

Another good way to study expression is to stand by and watch a man try to start a stalled automobile on a country road.

This is the health age. Girls are taking long walks for their complexions. Since the drug store moved to the other end of Main Street.

OUR RALEIGH LETTER

By M. L. Shipman

Raleigh, Aug. 8.—Raleigh passed a quiet week the past seven days but, as always, there were some things to attract the attention of the citizens. The chief items of interest were the reunion of Confederate veterans of the State and the water supply situation. The absence of the governor and other state officials made for a scarcity of news in official circles and there is not much of public interest in state affairs to relate.

The city was most gracious host to half a hundred of the Boys in Gray and they were royally entertained throughout their stay. From the time the three-day convention opened until the end, everything was done to give the old soldiers the best kind of entertainment and many citizens took especial pains to honor the guests. The soldiers were delighted and left after the convention with many words of praise on their lips for the city's hospitality.

The trouble with Raleigh's water supply continues to worry citizens. A heavy growth has come about in the water reservoir because of the shortage of water last year which permitted the propagation of weeds. Now, these are rotting, the water is discolored and has a peculiar taste. During the week citizens have been drinking water from Mordecai Springs and other springs rather than use the city water. The officials have declared that a number of the springs are not safe for drinking water and Mordecai Springs is among the number, so the citizens are in a quandary. The city water is said by officials to be pure, but there is little encouragement for the average citizen who goes by taste and smell.

Just what will be the outcome of the situation is not clear. City officials are condemned by some and praised by others, one local paper taking their part and the other just the opposite, it being said that the situation could have been prevented had the lake been properly cleaned while low last summer and, on the other hand, the officers are being upheld for having done their best. In the meantime, chemists are working on the water situation. It is said that a water reservoir will be constructed immediately which will provide for clear water free of the vegetable matter. This is considered good news.

The peculiar claim of Niles O'Neal, bootlegger of the New Light district of the county, that he be paid \$7,000 by the county for making himself a vicarious sacrifice to the prohibition law in order that other law violators might be apprehended has been postponed for consideration by county commissioners until their September meeting. O'Neal says he helped catch men guilty of burning a school house only by violating the law himself and allowing himself to be convicted and serving time for bootlegging. In this way he wormed his way into the confidence of the guilty parties, he says. He claims to have made a secret agreement with county officials on the matter.

Frank Page, highway chairman, announces that a number of highway projects will be let to bidders on August 23. The exact location of the new work has not been decided as yet. The Department of Conservation is urging all North Carolinians to co-operate in its double work of conserving and developing North Carolina's resources. During the week Raleigh entertained a motorcade of about 75 citizens of Wilmington who passed through on a goodwill tour of the State.

The State Tax Commission got underway this past week when Secretary Fred Morrison wrote to Kentucky to find out about tax reforms in that State. Kentucky is the outstanding southern state in the matter of tax reforms and only in recent years has that state been able to progress. It is planned to gather as much data as possible on all the states and then to concentrate on North Carolina. The Commission has a difficult task ahead. The Department of Conservation and Development has added to its staff a statistician trained in conservation work. He is Park Matthewson, who did similar work in Washington and New York.

Major Stedman made some interesting observations while visiting here with the Confederate Veterans. He believes that the Democratic party has adopted an attitude of watchful waiting as to candidates and if the right man is nominated, the people, especially the women, will flock to the Democratic banner. He believes a strong Democrat would be elected as the Republicans have not satisfied the great midwest areas. He does not venture the name of the possible Democratic nominee.

Raleigh, like the rest of the nation, was greatly astounded by the announcement by President Coolidge that he did not choose to be President again. That is what it virtually meant, though the president was referring to his nomination. Every one believes, however, had he been nominated, the Democrats would have had no chance. Now they believe the Democrats will have a great chance—if the right man is named. Generally speaking, officials here do not believe the Coolidge announcement means he will not take the plum if offered. Others, however, say that this statement by the president means he is out of it. Time will tell.

The boll weevil has struck Wake county but the damage is not serious thus far, nor is it expected to be serious. A plan has been suggested to Governor McLean for national advertising of North Carolina apples. This plan says that the apples can be made as famous as California oranges if handled in the right manner. It is being studied. Electric light service to the city was suspended for a part of one day last week when a heavy storm struck the city and crippled

the plant. The county of Wake has sold \$130,000 worth of notes which were issued to fund outstanding debt. A local bank bought the issue.

Raleigh citizens were grieved to learn of the death of Miss Gertrude Soudley, a member of the faculty of Meredith college, in the music department. She died in New York state after an illness of several weeks. North Carolina will have the distinction to be the first state to free its cows of tuberculosis. The last county, Ashe, has joined in the work and it is expected that eradication will be complete by 1928. Eighty-five counties already have been freed of the disease.

Gold. That is a word whispered nowadays as the Department of Conservation and Development examines samples of rock from Randolph county, preparatory to approving a gold mine in that county. The examination is of interest to a great number as it has been believed for a long time that there was gold in paying quantities in the State and years ago mines operated at some places.

George F. Bazemore, negro, who was to have died for murder last week, has received a 30-day respite while Pardon Commissioner Bridges investigates the case. Bazemore is convicted of slaying Gordon Yelver-

ton of Fremont. He has been tried twice, the first conviction being reversed by the Supreme Court and no appeal having been taken after his second conviction. There is considerable interest in the fact that North Carolina, after mounting to fourth place during the past year in payment of federal taxes, is on the road to third place this year. This is the opinion of federal officials here.

Wake county has set an example to the rest of the State by using local lawyers instead of bond attorneys of New York in borrowing money. Here, before it had been believed necessary to use New York lawyers, but this has been disproven by the local action and money has been saved the county. A slightly higher rate was paid but the excessive fees were eliminated so that money was saved. Surry county is the latest addition to counties testing the powers of the State finance act in collecting taxes. This act has had rough sledding since being passed by the 1927 Legislature. Commissioner John Sprunt Hill will be on hand August 12 when the case of Raleigh against the highway commission is tried. There have been allegations made that Mr. Hill is routing roads by Durham which should pass through Raleigh. Mr. Hill being a Durham man. The matter will be thoroughly aired. The

citizens were interested in recent statements that churches were losing in membership and by prompt declarations by Bishops Mouson and Penick, of Charlotte, that this statement did not represent a true picture as new members entirely offset any loss of old members.

According to the Department of Revenue \$1434 more license plates have been purchased to date this year than last, the total number being 373,422 just \$9,778 short of the total for the entire year ending June 30th. According to the Department of Conservation and Development, prospecting for gold is going on in the section where the counties of Franklin, Nash and Warren come together, the average value of the ore per ton being \$700. The Department also announces that the observation station on the Neuse River some miles from Clayton has been completed which will show the stream condition, or flow, from which may be computed the volume of water passing through the channels of the river.

North Carolina led the nation last year in the elimination of grade crossings with forty-nine to its credit. It also leads in birth rate, there having been 82,459 babies born in the

(Continued on Page Seven)

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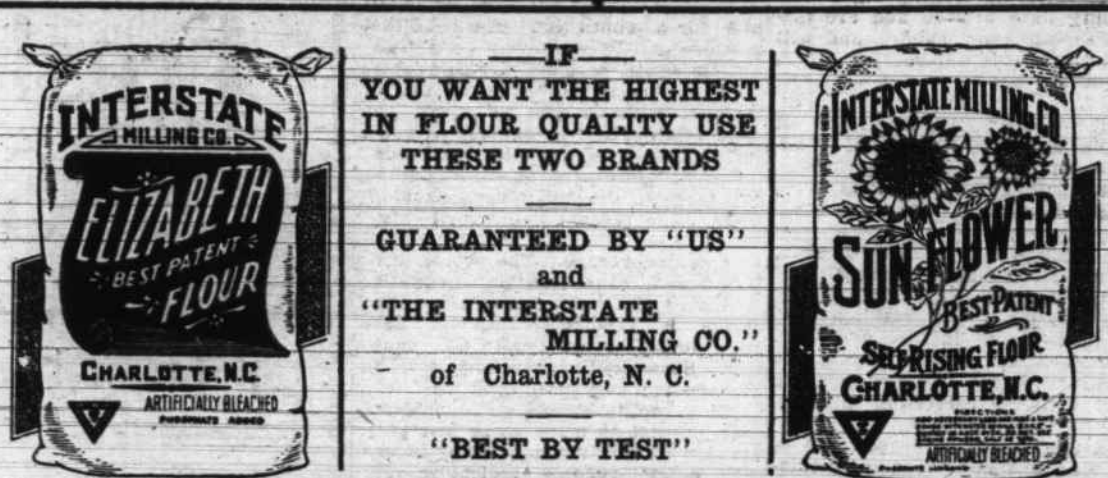
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