Denby. Some few consuls report no observable difference in the demand for foreign goods whether the rate of exchange for silver be high or low. Korea having practically a gold standard through its use of Japanese currency, conditions there are as stable as could be desired.

From these same sources and some others we find much light thrown upon the causes at work in the world which have recently tended to produce depression of silver. It seems clear that silver prices are now finally fixed by conditions in the far East, where silver is the white metal used for primary money. When an active demand for currency arises in India and China the silver supply is augmented by hoarding in the markets of the world the silver market for international purposes being London. If demand is slack in these two countries it exerts the reverse effect upon the supply and the price. Recent declines are attributable principally to a drop in India, by reason of which the Indian government bought practically no silver for coinage in 1928 as compared with purchases to the amount of \$25,000,000 in 1927, and silver selling in China, India, its need for currency reduced through unorthodox currency issues, simply suspended currency reform and sold part of it as the most profitable step to be taken. The fluctuations are produced by this irregular demand for monetary use in countries where silver forms the bulk of currency. The Mexican and Philippine dollars, redeemable in gold at the rate of two for one, are at present, aside from their redemption value, worth about forty-seven cents. Within recent months the gold value of these coins has been considerably lower and considerably higher than the figure named, but neither Mexico nor the islands experienced fluctuating currency conditions in consequence.

It is further a matter of demonstrable fact that notwithstanding any success which may be held on the subject of silver depreciation, the purchasing power of Asia has gone on steadily increasing. Japan's foreign trade is ten times that of thirty years ago, India's five times and China's something like three times. Special note might be made of the fact that so far from cheap silver showing a tendency to foster home industries and stimulate exports while cutting down imports, as it should if the silver-standard theory holds good, gold-standard Japan is the only Asiatic country which has made any progress whatever upon European or American trade. And although China's imports of foreign goods have fallen off slightly of late, this appears to be due to nothing in the world but a juggling in the price of rice, inevitably diminishing the money which an extremely poor people can spare for the purchase of foreign articles.

The greatest need of China and the countries which trade with her is that she adopt either the Mexican or Philippine gold-standard system. She might with some wisdom follow India as a gold-standard model; hardly, as yet, Japan. For years she has been promising to reform her currency, but it is to-day in a worse state than ever before, the value of some coins differing widely by provinces as well as in relation to foreign exchange. Perhaps the new Chinese government will solve this problem. For the sake of the American cotton industry and a good many interests besides we hope that the present chaotic currency conditions will not be tolerated much longer.

Those cities and sections which are expecting to do increased business with the coastwise steamship lines after the railroads have made their expected raise of freight rates would do well to take notice that the railroads have called the steamship lines into conference and are now urging material increases in all coastwise rates.

The Richmond News Leader and the Washington Herald hoot at The Observer's apparent statement that cocktails will be made in North Carolina no more. Note the adjective.

TRYING TO CAUSE FIGHT

There goes out from Washington a report that, confronted on one side by popular demand for tariff revision downward and on the other by shrinking revenues and a growing Treasury deficit, the House ways and means committee has under serious consideration a plan whereby the government's finances would be put upon practically the same basis as during the Spanish war. Bank checks, drafts, mortgages, debts and telegrams would be among the first subjects of taxation by stamp.

How many believe that the committee really contemplates anything of the kind? By affecting many duties which are quite prohibitory, revision downward would at as many points increase the revenue materially. To re-impose stamp taxes which have passed into history as even more of a nuisance to business than an expense would be no more wise politically than governmentally. And, besides, Messrs. Payne and Dailzell are not the men to enlarge the scope of direct taxation at the expense of tariff taxation. The effort to discredit and defeat genuine tariff reform may end by making itself ridiculous.

THE PROBLEM FOR CONGRESS

Since June 30th last the Treasury deficit has been \$4,000,000,000, revenues running about \$24,000,000,000 less than during the corresponding period of 1927. The Treasury's available cash balance is \$169,000,000, of which twenty millions consists of small change very slightly available for meeting public expenditures. A deficit for the current half year as great as that for the half year ending would bring down the readily available balance to \$2,000,000,000. This is not much more than the Treasury's usual working balance, and yet the prospect for further deficit, due to increases in both customs and internal revenue collections, remains a serious factor. Prudence seems to require that a deficit of \$144,000,000 for 1930 be anticipated, whether it wholly materializes or not. The huge Treasury surplus with which the budget entered upon the period of panic-depression cannot bear shrinkage much longer. Congress will have a revenue problem on its hands. It will more than earn the recently increased salaries of its members if it reaches a wise solution.

The Shakespeare Memorial committee of England, appointed some time ago to consider the form of a memorial to be presented with practical unanimity to recommend the establishment of a national theatre, in which Shakespearean plays will be presented at regular intervals and played by other dramatists as occasion may require. This is the first memorial for one who needs no memorial.

MAY BE CONSUMPTION CURE

Bacillus to Be Destroyed by an Antitoxin—Dr. Rosenbergh, of Jefferson Medical College, Finds That Germ Causes Blood Clotting Long Before It Attacks Tissues—To Make Men Immune.

This is the discovery of Dr. Handberg, of the famous bacteriologist and leader of the chair of bacteriology at Jefferson Medical College, that the tuberculous germ can be readily found in the blood long before it reaches the lungs; that it is then in a condition which makes it easy to destroy by simple treatment and to make an antitoxin which will stop the disease out.

Dr. Lawrence Flick, president of the Institute for Consumptives, to-night, "this fight against the great white plague is won."

The simplicity of the method is such that it will be available to every physician and to the simplest laborer.

Randleman Chair Company Bought by Northern Syndicate.

The People's Savings, Loan and Trust Company, through Mr. George T. Penny closed a deal Tuesday with a Northern syndicate for the valuable property known as the Randleman Chair Company. The people who will become interested in the new organization are well-known business men throughout the country and have ample capital to operate the well-equipped plant in a thorough and business-like manner. There is over \$15,000 in the deal and it will mean much to our growing little city.

A "Bad Man's" Gratitude.

Out of gratitude to the preacher that converted him, a Peoria man, who had been a "bad" man, stopped with the minister's wife, which proves that not all men are ungrateful for a kindness. This man gave splendid proof of the genuineness of his conversion.

THE TROUBLE WITH DEMOCRATS

Have Followed Will-o'-the-Wisp Populism, Led by Bryan, and Got Away From Old Moorings—Back to the Principles That Endure.

We hear a good deal these days of the organization of Taft clubs in the South. There is no need of hurriedly rushing into the Republican party. I do not think it is Mr. Taft's wish that the South should be made a solidly Republican, any more than solidly Democratic, but I think his wish is to see more independence in the politics of the South. It is a deplorable fact that the South has blindly followed the so-called Democratic party against her interests. I do not believe there is any fault to find with Democracy, but I do not regard the platform of 1896, 1900 or 1908 as Democratic—more populist than Democratic. There is no reason to repudiate Democracy but more reason to restore the Democracy of our fathers. Unless the South repudiates the kind of Democracy—Bryanism—so-called Democracy, and the leaders of the present day, we need never hope to win again.

Mr. Bryan is eloquent, gifted, tireless, but he is not wisely guided in what constitutes real Democracy. They know it when they see it, but for twelve years the party has been worshipping false gods, pursuing a will-o'-the-wisp chase, flirting with the people, and at no time standing the shadow of a chance to get back into power. The party has for twelve years been losing ground, having lost many Northern Democratic States. It has been a negative party for these many years, "again" the government has been its policy. The party admits an aggressive, virile party, standing for a sound business policy and not clap-trap principles to catch the voters. The party has surrendered its principles for the sake of expediency, thereby forfeiting the confidence of the people.

Free silver, ownership of railroads (advocated by Bryan, but never incorporated into the party platform), the injunction plank to please union labor, written by Gompers, and one item after another—the wonder is that the party has not gone to pieces long ago with such principles and leaders. The thing now to do is to repudiate Bryanism, which is Populism, return to its old moorings and principles as enunciated by Jefferson, Jackson, Tyler and the great Hamilton Democracy of this kind will live long after the Bryans are forgotten, will endure as long as the world stands.

J. M. CONNOR, Greenwood, S. C., Jan. 6th, 1930.

NEAR-BARD OF CROSS CREEK

Another Evidence That North Carolina is Still Supreme in Near-Poetry Realm—Add to the Well-Known "Slogan," "And Nearest Parnassus."

Carolina had a son, His name was Robert Glenn, And everywhere they voted "dry" That soured his merry bent.

Then he gave vent to the following: "Old Hickory known to fame, "The North State had a stalwart son, But everywhere that every grows "They claim his noble name."

Living to a sublime height he sings Virginia's praise: "Virginia had another son, "With long and powdered hair; And when the British went to sleep "He crossed the Delaware."

Tuning from the subject of "holts sons" he tunes his lyre in a less exalted key and begins: "Old John D. is a mercenary soul, "And a mercenary soul is he, "Pending upon his oil on cash, "And he made on his cash, "And on his autobiography."

"And now," he said, "here is something slightly different: "What's in a name?" the poet cried, "I read in old Virginia, as you see, "Andrew Jackson Andrews was first called, "O, what's in a name, indeed?"

And again are we not "there with the goods?" ALFRED M. MYROVER, Fayetteville, N. C.

A Remarkable Cucumber.

Greenville Reflector.

Saturday, Mr. J. A. Tyson, of this township, brought a large cucumber to the Reflector office that was pulled from a vine in his garden the latter part of August, and was put away to dry for seed. At the time it was pulled the cucumber was yellow, but after it was put away it turned green again, and grew about one-third larger than it was when pulled off the vine. This is no "fish pull," either; as Mr. Tyson says, he has plenty of witnesses to prove it by.

Killed a Yellow Rabbit.

M. D. Kiser, a colored man living in Vance township, killed a yellow rabbit a few days ago. The hide, which Kiser sent to The Enquirer office as "an evidence of good faith," looks more like the hide of a yellow cat than that of a "molly cottontail." But it is a rabbit's skin all right, for there are the long ears and abbreviated tail bearing dumb but convincing testimony that Kiser is not trying to play the part of a nature fakir.

DON'T GET A DIVORCE.

A westerly breeze on account of ill-temper and bad breath, Dr. King's New Life Pills would have been a better cure than any other, causing bad breath and liver trouble, the ill-temper, drowsy colds, banish headaches, counter "chills," etc. at W. L. Hand & Co.

BENEFACIONS OF 1928

Over \$90,000,000 Given to Charitable and Educational Enterprises.

The figures of the year's benefactions run into the millions. More than \$90 of these millions, either by gift or bequest, have been devoted to the betterment of men and women and children during 1928. In round numbers, the colleges and educational institutions have received \$40,000,000; charitable enterprise of all kinds another \$40,000,000; religious organizations (regular contributions not included), \$5,000,000; museum, art galleries, and municipal improvements, \$5,000,000, and libraries about \$1,000,000. In the latter direction the amount shows as a decided falling off over previous years. This, of course, is due to Mr. Carnegie's change in his library policy. He has planted library buildings all over the country and put in conditional leases under them until there is no further need of his help, but in all other directions the stream of philanthropy runs bank full in all its channels.

PARIS MYTHS EXPLODED

An American Elbowed Into Gutter by "Politest People on Earth."

Tradition declares the French to be the most polite people in the world. They're not. Individually the Frenchman may be courteous. Collectively he lacks the essential element of courtesy, regard for the feelings of others.

Charming in private, in public he is an individualist to the verge of savagery. In the theatre he is a nuisance, on the street he is a boor, traveling he is—there is no other word adequate to the occasion—a hog. You discover this on the occasion of your first promenade in Paris.

My first day on the boulevards of Paris was spent mainly in the gutter, my second in apologizing to people who were making me "fither. My third I devoted to doing some hating myself. My fourth, fifth and sixth I nursed lame shoulders.

Now I have a hardened spot in my soul and two more on the front of my collarbone, and I can look straight and unflinching into the eyes of an elderly French lady with long gray whiskers and convince her that she doesn't want more than two-thirds of the sidewalk, and that if she does want it she doesn't get it. This sounds ungentlemanly, but it's necessary. For if you let yourself get shunted into the street often enough it's only a question of time when a watchful taxi auto will get you.

Poe Not Excluded.

New York Tribune.

An Old Account Book.

Stateville Landmark.

Mr. W. L. Stewart, of Barham Springs, was in town Wednesday and had with him an old account book that is of interest. It was the property of Eric & Howard, the original owners of the present Monro-Cotton Mills. The book was used in 1863 for keeping accounts. Items on it showing the prevailing prices of sugar, cotton, which was about 10¢ per pound at that time, are of interest. Of special interest was a receipt for freight on 40 bales of cotton shipped by David McLean, of Salisbury, to the Granite Shoals, which was about 10¢ per mill then. The cotton weighed 7,353 pounds and the freight charge was \$240. The letter in which the receipt was sent had a ten-cent postage stamp on it, and was dated April 25th, 1864.

New York's Typhoid Germ Tests.

New York Tribune.

Victim of Toy Gun Sleeps in Country Churchyard.

Durham, Jan. 7.—The funeral services over the remains of Arthur Clement, who died from injuries received while toy gun, were held yesterday afternoon from country church, several miles from town. The little fellow lived five days after the awful wounds were inflicted, and it was almost miraculous that he survived the shock. He was 14 years old.

Greensboro Socialists Busy.

Greensboro Telegram, 8th.

The Socialists of the city announce a mass meeting for to-night at 7:30 o'clock at Neece's Hall to discuss the Socialist municipal platform for Greensboro. The Socialist propaganda is conducted quite aggressively here, literature being circulated extensively and no little personal work done.

It Would.

Durham Herald.

It would be a mean trick if the Raleigh blind tigers should refuse to do business with members of the Legislature.

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES, CHARLOTTE



DO YOU KNOW WHY WE CLOSE OUR STORE MONDAY?

We are not in business to play pranks like a lot of silly, heedless children, no, no that is far from the point.

On Tuesday, January 12th, we will welcome almost this entire city and vicinity to the Opening of the Lockhart Mill-End Sale. (No one can measure the crowds that will be here.)

The coming of this great world-famed sale does not teach any one how to raise chickens or a vegetable garden, but it does give the most profound instructions in economy possible to obtain.

On Tuesday our store will remind you of a great store house filled with treasures. While closed Monday everything will be changed, and the store will be gorgeously decorated with Yellow Fish Tails, Yellow Bannerettes, Yellow Tickets and Booths of new Mill-End goods will greet you at every counter, until you will pinch yourself to be sure you're not dreaming, or hypnotized, or being led by your subconscious mind through a zone of the rarest colors, lights and changes.

This announcement is like the first course at dinner, a mere cup of broth, but to-morrow's advertisement will be more like a substantial farmer's dinner table, loaded to the very outer edge with the best of everything. Oh! how we will tempt the dry goods appetites in this community for the next 10 days.

Read About It Tomorrow in this Paper

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES, CHARLOTTE