

Carolina Watchman

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1932

MAY BE A DANGER The refusal of the Governor of New Jersey to honor the demand from the State of Georgia for the return of Robert E. Burns of "chaingang" notoriety, is no doubt in accordance with public sentiment.

The very striking moving picture, giving a highly exaggerated picture of Burns' captivity, aroused a great deal of public sympathy for him.

But, there is a great danger in this tendency to pass judgment on a case, regardless of the law and evidence.

The law plainly imposes upon the Governor of a State the duty to surrender a fugitive from justice provided the State seeking rendition complies with the legal formalities. The question of the guilt or innocence of the prisoner is not within the province of the Governor to decide.

If it becomes the custom to give fugitives from justice in one State the privilege of a trial before an executive instead of a judicial officer to decide whether or not the asking State is to be allowed to put an indicted man on trial, our whole criminal judicial foundation will collapse.

It will then become a simple matter for a man to flee from justice in his own State and seek asylum in another, from where, if he has powerful enough backing, it will be impossible to remove him.

There are States where the defeat of rendition proceedings would be a simple matter if a sufficiently imposing fight could be put up.

Georgia has a case in this episode. Much of what Burns has told in moving pictures and books is false.

Indeed, there is more than a suspicion that the hearing before the Governor of New Jersey was part of a publicity scheme for the moving picture.

It is hinted that Burns did not allow himself to be taken in New Jersey until the Governor had been sounded out as to his possible action.

If there is any truth in these whisperings it points to trifling with the legal machinery of the nation.

A REAL ACHIEVEMENT

Americans and Europeans have been saying for a long time that the Chinese problem was a hopeless one. But our comfortable feeling of superiority does not look quite so justified today.

In many ways, China seems enmeshed in troubles too big to be solved. Yet the government has balanced the budget without borrowing, the finance minister announced. That is something which the wealthier European and American nations have not been able to do. If the Chinese have really done it, despite civil war, the loss of Manchuria, large sums spent to defend Shanghai against the Japanese and the slump in silver, they are evidently better financiers than the politicians of Europe and America.

DODGING THE JOB

John N. Garner announced that he is going to break social precedents to smother during his term as Vice-President. All social invitations except those to official events at the White House will be

declined. "If we went to one, we'd have to go to all," the Speaker said in explanation. If the Garners carry out their intentions one of the chief functions of the Vice-President will be destroyed. For about all that was ever expected of that high officer in the government was that he preside over the Senate and go to a party every night in the week. Some of them, especially Vice-President Marshall enjoyed that phase of the job, but Garner prefers a quiet life of comparative solitude.

TOO FAR AWAY

Alfred E. Smith might find a congenial and responsible post at Washington for the next four years, but it is difficult to visualize him as Governor-General of the Philippine Islands.

Manuel Quezon, the best known of the island's politicians, is reported to favor the former Governor of New York for the place. Mr. Smith would make an able colonial executive, but it does not seem the sort of job that he would like to tackle. He is so robustly American that even a high government post could hardly tempt him to spend years so far away from the scenes and the people which give him a zest for life.

THE "BOOM TOWN"

The city of Ciudad Juarez in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, is the newest "boom town." The report that the city has taken in \$150,000 in two months—nearly all from Americans—since it went into business of granting 24-hour divorces, is evidence of this.

More than 1000 divorces have been granted. Most of the money left goes for fees, court costs, etc., but no small part of it for banquets to celebrate the victory of separation. At this rate, other places—perhaps with 12-hour divorces—will undoubtedly start up to give Juarez competition.

NOT TALKERS

There are women in Parliament, but, apparently, they are upsetting the age-old opinion of the facility of tongue held by members of that sex. The record for a year, just compiled, shows that the women are positively mute as compared with the men in that august body. One man talked enough words in the year to fill 374 columns, and another had 348 columns. Yet the most space taken by a woman was 68 columns, used up by the Duches of Athol.

That record will probably be beaten in this country, for if Senator Hattie Caraway maintains her present pace, her record for the year will be about 10 words. There are undoubtedly many persons who think 10 words are enough, either in the House or the Senate.

HARD HIT

A drop of 67.5 per cent in the foreign trade of the United States for the first six months of 1932 is reported by the League of Nations' annual world trade review. This is by far the greatest loss experienced by any other country. Germany was next hardest hit, with Great Britain and France following. Inasmuch as the United States depends greatly on its foreign trade, the figures reflect a startling situation, and should give concern to those who believe this country should adopt an isolationist policy. The economic interdependence of nations can hardly be disputed longer.

GREEN SAHARA

What is called the largest waste spot in the world—the Sahara—is visualized as becoming in the future a green, verdant, fruit producing area. Just now, work is in progress to irrigate 1,000,000 acres of the North African desert where, it is said, cotton will be raised. But engineers are predicting that by damming desert seasonal streams, the Sahara itself can be turned some day into tremendous value for fruit raising. A green Sahara certainly challenges the wildest dreams.

A man must have an income of several figures to get by, but one figure will put a girl over.

THE WATCHMAN TOWER

To The Members-Elect of North Carolina Legislature:

The latest monthly report on highway accidents in North Carolina compiled by the director of the motor vehicle division of the department of revenue, showing that 65 persons were killed last month on the roads of the state, should cause the members of the forthcoming General Assembly to give serious thought to the traffic problem.

While the report for November showed a decrease of 12 per cent in the number of deaths from traffic accidents this year as compared with the corresponding month last year, the record remains deplorable. The rate of 780 lives lost each year is a dark blot on the state's record.

The fact that reckless drivers killed 21 persons last month, speeders 12 and drunken drivers six is suggestive of the need for more drastic penalties for these classes of offenders, and the record showing 29 killed from other causes may be taken as indicative of a need for regulation to keep incompetent drivers off the roads. In fact, it is not improbable that a goodly percentage of the total death toll was due to the lack of a driver's license law that would require all drivers to demonstrate a knowledge of the traffic laws and of the operation of a car before they are granted a permit.

The slaughter on the highways certainly ought to claim the serious attention of the legislators, to the end that whatever is practical may be done to improve the record.

Governor Matthew Rowan



A GREAT many folks ARE PRONE to ask QUESTIONS WHICH are VERY, VERY foolish, AND MOST of us are ALWAYS GLAD to see SOME OF these QUESTIONERS PROPERLY ANSWERED. JUST the OTHER DAY we heard A TEN-YEAR old youngster FIX UP an inquisitive OLD LADY. "What makes YOUR HAIR so red, little BOY?" SHE asked. And he VERY PROMPTLY answered: "OH, I just washed it ONE DAY and forgot to DRY IT and it rusted." I THANK YOU.

COMMENTS

THE DEAF AND THE DEPRESSION

To The Editor: One of the unfortunate aspects of the present industrial unrest is that the deaf suffer doubly. Very few employers of labor realize that the deaf applicant for a position possesses certain qualities which fully compensate for his handicap. Noise does not distress him and he does not while away his time in idleness with other employees. He concentrates on the work to be done, because it is so difficult for a deaf man to secure a position, he values his job more highly, and makes a loyal and industrious worker.

The deaf have no way of bringing these facts home to the prospective employer, however sympathetic the latter may be, he cannot help overemphasizing difficulties, in communication and possible accidents.

The fact is, however, that from childhood through school, they are taught to meet these difficulties in their later life. They are taught to read the lips, to speak, to write,

and in other ways to converse with hearing people. The very nature of the deaf's affliction forces them to be cautious and on the alert, so the proportion of accidents is less among the deaf workers than the hearing workers. Employers, who have tried the deaf, have found them so satisfactory that when hundreds of hearing employes have necessarily been laid off, the deaf are not affected through the efforts of the Bureau of Labor for the deaf. Without exception, they are thrifty and industrious, but at present, times are decidedly abnormal, and the deaf are feeling the effects of the depression more than the hearing one. This is all the more to be regretted in view of the fact that a deaf man or woman seeks no charity, but they are able to do almost as many trades as the hearing person.

Hugh G. Miller,

Chief, Bureau of Labor for the Deaf.

AUTOMOBILISTS TAXED TOO HIGH

To The Editor: This coming Legislature will have many and grave questions to settle, such as taxation and balancing of the State budget. These will require long and serious consideration from the best minds of the legislature and intestinal fortitude coupled with sane judgement and divine wisdom to settle them equitably in order not to place a further burden upon the already tax-burdened body politic.

It has been suggested by the State treasurer and others, that the highway funds be consolidated with the general funds of the State, thereby allowing the use of highway funds for general purposes. I, as a citizen, am strongly opposed to this procedure as the automobile owners of the State already are taxed more in proportion than any other class of citizens in the State. The already overburdened tax-paying automobile owners of the State, thousands of them, have been forced to leave their cars in their garages on account of the now too high gasoline, license, and ad valorem taxes. If the highway fund, through the present system of taxation is piling up a surplus, then these taxes should be reduced in keeping with what actually is needed for roads and highways, interest and bond payment and thereby prevent the further withdrawal of thousands of cars more from the highways of the State.

A reasonable tax of four cents per gallon on gasoline and \$10 to \$12 or more, graduated, on cars and trucks would produce a larger income to the State from this source than at the present. Until the State, counties and cities reduce taxes in line with the present wage scale and prices of cotton and tobacco and commodities, there cannot be permanent progress. The standard of living and prices, etc., of 1928 and 1929 is water that has gone over the dam.

"New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth; They must upward still and onward, Who would keep abreast of truth; Lo, before us gleam her camps; We ourselves must pilgrims be, Launch our Mayflower, and steer boldly Through the desperate winter sea, (depression) Nor attempt the Future's portal With the Past's (1928-29) blood-rusted key."

Z. A. ROCHELLE

OCTOPUS SPANS 40 FEET

Honolulu.—Reports that a giant octopus with tentacles 20 feet long and a head three times the size of a man's head had been seen dragging itself along the rocks close to shore caused fishermen on Maui Island to cast their nets with caution.

Henry Sylva, son of a county official, reported sighting the monster and his story was vouched for by fishermen and swimmers.

JOE GISH



RUTHIE DIKEMAN BOUGHT A NEW FUR COAT WITH THE \$300 SHE WON ON HER ESSAY "CRUELITIES OF WILD ANIMAL TRAPPING"

"—And a Happy New Year"

By Albert T. Reid



Suicide Toll In U. S. Is Now 20,000 A Year

The annual total of suicides in the United States is now approximately 20,000, Dr. Henry M. Warren, president of the National Save-a-Life League, declared.

More than three times as many women as men kill themselves, he says, pointing out that the years between 15 and 19 are dangerous ones for women suffering from emotional maladjustment.

"As women grow older they seem to become more stable, while men give in more often to the in-

creasing pressure of responsibilities."

CUTS THROAT TO SAVE LIFE

Los Angeles.—Sam Harlin, laborer, probably owes his life to having his throat cut. He choked on a piece of food lodged in his throat.

Dr. A. W. Lindberg pronounced him dead, then, in a final effort, cut his windpipe and administered artificial respiration.

Harlin revived and was removed to a hospital, where it was said he will recover.

GR-R-R TSK. TSK

Chicago.—The investment Alfred E. Kalberger made in a watchdog looked like a gilt-edged proposition until burglars came along, stole his \$200 fur coat and department—taking the dog, too.

SICK HEADACHE

Many cases of SICK HEADACHE are due to constipation. If you have headache that is due to constipation, take Theodor's BLACK-DRAUGHT for refreshing relief. "I have taken BLACK-DRAUGHT, when needed, for about 15 years," writes Mr. J. W. Cooper, of Longview, Texas. "I first began to use it for sick headache that seemed to come from constipation. "I would suffer about twenty-four hours with these headaches. I found out that BLACK-DRAUGHT would help me, so that is what I took. I am glad to recommend it to others, for this trouble, for it will give relief."

Theodor's BLACK-DRAUGHT is a purely vegetable laxative, preferred by thousands of men and women because it is so effective and economical. For CHILDREN, get the new, pleasant-tasting SYRUP of Theodor's Black-Draught, in 25¢ & 50¢ bottles.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE



Happy NEW YEAR

A NEW year zooms through eternity and we are here to greet 1933. . . . With it comes new opportunities for achievements as unlimited as space itself. . . . Our workaday assignment is in serving the people of Salisbury District. . . . It is a work in which we glory and our goal is in producing an unequalled electric service at a price that is fair to all. . . . We wish to thank our friends and customers for their patronage during the last year and at the same time assure them that we will strive to the utmost in the future to equal and better the service rendered in the past. . . . Also, and most important of all, we want to wish all, far and near. . . . A Happy and Prosperous New Year.

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