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"If the choice were left to me whether to have a free press or a free government, I would choose a free press."—Thomas Jefferson.

FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 25, 1932



POPULATION DATA

CITIES AND TOWNS

Salisbury	16,951	Gold Hill	156
Spencer	3,129	Granite Quarry	507
E. Spencer	2,098	Rockwell	696
China Grove	1,258	Faith	431
Landis	1,388	Kannapolis	13,912

TOWNSHIPS

Atwell	2,619	Morgan	1,327
China Grove	8,990	Mt. Ulla	1,389
Cleveland	1,445	Providence	2,589
Franklin	2,246	Salisbury	25,153
Gold Hill	2,642	S. Irish	1,251
Litaker	2,562	Steele	1,142
Locke	1,904	Unity	1,406

ROWAN COUNTY 56,665

SHOULD BEGIN AT THE TOP

Commenting on the much-discussed topic of economy in government the Shelby Star observes that the greater part of the salary-slashing now in progress is largely confined to the little fellows. Few of the officers at the top have yet felt the knife of this economy operation. The Star figures that the officials and their numerous assistants in the Cleveland county court house get salaries and fees totaling a little over \$30,000 a year. To some, the paper says, this may seem an enormous sum, but invites attention to the following facts:

The head of the Federal Farm Board draws a salary of \$75,000 per year, more than twice the amount paid all Cleveland county officials and their helpers.

In the Federal service are many other men whose annual salaries are equal to the combined salaries of all our county officials.

With conditions as they are the people, who are the bill payers, are justified in registering complaint about the cost of government. But they should not hit out blindly.

The biggest waste in American government today is the Federal service, not in county and city governments, particularly the smaller cities.

The janitor at the average federal building draws a monthly salary higher than the paid men who hold some of the highest offices in Shelby and Cleveland county.

The Shelby paper continues:

"Just think it over—in the Cleveland county court house are seven elective officers, four appointive officers and four or five assistants whose combined salaries run just a little above \$30,000 per year, and that sum includes extra clerical help that is needed at intervals throughout the year. Yet in the Federal service one man draws twice that sum per year, and any number of men have individual salaries equal to that figure.

"The cutting should be done at the top."

WHAT PRICE AVIATION?

Two recent incidents suggest that aviation, like many another industry, must face a measure of deflation before it again can set a stride commensurate with the progress all of us would like to see in American economic life.

Pilots have declared a strike, protesting the change of their pay from monthly salaries to hourly wages. And in Washington, Congress is threatening to reduce its subsidies to air transport lines by trimming appropriations for air mail contracts.

As it becomes less an infant industry and more firmly established, and as pilots become more and more numerous, it seems inevitable that they will have to accept smaller wages. This has been the case in other new industries,

and at a time of general stress in virtually all industries.

Likewise governmental economy, which is absolutely imperative at this time, cannot well make an exception of the aviation industry, which has depended in considerable measure on Federal subventions. Retrenchment is the order of the day in public appropriations. Its application will have to be rigorous, or there will be no economy.

Obviously the Nation cannot afford, from a military standpoint alone, to starve the aviation industry. Too much depends for our national defense as well as for our business enterprise, on the adequacy of air mail and air transport routes. But there can be moderate retrenchment in this direction, as in others, without serious impairment of the industry. Continuous expansion is the aim in this as in all lines of industry and transportation, but in a regime of rising and falling economic activity, some fluctuations are inevitable in each individual industry, however essential.

THE WORTH OF A GOOD COW

Just what a bona-fide, state-wide Milk-for-Health campaign will mean to the people of North Carolina is told in the March issue of the health bulletin published monthly by the State Board of Health. Quoting the foreword of the bulletin, which sets forth the needs as well as the plan for conducting such a campaign:

"It means that happiness and prosperity could supplant misery and poverty in more than a quarter of a million rural homes. More milk for the people of North Carolina means better health. A good milk cow for the tenant farmer, white and black, would be better for his children than a government bonus."

The timeliness of the milk-for-health campaign that is being conducted by the State Board of Health and assisted in by the county boards of health, public schools, county welfare superintendents, county farm and home demonstration agents, is set forth in the bulletin as follows:

"In North Carolina we use entirely too little milk and dairy products. Ours is less than half the average milk consumption in the United States. Result, too much pellagra, malnutrition, bad teeth, tuberculosis, repeaters in schools, and general inefficiency among adults. By doubling the consumption of milk the pellagra death rate could be reduced by half, diseases of nutrition and tuberculosis greatly reduced, the infant death rate lowered, and the welfare of the people promoted in every way."

In the United States as a whole there is about one cow for every five people, while in North Carolina we have but one cow for every ten people and in Eastern Carolina there is only one cow for every 24 people. More cows and less cotton and tobacco is the need.

THE LIBRARY THIEF

The harassed librarians who see books disappearing from their collections, yet hesitate to search every visitor, might, as somebody suggests, apply a racetrack practice to the solution of the difficulty: weigh every patron upon his entrance, give him a ticket with his left marked on it, and weigh him again when he goes out, checking up to see that the figures agree.

And yet even so simple a scheme as that might not work. A stealer of rare books could load himself up with literary litter picked at random from the ten-cent shelves of second-hand shops, carry them into the library and there deftly exchange them for an equal weight of something a thousand times as good. And there is another point to be thought of: we fear hat women frequenters of libraries would submit to being weighed by a total stranger with as little grace as they would to search. And searching has such manifest objections that it should be resorted to only when all other methods of apprehending thieves have failed.

What the librarian would like to find is a doorkeeper with an uncanny sixth sense which, like the X-ray, would detect the superficially imperceptible and unerringly pick out a thief from among hundreds of honest readers. And that is not so easy, for the book-thief seldom has the ear-marks that betray a member of the regular profession to the eye of a trained police officer. The chances are that he is a bibliomaniac, perhaps a scholar and a gentleman, having no association with habitual criminals, yielding to an irresistible craving like the dipsomaniac with his unquenchable thirst for rum.

In the Shadow of the Terror

By Albert T. Reid



THE WATCHMAN TOWER

Dr. A. T. Allen, Superintendent, State Department of Education; Mr. E. B. Jeffers, Chairman, State Highway Commission. Gentlemen:

The accident near Salisbury the past week, in which 16 children in a school bus were burned, several of them seriously, when the vehicle caught fire, was a very unfortunate affair, but contemplation of the horrible tragedy that was only narrowly averted is enough to make one shudder. The accident emphasizes the importance of regular and rigid inspection of all school buses, as well as the public buses, to safeguard all passengers against accident resulting from defects.

If, as has been stated within the last few days, the law requires that school buses have step doors in the rear, it should be enforced. If there is no such law, such requirement should be provided by the next legislature, for the safety of the school children.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

To the Officers and Directors of the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce:

I desire to commend you upon the re-election of R. E. L. Niel as secretary of your organization. Mr. Niel's excellent work during the past several years in which he has been affiliated with your body is a record of which any organization can be proud. Mr. Niel's re-election not only indicates the high esteem in which he is held, but is also an approval of the services he has rendered in the past.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

Chief W. A. Brown, Salisbury Fire Department.

My dear Chief:

You and your organization have answered more than the average number of calls during the past few days and in each instance your promptness and efficiency has been noticeable.

I desire to commend you and your organization for your fine work.

GOVERNOR MATTHEW ROWAN.

COMMENTS

Wants Date Changed For License Plate Sales.

To the Editor:

Something that should interest our State legislators, without any criticism or ridicule of any of our State officials. The State should change the selling of license plates for automobiles back to mid-Summer for several reasons.

First, I haven't any data or statistics to support this statement, but there is at least 75 per cent of the automobile owners who are wage earners, on a small salary, and a good many live a distance from their work. Their automobile helping them to hold their

positions, and at the same time be with their families at night.

Second. Winter. We must all spend more money than at any other time of the year. Heavier clothing must be bought, fuel to keep our home fires burning.

Third. Christmas. It does not make any difference how rich or how poor, there is none of us who can hear of old Santa missing our little ones.

Fourth. Taxes is no small item which should be paid at this time of year. Our State county and municipal governments need this money to meet their obligations.

Fifth. We are still like what Abe Lincoln said: "God loved the poor people, because he made so many of them."

I hope some more gifted writer will take up this subject and give it justice, if my little write-up does not go into print.

GLENN RAMSEY.

Well, Here's Another Chap To Whom Some Girl Has Given The Frosty Mitt.

To the Editor:

The saying goes that "a woman pays and pays." My opinion is to the contrary.

Women in this reckless age have adopted the ways and habits of men, but have not unburdened the men.

They smoke and drink, meddle in politics and are everywhere that a woman shouldn't be.

After all, "a woman is only a woman but a good cigar is a smoke."

MAYO.

Would Have Mortgage Scaled To Equalize The Rising Value Of The Dollar.

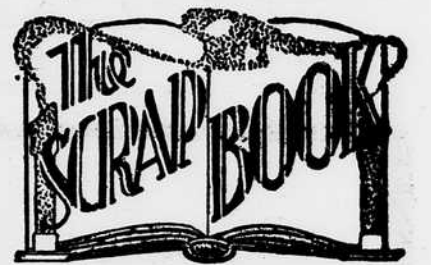
To the Editor:

Apropos to a dollar being now able to purchase \$1.20 to \$1.25, would it not be fitting that all mortgages be reduced twenty to twenty-five per cent. to equalize labor and capital?

ONE WHO PAYS AND PAYS.

He'd Rather Go To Jail Than Fight To the Editor:

According to the latest news, Congress is all set against mixing up in the Japanese-Chinese argument. (Even if you don't believe it, it's not yet a war). However, with the generals and admirals sick of the unemployment situation and aching for a little importance and the big-navy and big-army people just dying to sell a few ships, guns and bombs and the big



"TO ONE WHO HAS BEEN LONG IN CITY PENT"

By John Keats

To one who has been long in city pent, 'Tis very sweet to look into the fair, And open face of heaven—to breathe a prayer

Full in the smile of the blue firmament.

Who is more happy, when, with heart's content, Fatigued he sinks into some pleasant lair

Of waivy grass, and reads a debonaire And gentle tale of love and languishment?

Returning home at evening, with an ear Catching the notes of Philomel,—and eye

Watching the sailing cloudlet's bright career, He mourns that day so soon has glided by,

E'en like the passage of an angel's tear That falls through the clear ether silently.

chemical people anxious to try out some lovely new poison gases, there's no telling what kind of pressure will be exerted on our rather vacillating Congressmen.

Therefore, I want to take this opportunity to express my opinion and that of many of my friends—all young men. We're not going to war. We'd rather go to jail. If Congress and the generals and admirals have to do the fighting, along with the rich old men who have money invested in China, I'll bet on peace.

BILL KANE.

Grow Quality Cotton Is Plea Of M. G. Mann

Raleigh—"Any farmer who plants to cotton land which under normal conditions will not produce at least a bale to the acre is farming at a loss to begin with," according to M. G. Mann, secretary-treasurer of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association.

Mr. Mann urged planting of pedigreed seed, ample fertilization and proper cultivation to produce the high quality of cotton that North Carolina mills demand. He also pointed out the importance of considering available plant food as well as price when buying commercial fertilizers.

Tear Gas Drives Elk To The Tall Timbers

Yakima, Wash.—Roving elk will not attempt to get their meals from County Game Warden Joe Drolet's hay stacks for some time.

Drolet rigged a shotgun up with tear gas, near the hay stack. The next morning he found slow tracks toward the tall timber.

