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Monday, February 3, 1913

**ONE WAY BY WHICH SCHOOL TERMS CAN BE LENGTHENED.**

One of the greatest drawbacks—if not the greatest—standing in the way of development in North Carolina is the want of longer school terms. This very matter is puzzling the commonwealth's law makers right now. They are hoping to provide six months school terms. They must do it. Not only do they think it is right and necessary for the good of the people; but the Democrats remember too well the slogan of the Republicans in the last campaign. The relief will probably come in some form of taxation. This is all very well; it will not hurt the people to pay more taxes—for schools.

But the remedy for longer school terms in every county in the State is not far to seek. It is simple and practicable and its application lies with any superintendent of education who cares to inaugurate it: Let the school children provide the money themselves. This can be done by adding the agricultural feature to each rural school. If the plan was not practicable; if it had not already been applied with signal success, The Gazette-News, taking no credit for the plan, could not speak with such confidence and authority. But it is so simple and easy that the cause for wonder is that the scheme had not been generally put into effect by school superintendents.

Wake county has worked it out—Wake county in North Carolina, a State that seldom takes the lead in matters educational. They needed longer schools in Wake. There was a great deal of uncultivated land near most of the schools, just as there is near almost every rural school in the state. Arrangements were made to secure it. The school boys and girls cultivated the crops, the ploughing being done by the larger boys and patrons of the schools. Seventeen schools sold their crops for a net profit of \$1200—enough to add about six weeks to the school terms.

The plan has even been tried in Buncombe, at Jupiter, with entire success. The teachers have had no trouble in getting the pupils to do the necessary work. Most of it was accomplished by working bees, like old-fashioned barn raisings and corn shuckings. The social phase lent much interest to the scheme.

But aside from the money to be made for the lengthening of the schools, by this scheme the boys are taught just such things as they should be taught in North Carolina which is essentially an agricultural State and will be more extensively when the timber resources are exhausted. There has been a great revival in farming; the farmers are seeking the light and there is probably not a school community in the county in which there is not some farmer capable of instructing the pupils in the proper cultivation of the crops, even if the teachers is not able to do so.

**A GOOD SPEECH.**

"They confound all philosophy in the learning of scholastic disquisitions and bewilder all theology in the mazes of metaphysical jargon." Governor Craig quoted Blackstone Saturday evening in his speech before the North Carolinians in Washington, applying these words to the freight rate experts employed by the railroads. "If any common carriers are to be permitted to discriminate for or against any community or class of citizens," said the Governor, "they are no longer public servants but the masters of commerce." He made it quite clear and simple that when a railroad can control the location of an industry, as between Asheville, say, and Lynchburg or Roanoke, by reason of freight discrimination, there is something grossly wrong.

The Governor was felicitous in a number of expressions of his extemporaneous talk. He said that the dream of the idealist of yesterday is the voice of public opinion and tomorrow it will be the statute of the nation. He expressed confidence that the present legislature will enact laws that will

insure the education of the country children and that will wipe out what has been to us the strongest inspiration of that group of men who are devoted to the service of the ideal through the practical.

It seems to me that throughout all civilized nations there is an altruistic awakening. It seems to me that there has come forth the faith that the powers of civilization shall not be prostituted of selfishness and material things, but shall be utilized for the good and for the enlightenment of all the children of men. This faith may be vague, but it is assuming pulsant form. It may be seen in weakness, but it shall be raised in power. It is this that can move the hearts of all men. It is appealing now to the thinkers and practical statesmen of civilized nations; it was the appeal to this that gave Col. Roosevelt his following; that destroyed the greatest political organization of our time; it was this that in spite of all opposition and organization nominated and elected Woodrow Wilson.

The Superior court grand jury at Wilmington told Judge Carter a number of things in their report Saturday, and of such import that he held the grand jury for a time and ordered the commissioners of New Hanover county to appear in instant and give categorical account of their stewardship.

The report of the grand jury showed "bad conditions at the jail, county home, and convict camp;" and we reckon they are bad, because the average grand jury is not what you could call a sentimental body. The prisoners at the convict camp complained of lack of quantity and quality of food; body, so to speak, is given to the latter complaint by the assertion that often rats were found in the boiled dinners. It further appeared that the boiled dinners are cooked in two large pots in a furnace; and an economical administration had been using the same pots in washing the clothing of the prisoners. The superintendent of the camp would acknowledge to but one rat, and that one an accident. The county commissioners promised the court to remedy at once the matters of complaint, and Judge Carter discharged the grand jury, after expressing warm appreciation of the fine public service they had performed.

**PHILOSOPHERS' ANNOYANCES.**

For days tormenting doubt that all was not well with the entertaining if tattered collection of pedestrian philosophers at New Orleans has been growing into anguished certainty. Murmurings of discontent and factionalism have been heard among the most urbane and detached observers of men and events to be found on this broad continent.

The first manifestation of insubordination in the hobo breast was resentment over police interference with their liberty peacefully to assemble and discuss the problems of the day and perhaps of the morrow. Hitherto while all the world has been reviling and jeering at the "finest" of many cities these gentlemen of leisure and travel, the greatest sufferers at police hands, have refrained from criticism and complaint, bowing in their superior knowledge to natural and evitable facts. The next advance in this progressive disorder was a determination to adopt militant suffragette tactics to right their burning wrongs. No longer were the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune to be endured in a superior silence. Banners and superheated oratory, brickbats and catapults, vitriol and sudden death were to be utilized. This was a grievous error. To such things mere man may bend under the realization that they promote the cause of suffrage and make fair votes for women votaries happy. But he could not be expected to look pleasant when another mere man to whom he is wont to give a giney for a beer repays the courtesy with burning oil.

Then socialism lifted its hundred heads and voices and the "association of migratory workers" was rent and torn. "Millionaire Hobo" How was accused of talking a "lot of rot" and with having an "axe to grind," and axe grinding is known to be a task in which your genuine hobo finds no pleasure. President Jefferson Davis, who has an unerring eye for shams and darned trousers, thereupon ousted How and now is talking of affiliating the reactionary following with the American Federation of Labor.

More tribulations are yet in store for this craft and vocation, however. The tariff is coming down and Mr. Untermeyer has smoked out the money trust. Greatly we fear the hobo will find no excuse or toleration in the new day, when the land will flow with milk and honey. "Tramping" is taking its place among the lost arts.

**THE WATER RATE.**

Without the naming of any names, the information is furnished that several caucuses have been held within the past few weeks looking to the nomination of a "citizens" ticket in the event that Asheville adopts a "modified" form of a commission government. Inasmuch as most of the commission charters are "modified" the "if" sounds almost superfluous. The platform of the citizens ticket, it is intimated, will contain a pledge of flat water rates and water at cost. The latter half is our own platform but it is not copyrighted. This paper has also consistently expressed a preference for the flat rate, if it is practicable, which is to be doubted. But it is one understanding that

the contention is made that Asheville has water at cost, at present. They will point out to you that the gross revenue of the water department is not in excess of the sum that would be required to retire bonds at maturity, and pay interest on water and sewer debts, maintenance of the system and cost of operation. They put the sewer bonds in, too; and there is more or less ground for argument in that. We believe that the sinking fund has no existence in fact; nevertheless, if the revenue barely covers operation, maintenance, interest and sinking fund, the sum total is not excessive, whatever room for improvement there may be in the method of collection or disbursement.

Water at cost, if indeed we haven't at present, will be a good plank to put into the platform of any ticket: "straight," or "modified," or "mixed."

Well, everybody is anxious that the majority shall be satisfied, and everybody professes to be satisfied with the decision of the majority. Why not submit two new charters to referendum vote?

Beginning Wednesday, the Devil is supposed to go home for 40 days and leave the peoples of earth unharassed and unmolested; but he is a very devil of guile and deceit.

A knowledge of the ground hog's Sunday habits would help some, at this juncture.

What city was successful in getting the next hobo convention?

**HEALTH AND HYGIENE.**

(By State Board of Health.)

**Importance of Measles.**

Measles is too often spoken of as a trivial ailment, especially by the general public, but it should not be overlooked that the percentage of mortality may be quite considerable. Aside from the possibility of a high mortality rate in this disease, measles may result in the various unfortunate complications, such as impaired vision, possibly total blindness; partial or complete loss of hearing; and perhaps establish a condition which may invite the tuberculosis germ. Measles is usually transmitted from one person to another. Discharges from the nose and eyes carry the infected material, which is disseminated by the act of sneezing or coughing. Infection is often conveyed from person to person before the characteristic eruption appears and before the disease is fully recognized. The early catarrhal stage is perhaps the most dangerous period of infection, although the later eruption stage is also liable to infect others who may be exposed. The mortality of measles is not altogether due to the disease itself but to complications generally connected with the respiratory system, the more common of which are laryngitis, bronchitis, and pneumonia. To avoid as much as possible the liability to any of these complications, the patient should, in the first place, be put to bed, no matter how mild the attack may seem to be. The room should be well ventilated; and, owing to the fact that the eyes are sensitive and easily irritated during the progress of the disease, they should be protected from the light.

**Slaughter of the Innocents.**

The antiquated notion that every child must have measles, whooping-cough, etc., is fast dying out. There is no record of a case of any such contagious disease that ever did any one any good. On the other hand, there are records of something like 140 deaths from measles and over 700 deaths from whooping-cough in North Carolina last year. Is there any sense in this slaughter of the innocents? If a man argues that a little child should be exposed to measles or some contagion "just so he won't get it when he is older," ask him how he would like to be exposed to smallpox or cholera "so he won't get it when he is older." It is a poor rule that won't work both ways, and there is as much sense in one case as in the other.

If any one person feels that the requirements of the health officer, as to reporting the existence of contagious disease do not apply to him or his

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 Best built, best furnished house in Asheville, Heated by Steam. The table is a feature. Special Diets when required.

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 The best fine GRANULATED  
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 Figure your saving on these two items? CASH PAYING makes the saving. This is **McINTYRE'S WAY**  
 Home made bread 5c. Try it and you'll eat no other.

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**\$1.50 Vanity Veils For \$1.00**

Another one of the values that are to be found exclusive at the Bon Marche. The Vanity Veil is the most popular of the novel effects for Spring. The various Fashion Journals have all commented favorably upon this unique design.  
 Not only are we going to sell vanity veils at \$1 each, but we are going to include a veil pin with each purchase. The display will be made in the front of the store and you will be served quickly and well. Each veil in a separate, Sanitary package.

**The New in Spring Silks**

Our silk stock of Spring fabrics has grown to large proportions during the last week. Those who want their dresses early can buy now with the assurance that they are selecting from a line that is wonderfully complete for any period.  
 Brocaded Charmeuse, beautifully colored effects, dress patterns for \$12.50 to \$17.50.  
 Charmeuse, the delightful clinging silk that drapes so artistically, all shades, 40 inches wide, for \$2 and \$2.50 yard.  
 Striped pongee, 27 inches wide, wearing quality unsurpassed, priced at 85c yard.

**Bon Marche Special Corset**

This corset has been selling here for more than a year. It is made to our own order and the quality is superior to the regular lines at the same price. It has won its place along side of corsets with National reputations. Now we consider it the best at the price asked—50c, \$1 and \$1.50 pair.  
 Other corsets are priced up to \$15 pair.

**Our Ready-to-Wear Department Specializes on Wooltex Garments**

This store does not believe in standing still. The entire second floor has been remodeled. Two large extra cases and several mirrors have been added to our Ready-to-Wear Department. Improvements are constantly going on.  
 New suits and coats of the famous Wooltex line have been received and they are the most stylish models we have had.  
 Wooltex coats for Spring sell for \$15 to \$35. One pictured here is a \$35 model.  
 Wooltex suits, latest designs, modified from Parisian models, all colors, for \$25 to \$45. The one pictured here sells for \$30.