

Carolina Watchman

Published Every Friday Morning At SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Payable In Advance One Year \$1.00 Three Years \$2.00

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

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



POLICE RADIO NEEDED

The slaying of Sheriff Godfrey C. Kimball, of Iredell county, is eloquent and tragic evidence of the fact that the racketeer and gangster are not solely products of the large northern cities. The slayer, Ralph Davis, was a native and resident of Davidson county, North Carolina. He was a boy who went wrong, served a "hitch" in the penitentiary, and became a "rat" with homicidal tendencies. High-way robbery became his specialty. Equipped with high-speed stolen automobiles and armed with deadly weapons he plied his trade on the splendid streets and highways. Cornered near Elmwood, he shot his way to temporary freedom by killing one officer and wounding another. With half an hour's start he eluded the dragnet of officers and civilians spread out for his capture. His escape can not be attributed to any lack of diligence or ability on the part of those in his pursuit. No braver men or officers breath North Carolina's air than those who took part in the chase. The fault lies not with the officers but with the lack of proper crime fighting equipment.

With the increase of highways and high-powered motor vehicles the day of the old time town marshal has passed. It takes more than a horse pistol, a police badge as big as the top of a tomato can, and a black stetson hat to effect the arrest, if not extermination, of the type of outlawed criminals such as Davis. The sooner the people of North Carolina realize this, the sooner we will be free of such murderers and outlaws. We can not fight organized crime with XIX century methods. If the various officers had had the advantage of a state wide police radio last week, Ralph Davis would never have escaped. Long after he crossed the state line into Virginia, police officers from half a dozen counties were still searching the length and breadth of the Yadkin Valley, seeking the desperado, unaware that he was in a neighboring state. Hence, because of a lack of vital equipment, he wiggled through the cordon and escaped.

It has been argued at length in some of the state newspapers that the sum of one dollar, deducted from the price of each automobile license tag, would be an adequate sum to give North Carolina such state-wide police radio equipment as is now being so effectively used in other states, particularly Michigan. The editor was recently informed that in six late bank robberies in the latter state, five of the gang were captured before they escaped from the state. The success of this triumph of the law was solely due to the splendid police operating radio equipment in that commonwealth. It is time for North Carolinians to wake up! The next session of the general assembly should provide this necessary equipment without delay. The dollar deducted from the license tags will not bankrupt the state, but it will help exterminate "rats" like Ralph Davis from North Carolina.

ENCOURAGED

Southern farmers, particularly those in North Carolina, may well feel encouraged as they approach the end of the agricultural season. Tremendous losses were suffered this year in the west and mid-west because of the drouth, and farmers there must buy what they formerly sold to us, if they have anything left to buy with. It is manifestly certain that the demand for farm products will hold the price close to normal years, and with almost bumper crops the North Carolina farmer should be able to hold up his head and smile.

The cotton yield in this state is expected to exceed the quota established in the acreage reduction program, and with cotton selling around 15 cents as against five and six cents a year ago, the cotton farmer has little to grumble about.

The tobacco crop in both belts in this state is reported as unusually good, and with the price hovering around 15c average, the tobacco farmer is in a fair way to make more money on less acreage and less effort than was the case last year. As a general thing, corn has never shown better prospects at this time of year and threshing reports indicate a satisfactory yield for wheat, and the price of each has advanced to a reasonably fair level that should show a profit above costs of production.

Much of this favorable aspect may be credited to the efforts of a friendly government that has reached down in its pocket and helped the farmer along with everybody else, and if the North Carolina farmer will take a new start, build upon the experiences of the past few years, and set his face toward the sunrise, all will be well again.

THE WORLD GROWS BETTER

Perhaps there are readers who will like this. A certain well-known woman summoned two men to cut down two trees for her. They felled one and announced they would come back some day later and take care of the other. Not understanding the need of delay, the woman asked for an explanation. "Well" one big strong man told her, "there's a bird's nest in that tree and the eggs are just about ready to hatch. We'll wait until the little fellows are gone." A simple enough story. But it is revealing. Many of us can recall when men would have been less thoughtful of a bird's nest. Folks generally have come to know the value of beauty and comradeship of birds. It is not a weakness when strong men are mellowed toward the small animate things of life. Somehow such instances as this tend to show that the world is getting better.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

—BY— FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

DOLES . . . and elections I have just seen some startling figures of the amount of money which the Federal Government has been paying out for direct relief benefits. Not counting the three thousand millions of loans and allowances direct to state governments, more than \$3,500,000,000 has been distributed in "doles" of one sort or another, as against \$2,600,000,000 collected in Federal taxes in the same period.

That leaves a good deal less than nothing out of the tax receipts on which to operate the Government. I have heard of a good many candidates for re-election to Congress boasting about the way that they have "taken care of" their constituents by getting so much money for them out of the Federal Treasury. I have not heard of any of them telling his constituents that much of this money has been pure gifts to people who did not really need it, but I know that is true in many cases.

I am far more concerned about the habit of reliance upon Government to help people out of their troubles than I am about who gets elected to Congress or anything else. Nothing could be more of a calamity than that.

UNEMPLOYMENT . . . today I have never had the slightest



YOU'LL BE able to pick out the

COUPLE ABOUT whom our story

IS CONCERNED today because

THEY LIVE right here in town.

"NOW," SAID the bridegroom

AFTER THEY had returned from

THEIR HONEYMOON, "let us

HAVE A clear understanding. Are

YOU PRESIDENT or vice

PRESIDENT OF this

ESTABLISHMENT?" HIS little

WIFE LOOKED up at him sweetly

"I WANT neither. I will be

CONTENT WITH a subordinate

POSITION," SHE replied. "And

WHAT POSITION is that?"

HE ASKED. Looking him straight

IN THE eye, she told him, "Treasurer."

I THANK YOU

confidence in any of the so-called "statistics" of unemployment. Many of them, I have felt certain, were greatly exaggerated. Everybody who had ever had a job, was listed as "unemployed." That included stenographers who had got married, men who had saved up enough from their wages to retire on, and all of the great fringe of unemployables who had had occasional jobs but couldn't hold any of them long.

I am inclined to take more seriously the figures recently put out by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, indicating less than seven million persons unemployed "for all reasons," than the Federation of Labor's statement of more than ten million. If the actual facts could be obtained, it probably would be shown that not more than three or four million workers who are able and willing to work are out of jobs today.

PRODUCTION . . . normal

So much has been said and written these last couple of years about "overproduction" that many people have the idea that there was a great surplus of everything people consume. That was true, however, of only a very few commodities, and those mainly raw materials produced everywhere in the world, such as wheat and a few other agricultural products.

We actually imported some \$600,000 of food in 1929, because we were not producing enough to meet the demands of our people. And when it comes to manufactured goods, carefully-checked statistics prove that for a long period of years the production of men's clothing, to take one example, amounted to less than one-third of a suit per year for every man in the nation.

INFLATION . . . looms

I happen to owe some money to a bank. I dropped in the other day to pay the interest on my note and arrange for a renewal of part of the principal. My banker advised me not to be in too much of a hurry to clean up the debt.

"I'm talking against my own interest," he said, "but I think in a few months you'll find that money to pay debts with will be a lot cheaper than it is now. This is no time to sell anything; it is a time to buy commodities of real value. I am recommending to my friends to put their money into houses and land, run in debt for them, or if their means don't go that far, to buy cotton, wheat or corn futures, or even canned goods or other durable commodities."

Inflation, he predicted, was on its way. Cheaper money and higher prices for real goods. I have heard many such predictions in the past few weeks, in Washington, in New York and in New England. Some folks say that it is the only way out, since the Government has definitely abandoned the idea of deflation.

NO-MOUNTAIN-SCALING FOR MAMA

Charles E. Long and daughter, Doris, climbed to the top of Table Rock mountain Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Long accompanied them to the end of the road. —Valdese item, Morganton News-Herald.

'RAY! CASEY'S GONNA PLAY!

Bill Lane agreed late last night to play left field for the New Bern Independents against Pamlico all-stars here this afternoon in Kafer Park. —New Bern Tribune.

WHAT! NO FLY-SWATTER?

Well, I have something to tell you: John D. Harwood has a fine Guernsey male calf in his herd of cattle without any tail. I have seen the calf—a strange freak of animal nature. —Mission item, Concord Tribune.

ALSO ON VACATION, WE RECKON

There will be no services in Red Springs Presbyterian church until the second Sunday in September. Rev. J. B. Black will be on his vacation, until then. —Red Springs item, Lumberton Robesonian.

GOOD OLD DAYS—YEH, FOR THE HORSE

In the good old days, young folks had to get in earlier so the horse could get some sleep. —Cleveland Star.

WELL, WE GOT AN EVANGELIST COMING

The threshing machine is in our community now. —Green Valley item, Caldwell Record.

WHAT THEY GONNA USE FOR BAIT—APPLES?

We have some of the salt of the earth in our settlement; but there are all kinds of traffic on the highways. I met some parties not long ago who had four barrels on a trailer and a cider mill on the rear end of the old car, and their answer was, without asking them, that they were going fishing. Best policy. Always tell the truth or remain silent. —Mission item, Stanly News & Press.

SPORTY IS AS SPORTY DOES

A sporty looking gentleman from another state approached us in a local drug store a few days ago, held out his hand and wanted to know if our name was Stroud. We acknowledged the fact. This gentleman was no stranger to us. Fact is, we sent him The Record for a long time on his promise to pay us, but up to this good hour he hasn't come across. Such things as this is what makes editing a country newspaper worth while. —Davie Record.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

Miss Lora E. Sleeper, Martin home agent, had an unusually busy month in July, according to the monthly report filed recently with the county commissioners. —Williamston Enterprise.

QUICK, WATSON! THE FLIT!

A Tiny Feather from the wing of love in the form of a baby girl, arrived at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Irvin, Jr., August 12. The girl has been christened Robinette Lee. —Reidsville Review.

WELL, IT COULD'VE BEEN WORSE

Note from Spy No. XYZ (even Editor Didyp doesn't know who he is) saying that three people from North Carolina were sighted riding around town in bathing suits, one of the persons being a lady, and one of the men having on merely a pair of trunks. —"Did You Happen to See?" Charleston News & Courier.

ADD: SUNDAY SPORTS

The meeting at Pleasant Ridge closed Monday night with five converts. They were baptised Sunday at the Carswell pond. —Burke Free Press.

TAKING NOTHING FOR GRANTED

E. W. Stevens drove into the city Saturday after an absence which he said he had spent in Canada. He said he was pulling out immediately for Union county where he is having some mining interests examined. —Thomasville item, Lexington Dispatch.

THE ETERNAL MALE

There were only about six club women who failed to get there—some of those were waiting for their husbands to return home and they arrived too late for attendance. —Harmony item, Statesville Reflector.

Any August Afternoon — by A. B. Chapin



Lightning Is Considered To Be Beneficial As Well As Harmful

Now that we are in the midst of the summer season when a thunderstorm is likely to put in an appearance at any hour of the day it is well to consider that powerful magnet which accompanies it—lightning—says the Pathfinder. It is so well known for its destructive capacity that we seldom think of it in any other light, especially after we have dodged about seeing a place of safety during an electrical storm. However, lightning is of a great benefit to mankind because it deposits nitrogen in the ground for plant use, say electrical research engineers who are able at will to produce a 10,000,000 volt discharge of artificial lightning within their laboratories. Nitrogen is one of the more important elements which are necessary for plant growth and in some soils this element is sadly lacking. Air, on the other hand, has an abundant supply of nitrogen, as it is practically made of four-fifths of this element. A great deal of free nitrogen is captured from the air and returned to the soil by leguminous plants and others. But every year lightning captures and deposits in the earth about 100,000,000 tons of free nitrogen—and at no cost to the farmer. Possibilities of lightning in this respect are more readily understood when we find that in a nitrogen-fixation plant discharges of electricity are used to create a spark only 15 or 20 feet in length while a natural lightning discharge provides a spark 2,000 feet or more in length. Hence real lightning is more effective as a nitrogen-converter than man-made discharges. In considering the destructive side of lightning almost everyone is interested in the safest place in which to be during an electrical or thunder storm. In the country many people rush for the nearest tree, which is certainly poor judgment, especially if it happens to be a tall one or stands alone. The electric charge in the air, which causes the flash of lightning by its discharge, constantly seeks a conductor to the ground, and a tree always offers great attraction. They cannot carry a heavy volume of current and consequently the charge is apt to blast the tree trunk and leap in any direction. Most dwellings are considered reasonably safe. They are—if we stay away from open windows, doors, fireplaces, the telephone, radio, bath tub or large metal objects. The average city home is usually safer than the rural because there are various outlets for lightning to get to the ground—radio ground, wiring system, water pipes, etc. Nevertheless it is best to stay away from the openings mentioned during a severe storm because a discharge on its way to the earth is liable to leap several feet in any direction. Buildings with steel framework are considered safest of all. Lightning rods at one time were all the rage and the lightning rod salesman with his horse and buggy was a familiar sight in the country. But unscrupulous high pressure salesmen killed the market for those who were honest in their efforts. Farmers were gypped out of a lot of money through buying worthless rods with fancy ornaments and useless trimmings. Consequently lightning rod salesmen were viewed with great suspicion and shunned like a plague. But the electrical experts have a good word for the maligned lightning rod. They say that good rods properly installed will protect a structure from fire or other damage caused by lightning in 99 cases of 100, especially in the case of buildings which stand out by themselves.

Bank Deposits Are Up Three Billion

A three billion dollar increase in bank deposits in 12 months is reported by J. O. O'Connor comptroller of the currency. Other sources attributed the rise to two major factors—first that more than 500 banks re-opened during the year ended June 30, and second, that the new deposit insurance law had stimulated confidence in persons who felt unsure after the 1932 financial crisis. O'Connor's review, based on the last national bank call, showed the deposits had risen \$1,142,173,000 since March 5 and \$3,158,545,000 in 12 months. The number of banks licensed on June 30 stood 5,422 compared with 4,902 a year previous. It is claimed you can't trust human nature very far, but it usually behaves pretty well when somebody is looking. It takes some effort to win prizes at the flower shows, but many gardeners could make an excellent display in a weed exhibit.

Lady Says She Took CARDUI for Cramps; Was Soon Relieved

Women who suffer as she did will be interested in the experience of Mrs. Maude Crafton, of Belleville, Ill., who writes: "For several years, I suffered from irregular trouble and cramping. There would be days when I would have to stay in bed. I would get so nervous, I was miserable. My aunt told me to try Cardui. She believed it would build me up, regulate me and help the nervous trouble. I knew after taking half a bottle of Cardui that I was better. I kept on taking Cardui and found it was doing me a world of good. I am in good health, which means a lot to me. . . . Thousands of women testify Cardui benefited them. If it does not benefit YOU, consult a physician. . . . Price \$1.