

The Carolina Watchman

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY
THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN PUBLISHING CO.
SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

Established in 1832 100th Year of Publication

E. W. G. HUFFMAN Editor

PHONES:
News and Editorials 495
Advertising and Circulation 488
Business 482
Locals and Personals 2010-J

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Payable in Advance
One Year \$1.00
Three Years 2.99

Entered as second-class mail matter at the postoffice at Salisbury, N. C., under the act of March 3, 1879.

"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, SEPTEMBER 23, 1932

The influence of weekly newspapers on public opinion exceeds that of all other publications in the country.—Arthur Brisbane.

ROOSEVELT GAINS STRENGTH

Governor Roosevelt has emerged from the Walker hearing with more support than he has had any time since becoming a candidate for the presidency. The manner in which he conducted the hearing added to his prestige with the public, and when the Tammany mayor leveled unfair charges at him, his cause was further strengthened.

Mayor Walker made the serious mistake of accusing Governor Roosevelt of permitting "political expediency" to influence him in the handling of his case. He even charged that it was "political ambition" alone which led to the governor's apparent determination to remove him.

In answer to these charges, The New York Times comes through with a ringing defense of Roosevelt. It asks what possible advantage in his presidential campaign could Mr. Roosevelt win in putting out of office a mayor who admits that his administration has been completely successful and enormously popular?

"Why," queries The Times, "should it redound to the governor's praise, and add to his strength in other states, if he challenged and antagonized the political organization behind Mr. Walker, which is made up, as the argument runs, of the most high-minded and public-spirited and disinterested citizens?"

The former mayor unwittingly gave his own case away, The Times thinks. "When he conceded that there might be a powerful political motive for ousting himself and breaking with Tammany, he tacitly accepted the outside view of the government of this city and the nature of Tammany. It is precisely because the fixed belief of the country still is that they are unworthy of public confidence and a handicap to the Democratic party that the action of the governor was counted upon to add greatly to his prestige with voters elsewhere.

"That effect has, in fact, been already achieved. If Mr. Walker would glance at the expressions of opinion all round the country, he would perceive that it has been. The anticipated verdict of Governor Roosevelt is the verdict of intelligent men everywhere who have made themselves familiar with conditions in New York. They had followed the course of the legislative investigation long before it reached Mr. Walker himself. They had seen the Seabury probe thrust into one department of the city government after another and nearly everywhere expose moral rotteness. They had witnessed the removal of the sheriff of New York county. Other inculpated officials, or their accomplices had been seen to flee the jurisdiction.

"Is it any wonder, then, that interested people all over the land had been waiting with intense eagerness to find what Governor Roosevelt would do about it? High hopes were held of him because of his masterly conduct of the hearing at Albany. And everywhere it is now felt that the sudden resignation of Mayor Walker is as great a vindication of the course of the governor, and as full of political significance for him, as would have been an outright executive order of removal.

"This conclusion lies implicit in what Mr. Walker said as he took himself out from under fire. The special political form of his railing accusation against the governor unintentionally served to point and emphasize Mr. Roosevelt's triumph."

NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY

The upward movement in commodity prices has begun. That is what all the economic authorities have been saying must happen before prosperity can come back. Cotton is up, wool is up, hogs are up, rayon is up, and silk went up so high and so rapidly on the Japanese Silk Exchange the other day that the authorities closed the exchange to prevent a riot.

With raw materials rising, it follows that the prices of goods manufactured from them must speedily rise, and that brings the matter right home to everybody in this town.

Now is the time to buy.

Commodity prices are not going any lower. They have touched bottom. People who have been waiting to make their purchases until they were sure the bottom had been reached had better dig into their purses now and buy while the merchants' shelves are still stocked with low priced goods. They are not going to remain on the shelves very long, and the next lots which our local dealers buy are going to cost them

more and will have to sell for more.

We have a distinct feeling that we have turned the corner on hard times. We find that all over the country almost everybody shares the same feeling. We all want prosperity back, and we want it back as quickly as we can get it. The quickest way to bring it back is for everybody who has an unfiled want and any money whatever with which to supply that want, to spend that money NOW. Dollars are going to get cheaper, as goods go higher in price. It has been many, many years since the dollar would buy as much in clothing or fabric or groceries or hardware, in shoes or household goods or furniture, as it will today. It will be many, many years, we hope, before it will again be possible to buy such bargains as are available all around us today.

The people who have been wise enough to hang on to their money during the depression are setting the example for all the rest of us. They are buying in the stock market, they are buying in the wool market, they are buying in the cotton market, they are buying in the silk market. That means that "big money" has got over being afraid, and we think it is time for lesser people with little money to overcome their own timidity and begin to spend.

By buying now you speed the return of prosperity.

AND THE LAWYERS TOO

Figures given out by the State Bar Association show that of the 3,389 lawyers in North Carolina, only 1,682 paid license taxes to practice during the year ending on May 31, 1932. And of the 1,862 who paid their license taxes, there were 562 who paid only the half-fee upon the statement that they received less than \$1,000 during the year.

Some folks have an idea that the depression has concentrated upon their particular line of endeavor, but it doesn't take much delving into other professions to discover that all have suffered alike—even the lawyers.

BRUCE BARTON

... writes of "THE MASTER EXECUTIVE"

Supplying a week-to-week inspiration for the heavy-burdened who will find every human trial paralleled in the experiences of "The Man Nobody Knows."

A LEADER OF MEN

In any crowd and under any circumstances the leader stands out. By the power of his faith in himself he commands, and men instinctively obey.

This blazing conviction was the first and greatest element in the success of Jesus. The second was his wonderful power to pick men, and to recognize hidden capacities in them.

It must have amazed Nicodemus when he learned the names of the twelve whom the young teacher had chosen to be his associates. What a list! Not a single well-known person on it. Nobody who had ever made a success of anything. A haphazard collection of fishermen and smalltown business men and one tax collector—member of the most hated element in the community. What a crowd!

Nowhere is there such a strating example of executive success as the way in which that organization was brought together. Take the tax collector, Matthew, as the most striking instance. His occupation carried a heavy weight of social ostracism, but it was profitable. He was probably well-to-do according to the simple standards of the neighborhood; certainly he was a busy man and not subject to impulsive action. His addition to the group of disciples is told in a single sentence:

"And as Jesus passed by, he called Matthew."

Amazing. No argument; no pleading. "A smaller leader would have been compelled to set up the advantages of the opportunity. "Of course you are doing well where you are and making money," he might have said. "I can't offer you as much as you are getting; in fact you may have some difficulty in making ends meet. But I think we are going to have an interesting time and shall probably accomplish a big work." Such a conversation would have been met with Matthew's reply that he would "have to think it over," and the world would never have heard his name.

Jesus had the born leader's gift for seeing powers in men of which they themselves were often almost unconscious. One day as he was coming into a certain town a tremendous crowd pressed around him. There was a rich man named Zacchaeus in town; small in stature, but with such keen business ability that he had got himself generally disliked. Being curious to see the distinguished visitor he had climbed up into a tree. Imagine his surprise when Jesus stopped under the tree and commanded him to come down saying, "To-day I intend to eat at your house."

The crowd was stunned. Some of the bolder spirits took it upon themselves to tell Jesus of his social blunder. He couldn't afford to make the mistake of visiting Zacchaeus, they said. Their protests were without avail. They saw in Zacchaeus merely a dishonest Jew; Jesus saw in him a man of unusual generosity and a fine sense of justice, who needed only to have those qualities revealed by some one who understood.

So with Matthew—the crowd saw only a despised tax-gatherer. Jesus saw the potential writer of a book which will live forever.

INFLUENCE AS A VIRTUE

It isn't enough even for a congressman to vote right. South Carolina's eight votes—two in the Senate and six in the House—will themselves decide few issues in Congress. What South Carolina needs in Congress are congressmen who can persuade other congressmen to vote right with them.—Columbia Record.

THE WATCHMAN TOWER

Hon. O. Max Gardner, Governor of North Carolina.

My Dear Governor:
It has been interesting to note that 75 per cent or more of the contracts for supplies for the various state departments and institutions recently awarded by the division of purchase and contract have been obtained by North Carolina concerns, and that in most cases of awards to outside firms the commodities probably could not be bought within the state. I have noted also that the construction contracts awarded by the State Highway commission have gone to North Carolina concerns, except in a small percentage of cases.

I understand that in some states something in the nature of a small handicap is placed against outside contractors, and some North Carolina concerns have found it difficult therefore to get the business of such states. Such a policy, of course, is designed to promote home industry and give advantage to those who pay taxes within the state. I believe the taxpayers of the state like to see their money kept at home, so far as is consistent with reasonable economy. Certainly the North Carolina contractor, manufacturer or dealer should be favored when their prices for the same quality art practically as low as those of outside concerns.

Governor Matthew Rowan.

COMMENTS

AGAINST LIQUOR
To The Editor:
Will you kindly print in your paper this letter against open saloons, bootleggers, bad liquor and for genuine temperance.

Bad dirty liquor made of sugar, red devil lye, etc., like is reported sold these times by a few bootleggers who don't respect themselves enough to not sell such liquor to a few people who don't respect themselves too much to drink it. It causes all to error who drink it, and he that is deceived thereby is not wise.
Open saloons and bad dirty liquor we do not want—Genuine Temperance is what we want and it will come to all the American people when the people decide to love each other better and love his neighbor too much to sell him bad liquor or the neighbor learn to love himself too much to buy or drink bad liquor or to be deceived thereby.
Right and temperance will prevail when all the American people learn to love the peoples' soul more than they do bad booze or money untold.
Dear readers will you think wisely and soberly.
Yours truly,
F. E. BARRINGER.

PROTEST HIRING WADDELL
The Fair Rate Utility association, Charlotte, on Saturday made a public protest against employment by the corporation commission of Charles E. Waddell, Asheville, as consulting engineer in the investigation of utility rates in the state. The Charlotte group asserts Waddell has "received retainers from utility interests and is marked as a utility servant."

Depression—Cause and Remedy.
To The Editor:
Those who will learn better sometime, perhaps, are still trying to bluff the depression.

They speak of it as if it was a phenomena, such as the eclipse of the sun, or moon, that comes about on schedule and departs the same way. They seem to be wholly oblivious of the reasonable inference that such an effect as the present depression in consequence of a Nation-wide calamity is exercising on all lines of business and on every class of our citizens could, by any means, have come about without a real and specific cause.

They talk of unemployment and lament its extent. They seem to want people to think the depression caused unemployment. The truth is, unemployment caused the depression. Labor, without jobs, and farmers getting nothing for their produce, forced business men to carry their stocks of goods on their shelves because laborers and farmers could not buy what they needed.

The reason why so many laboring people, the industrial workers, are out of work, is because machines have taken their jobs. The reason farmers cannot get the cost of production for their produce is because the city workers have no jobs, and hence no money.

The machines that robbed the workers of the chance to labor and earn, do not eat, either potatoes, beans, chicken, pie or cake. They are never going to eat any of these things, or wear any of the overalls made from the farmer's cotton.

These are facts that cannot be ignored. They are facts that must be met and remedied. Employing just a few laborers here and there, to build a postoffice or a hard surface road—most building and road work is done by machines now—and doing this with borrowed money, which must be repaid with interest, will get us out of the depression just like the frog got out of the well by climbing up two feet during the day and falling back three feet at night. The problem solved in this case, said the frog would land in hell on time, if he kept this up.

There seems to me, only one remedy for the present situation, and

JOEGISH!
SOME FREE AIR GAS
WHAT NEW BRIDE, UNICE AMBER, WANTS TO KNOW HOW COME BRAZIL IS BURNING COFFEE IN LOCOMOTIVES WHEN A COFFEE POT WILL DO AS WELL

those who should see it, won't.
There is an abundance of idle land in this country. No people ever starve, no matter what the difficulties, if they have access to land, and will use it. It is the one source of livelihood that all must depend on, regardless of what their occupation may be. So if we really wish to cure this depression, brought on by machines, and gamblers, the one sure way to do it is to confiscate all unused land, necessary, put the helpless victims of commercialism on it and let them live.

—S. S. DUNLAP

What Prohibition Hath Wrought
To The Editor:
We used to make bread in the home and beer in a factory; now we make beer in the home and bread in a factory. That is prohibition. Home, sweet home.
W. H. LOGUE, JR.

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WHILE ONE of the ADVERTISING DEPT.

BOYS TOLD us to

GQ AHEAD and mention

NAMES, WE really can't

DO THAT. If he can't

SELL HIS advertising

IT'S CERTAINLY not up

TO US to take cracks

AT THOSE who do not

FALL FOR his sales

TALK: THE story

CONCERNS A certain

EATING PLACE where a

DINER SAID to the

WAITER LAST week. "Say,

WAITER, THESE chicken

CROQUETTES ARE not as

GOOD AS those I had

LAST WEEK." To which

THE WAITER replied

"THAT'S STRANGE—

THEY'RE OFF

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I THANK YOU.

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Robert Hudson, 54, died at his home near Scotland Neck, Saturday, in the accidental discharge of a shotgun in his hands. His family said he must have tripped and discharged the gun.

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