

Carolina Watchman

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



POPULATION DATA (1930 Census)

Table with 2 columns: Name and Population. Includes Salisbury (16,951), Spencer (3,128), E. Spencer (2,098), China Grove (1,258), Landis (1,388), Rockwell (696), Granite Quarry (507), Cleveland (435), Faith (431), Gold Hill (156), (Population Rowan Co. 56,665)

WHERE DO THE STATES GET OFF?

We sometimes wonder, with a bit of concern, whether the present tendency toward the centralization of all governmental activities in Washington is all for the best.

This is a pretty big country. It has more diversity of interests, activities and climate, than any other nation we know anything about. Governmental methods and plans which may fit one part of the nation may not fit another part.

Lord Bryce, that wise English commentator on public affairs, once wrote that the strength of the United States lay in the fact that it has forty-eight separate laboratories each working out its own experiments in government. It is well understood that much of what is being projected from Washington is purely experimental, but why not leave some of the experiments to the states?

We think of Prohibition as an experiment which worked pretty well, on the whole, in the states that tried it, or most of them, but which failed utterly when it became a national experiment. Until the states found they could lay the burden of unemployment relief on the Federal government, they were handling that situation with what we must regard as much greater economy and efficiency than it is being handled today, and we heard of nobody being allowed to starve.

There is not only the tradition of state rights to be considered; there is the distinct difference in the outlook and the point of view of the people of different sections. Each has its own special interests and problem.

We concede that many matters require national regulation and supervision. We are merely trying to sound a warning against carrying the idea of a centralized control too far.

SOCIAL INSURANCE

We read a great deal these days about plans for what is generally called "social insurance." Under that heading are included all sorts of schemes for health insurance, unemployment insurance, accident insurance, widow insurance and maternity insurance, as well as old age insurance. None of the plans seems to have been worked out very fully as yet. Most or all of them involve contributions by the state or Federal government. Some

apply only to industrial workers, some do not discriminate between one class and another. Some have provisions for contributions to the insurance funds by the workers themselves, or by employers, or both, and some would have the Government take care of everybody.

The subject is very much alive just now, and we have no doubt that vigorous efforts will be made this coming winter to get some legislation for the Federal assumption of some degree of responsibility for some of these projects. It seems to us to be something to be looked into very carefully.

The most interesting of all the old-age insurance schemes of which we have heard originates, like so many other social innovations, in California. Dr. F. E. Townsend of Long Beach, a retired physician, first broached the idea of having every person over 60 years old, whether in want or not, receive a pension of \$200 a month from the Federal government. The idea has caught on like wildfire, and organizations have been set up in twenty states, we understand, to get signers to a great petition to Congress for such legislation.

As there are about 10,000,000 persons over 60 in the United States, and the proportion of elderly people is increasing, this would mean about two billion dollars a month or twenty-four billions a year, to be provided out of tax income. But the advocates of the plan have attached to it a provision that the whole \$200 must be spent each month, and contend that putting so much money into circulation would immediately restore prosperity and make it no burden at all.

If that theory is right, why not go the whole hog and make it \$1,000 a month?

YOU'VE GOT TO FIGHT

When we hear a business man sit and growl about business, and try in no way to go after it, we are reminded of a blotter we recently saw which carried the following message: "It's not the size of the dog in the fight—it's the size of the fight in the dog." Ever see a little dog clean up on a big one, and just because he had a little more spunk, a little more aggressiveness and a little more fight in him. Many a little business has licked a bigger, older competitor just because it had a little more spunk and aggressiveness. People will make a path to your door if you've got what they want. But how are they going to know unless you tell them what you've got? The big city stores and the mail order houses and catalogue men are fighting for business—because they know if they get it they've got to fight for it. The sooner the home-town business man learns this, too, and gets into the fight the better off he will be, and the farther along on the road to merchandising success.



WE COULD mention a name today * * * BUT YOU know how it is when * * * YOU HAVE rules. A certain * * * LITTLE GIRL said to her teacher, * * * "COME OUT home and see our * * * NEW BABY." The teacher whom * * * MOST OF you know replied, * * * "THANK YOU, Mary, but I will * * * WAIT UNTIL your mother is * * * BETTER." MARY paused a * * * MINUTE. "YOU needn't be afraid * * * TEACHER," SHE said. "It's not * * * CATCHING." * * * I THANK YOU.

The Strike: Its Cause and Effect

If the present strike affected only those who are out on strike and the cotton mills, it would be bad enough. They are not suffering alone. The entire country is suffering. Business is paralyzed.

Innocent women and children are suffering through no fault of their own. Merchants, farmers, garage men, filling station employes, milk men, truck growers, lawyers, doctors, dentists, clerks—every class of people is being unjustly punished by the cruel effects of the strike.

The tie-up in the cotton mill business has put a stop to all the orderly processes of business. We, the citizens of the state, have to sit idly by and see nothing done to stop it, we, who are innocent, must suffer with the guilty.

Who is responsible for this strike? If the Blue Eagle has been so all-powerful, heretofore, why doesn't the Blue Eagle do something about it?

If the mill operators are not living up to the provisions of their code, why doesn't the Blue Eagle make them live up to it? If the operators are adhering to the provisions of the code, what justification is there for the strike?

If the Blue Eagle can prescribe working conditions and scales of wages why can it not also control situations of this nature?

Carl Goerch, of The State, popular North Carolina magazine, asks these questions as the headliner in a front page article in the current issue of his magazine, citing the suffering and demoralization that is resulting from the ill-timed textile strike in North Carolina. He goes on to say:

"North Carolina's efforts to pull herself out of the depression and once more enjoy the fruits of prosperity are being threatened by the textile strike which went into effect this week.

"Farmers, who expected record prices for their cotton and other crops, are liable to be grievously disappointed.

"Business, which was definitely on the up-grade, is slowing up in marked fashion.

"Unemployment, which was largely being done away with, is raising its ugly head once more.

"Confidence in the future is being replaced by suspicion, distrust, bitterness and hatred. The friendly relationship which existed between employer and employe is vanishing into thin air.

"And we—the people of North Carolina—have got to stand by and watch a comparatively small group of individuals undo all of the constructive work that has been done along economic lines during the past year!

"It is the most uncalled-for situation that possibly could have been brought to pass.

"This article does not attempt to place the blame. Responsibility for existing conditions may rest upon the shoulders of the mill operators. Or, the fault may lie with the workers. All this is beside the point. The one outstanding factor about the entire situation is that the textile strike had no business taking place.

"The textile industry was the first to adopt a code of its own. That code specified certain details about wages and labor. If the mills are not living up to those conditions, why doesn't the government step in and make them live up to them?

"If the owners are living up to those conditions, what justification have the men for walking out?

"Last year the government stepped in and prescribed regulations for all lines of business. A scale of price was established for various commodities manufactured in various sections of the country. Employers of labor were told specifically how long they might keep their mills open and how many shifts they could work daily. Similar restrictions were placed upon all lines of retail business. Word was sent out that 100 per cent co-operation was imperative.

"If the government had authority to go that far, then the government also has authority for dealing with a situation like the one which has developed in the textile industry.

"Those are straightforward facts, without any pussyfooting. "Absolutely nothing will be gained by the strike. The mill operators are going to lose. So will the men. So will practically every other citizen in North Carolina.

"And that is where the real injustice comes in. If the effects of the strike could be confined to the employers and employes of the textile industry alone, it wouldn't be so bad. But such is not the case. The agricultural and business interests of the state will be vitally affected. So will the welfare of almost every individual. And all we can do is watch the situation develop from bad to worse.

"Regardless of what issues are involved in a matter of this nature, no small group of men should be granted the power to undermine the well-being of the rest of our citizenry."—Gastonia Gazette.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

—BY— FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

DEFINITIONS . . . take "Liberal"

I hear a great many people using old words with new meaning. This results in confused thinking and misunderstanding, especially when folk are talking about political matters.

The word "Liberal" is one which I hear often loosely used as if it meant the same thing as "Radical." A Liberal scheme of government is one in which the rights of every minority group, however small, are recognized and protected. It is, I believe, the ideal of every intelligent thinker on political matters. And it is not necessary to have a democracy to have a Liberal government; in a broad sense the British government is Liberal, and so are other European monarchies. But the government of Germany, Russia and Italy today are anything but Liberal; and I seem to see signs that the Government of the United States is slipping away from its old Liberal attitude.

RADICALISM . . . its meaning

"Radical" is another good word that has had its meaning corrupted. It means, literally, getting down to the roots of things. Now it is generally understood to mean a man or a group that seeks to uproot everything that exists and turn the world topsy-turvy.

The word "Conservative" is also being carelessly used, as if it meant one who was opened to any change whatever in the existing scheme of things. I know a good many genu-

ine Conservatives, and without exception they are entirely sympathetic to the ultimate ideals of even some who are classed as extreme radicals.

One has to be careful, these days, in discussing anything of a political nature, to make sure that both parties to the discussion mean the same thing with the same words.

CLASSES not here

One of the reasons why the United States has become the most powerful and the most prosperous nation in the world is the utter absence of any "class" system among its people. On the one hand we have no peasantry tied to the soil; on the other we have no hereditary aristocracy. Every American is and always has been free to move from the social group or environment in which he was born and reared, into any other group, according to his own ambition and ability.

I do not believe this system can be improved upon. I am concerned, therefore, with every movement which would tend to separate Americans into distinct "classes" in which they are condemned to remain. I don't believe it can be done. We have not yet exhausted opportunity for individual independence.

MONEYMAKERS a type

I have a friend who occupies a high position in the Federal Government and has a background of wide business experience. Dining with him in Washington a few evenings ago, he dropped this new idea:

"If I were President of the United States, trying to bring the nation out of an economic crisis," he said, "I would have the Treasury

Down From the Stratosphere — by A. B. Chapin



Department examine all the income tax returns and discover who are the best money-makers in the country. Then I would put those men in the key positions, instead of filling the high posts with men who never made a dollar in their lives. They would be able to point the way out of the depression with plans that would work."

I pointed out that that wouldn't be good politics. Any President that did that would be accused of "selling out to Wall Street." My friend agreed that was a practical difficulty in the way of his idea, but I think it's a pretty sound thought, at that.

ANNUITIES . . . grow in favor I have a friend, a young doctor, who isn't worrying about his future. As fast as he can get hold of \$100 that he doesn't need to use, he tells me, he buys an annuity contract from one of the big life insurance companies, which will begin when he is sixty to pay him a pension for the rest of his life, and if he should die sooner, all he has paid in will be returned to his heirs.

"Any man who tries to pick his own investments or to make money by speculating in stocks is a plain sucker," he remarked. "Nobody can make money in that way unless he gives his whole time to it, and a busy professional man hasn't the time or the ability to study investments. If the big life insurance companies can't do better with my money than I can, then their management is incompetent, and I don't believe it is. And if they smash, the whole country will smash and I'll be no worse off in one case than in the other."

Insurance men tell me that a rapidly growing number of business and professional men are buying present or deferred annuities, either for lump sums or on instalment payments.

BOGGAN TO BOGGAN Mr. Y. M. Boggan has returned to his home in Wingate after spending the past week with Mr. J. M. Boggan. —Pee Dee item, Montgomery Herald.

SLATE, SHINGLES OR A HOME LOAN? W. J. Hatley is recovering his dwelling house. —Millingport item, Stanly News & Press.

SHORT FOR SAXAPHONE, WE RECKON Miss Saxton Boss of Walnut Cove, who will be the music teacher here this year, arrived Monday. —Star item, Montgomery Herald.

NATURE NOTE, OF KITTY CATFISHES All the big catfish swarming around the docks to feast on shrimp heads appear to have little kittens by the dozens. —State Port Pilot.

NAMES IS NAMES Mr. and Mrs. Pink Shell and children attended the Shell reunion at Nebo Sunday. —Jonas Ridge item, Morganton News-Herald.

Feels a Lot Better When Black-Draught Relieves Constipation From many states come reports like the following from Mr. W. M. Henderson, of Jasper, Fla.: "I have been taking Theodor's Black-Draught twenty years. I take it for constipation that gives me a dull, tired, aching feeling, and I have headache, too. Black-Draught relieves me of this trouble. After a few doses, I feel as good as new. I keep it in my home. I have a big family. When one of us is ailing (from constipation), we take Black-Draught and almost always feel a lot better. It has been worth its weight in gold to my family." . . . Sold in 25¢ packages. "Children like the Syrup."

THE JOKE'S ON HIM At Prosperity schoolhouse, beginning at 8 o'clock on Saturday night, members of Prosperity grange will present "The Man Who Left the Farm," a typical mirth provoking play in three acts. —Gold Hill item, Stanly News & Press.

TWO TRUCK LOADS O' WHAT? The Epworth and Riverside Sunday schools went on a picnic at Minnesott last Wednesday. Roney Sutton and Graham Kirkman car-

THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

(Continued from page one)

Republican speakers in the current Congressional campaign are beginning to make use of the Douglas resignation and the Morgenthau figures; with what effect remains to be seen. Beyond doubt, in the more conservative parts of the nation, a reaction against the Administration is setting in, but that this will result in the return of a Republican majority to the new Congress is not expected by even the most ardent devotee of the G.O.P. And any Republican gains are likely to be offset by the election of some radical members from the Central West and parts of the South, who will demand that the Federal Government go even farther to the left than it has gone. Moreover, a good deal of the disaffection is in the South, where it is regarded as practically hopeless to get any considerable number of people to accept the name "Republican" on any party banner which they will follow.

The name of "Constitution Party" has been adopted and thrown into the picture by at least one former Democrat. He is Col. Henry Breckinridge, who was assistant Secretary of War in President Wilson's administration and has lately figured in the limelight as attorney for Col. Charles A. Lindbergh. H has declared for United States Senator from New York under the "Constitution Party" banner. As an anti-New Dealer he may give Senator Cope-land a lively contest, unless the Republicans nominate a stronger candidate than any now in sight.

At the other extreme of that political picture is the nomination on the Democratic ticket for Governor of California, of Upton Sinclair, author of many extremely radical books and an avowed Socialist though his Socialism is more a mixture of Henry George and Edward Bellamy than the pure Karl Marx brand. His slogan, EPIC, which stands for "End Poverty in California," is calculated to catch the Radical voters, but it is no secret in Washington that the situation created thereby has the Administration worried. For that matter, as one able observer remarked the other day, there are no secrets in Washington.

The dilemma is whether to recognize Sinclair as a Democrat, and thereby put the seal of Administration approval on a program which out-dials the New Deal; or to disclaim him, and thereby alienate the radical element upon whose votes the Administration is counting heavily. The general opinion here is that the conservative Democrats of California will throw their strength to the Republican candidates for Governor and Congress, which may upset somewhat the hopes of further Democratic gains from the Pacific Coast.

A more immediate worry is the general labor situation, with strikes increasing in number and seriousness and the Administration trying to figure out whether it would be better politics to put all strikers on the relief rolls or to tighten up on its relief program.