

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: City 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).

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1936

EVIDENCES OF RECOVERY

The best index of the state of business confidence at any time is the values which are placed upon stocks and bonds by the buyers and sellers on the New York Stock Exchange. That is not to say that prices at which stocks sell always reflect the actual values behind them.

Up to the end of February in this year there had been 11 consecutive calendar months of advancing prices of securities on the nation's Stock Exchanges. Since the rise began, in March last year, the average price of 50 representative stocks moved upward from \$77.92 to \$119.21 a share.

Last year on all of the registered national security exchanges 661 million shares of stocks changed hands.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has ordered all the Eastern railroads to reduce their passenger fares to two cents a mile, with another cent for the privilege of riding in a Pullman car.

It is the idea that the lower rate will induce more people to travel, and I am inclined to think that is true.

THOSE AMAZING JAPANESE

To the American mind nothing that has occurred in recent years has been so amazing as the story from Japan of the assassination of several of the nation's high officials by hot-headed young army officers.

bent on restoring the ancient system.

One authentic tale of true heroism comes over the cables. The assassins were reported to have killed the premier of Japan, Keisuke Okada. Three days later Premier Okada turned up, alive and unharmed.

Altogether, the Japanese episode suggests that the nation is far from being a unit in its aggressive policy of conquest on the Asiatic mainland.

TODAY AND TOMORROW

—BY— FRANK PARKER STOCKBRIDGE

SAP . . . the season It's "sugaring-off" time now, up in my home county of Berkshire. They are tapping the maple trees in every "sugar bush."

For every barrel of sap boiled down you get about a gallon of maple syrup. Boiling the syrup down still more, leaves a residue of sugar, which is worth in trade at the store from 10 to 20 cents a pound.

SUCCESS . . . one business

I am always interested in men who started at the bottom and have worked up to the top in one business. Perhaps they are more interesting to me because I have never had the temperament and disposition to climb the ladder a rung at a time.

However, I take my hat off to men like Oscar W. Smith, president of the great drug manufacturing house of Parke, Davis & Company, who has just celebrated the 50th anniversary of his connection with the same concern.

FARE . . . and passes

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ICE GITS!



NOTHIN' BOTHERS US SO MUCH AS HAVE SOME ONE INTERFERE WITH OUR LOAFING.



SINCE THIS is leap year, it is

HARD TO know what to expect

FROM THE ladies. If you are

NOT MARRIED, and you are a

MAN, IT would be a pretty

GOOD PLAN to keep your eyes

OPEN. YOU might be taken

UNAWARES. BUT let us be on

WITH OUR story in order that

WE MAY justify our warning.

It HAPPENED right here on Main

STREET THE other night. "I'm

SURE THERE'S a man following

US", SAID one girl to another as

THEY WALKED up the more or

LESS DARK street. "Gosh, what

SHALL WE do?" asked the second

GIRL. "I'll tell you," said the

FIRST LASS. "Let's

MATCH FOR him."

I THANK YOU.

the roads stopped giving out passes to newspaper men.

KING . . . styles

King Edward is starting out to be just as good a salesman for British Empire products as he was when he was Prince of Wales.

I have often wondered why the fashion for ostrich feathers went out so suddenly. I imagine the war had something to do with it.

One of the rules laid down in the laws of Moses for the Children of Israel was that every farmer must give one-tenth, or a "tithing" of his income to the temple and the priests every year.

TITHES . . . abolished

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The court, however, refused to admit that Purvis was legally executed, asserting that he "did not hang, by the neck until dead."

ROBBED OF \$55,000 IN JEWELS

New York—A burglary in a 12-room Park Avenue apartment left Mr. and Mrs. Kurt M. Simon minus jewelry and a mink coat valued, police said at \$55,000.

10 INJURED IN GAS BLAST

Corpus Christi, Tex.—Ten men were injured—five of them critically—by an explosion of gasoline vapor in a 30,000 barrel tank at the Humble Refinery.

Man Who Was Hanged Tells the Story of 'Death'

New York—A short squat man who helped decide a State election after he was hanged 52 years ago, came out of the bayous of Mississippi recently to describe how it feels to "die."

William Isaac Purvis, of Purvis, Miss., was hanged Feb. 7, 1894, because they said he shot and killed Will Buckley. They led him to the steps of the yellow pine gallows, strapped his arms and legs and wrapped a thick silk bandage around his eyes.

"Have you anything to say?" they asked. Purvis choked back the tears, because he was 19 and had much to live for, and answered: "Before God I am innocent."

They cut the rope which sprang the trap door and Purvis plunged down to what should have been his death. But the knot slipped or untied—no one remembers now—and Purvis crashed eight feet to the ground.

The tough hemp rope seared his neck, tearing the flesh, and Purvis collapsed, unconscious. A prison deputy scratched "executed Feb. 7, 1894" after Purvis' name, but the 62-year-old Bayou farmer lives today as the world's only executed prisoner who can discuss his own death.

Will Buckley was killed from ambush June 22, 1893, while riding back from Columbia, Miss., with his brother Jim, where they told a grand jury how the Ku Klux Klan had beaten a Negro to death.

Purvis was a member of the "White Caps" and that same night he was arrested at his home near the town named after his family. Jim Buckley said he recognized a figure through bushes as Purvis.

Purvis was found guilty of first degree murder and sentenced to die Sept. 6, but an appeal was carried to the State Supreme Court and the execution was delayed. Then the court affirmed the verdict and the execution was set for Feb. 7, 1894, and the 19-year-old youth prepared to die.

Purvis, a ruddy-faced man with a barrel-sized chest, described it in his low halting speech.

"I had given up all hope," he said. "I really didn't see the crowd. They were just a blur of faces. Maybe I was sobbin', I don't know. You see, I was so young then. But they didn't have to carry me up the steps like they did some. I went myself."

"You can't explain the feeling a man has, when he's about to die for a crime he didn't do. I can't describe it, I just suddenly felt all alone and cold, and a second later my feet dropped from under me and everything went black."

C. C. McDavid, a friend of Purvis and publisher of the Percy County Herald in New Augusta, took up the story from there.

"When the crowd saw the rope slip, some of the women faintcd," McDavid said. "A strange hush fell over the 4,000 people. Then a minister leaped forward and screamed:

"This is an act of God. It is a sign of Providence that this man is innocent. Shall we let him die?"

"They all shouted: 'No!' and took Purvis away from the Sheriff. Later he was returned because another appeal had been made to the State Supreme court."

The court, however, refused to admit that Purvis was legally executed, asserting that he "did not hang, by the neck until dead."

OTHER ACHES

A good deal of interest is being shown in proposals to change the present method of subsidizing American shipping. It is now on the basis of mail carrying contracts given to ships by aid of Shipping Board loans, at the rate of \$2.50 a mile, whether they carry any mail or not.

The most unpleasant news to reach some of the boys on Capitol Hill was the announcement the other day that Columbia University had granted Rex Tugwell another year's leave of absence from his professional duties.

BOYS WILL BE BOYS — by A. B. Chapin



THIS WEEK IN WASHINGTON

(Continued from page One) cordance with long-established political customs.

In other words, Mr. Tugwell doesn't play ball with politicians, and that is the real reason why the politicians don't like him.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION

Politically, Washington seems to have its mind pretty well made up that Governor Landon of Kansas is going to be the Republican nominee. A great deal, however, depends upon Mr. Landon's acceptability to former President Hoover and his following, and of Senator Borah and his following.

The Democratic strategy is beginning to develop. Nobody questions seriously Mr. Roosevelt's renomination. It would be silly to imagine anybody else heading the Democratic ticket this year.

On the point of reelection, the President himself has not the slightest doubt. Numerous recent visitors to the White House, some of them friendly to him and some of them opposed to him, have reported unanimously his extremely cheerful confidence that he will be reelected in November.

The Democratic strategy seems to be to cultivate the confidence and good will of the conservative elements in business and finance. There has been quite a steady stream of business men in and out of the President's office recently, at his invitation.

In recounting progress made in financial, welfare, prison, and other matters during his administration, the Governor commented, "And now we are faced with the problem of getting fair prices for tobacco. Those in high places in democracy will meet this with courage and fairness, as they have other problems. All we want to know is where we are going before we go too far."

Plan Drive To Enforce Driver's License Law

Raleigh—An intensive drive to enforce provisions of the State's driver's license law probably will start next Monday as indications were the Highway Safety division will complete issuance of applications on hand by today.

Arthur P. Fulk, director, said 660,668 permits had been issued through last Saturday, and of this number 1,807 have been revoked since last November 1 when the act became effective.

A thorough and careful study is now being made of the entire subject by our committee to the end that the amount of revenue may be raised by the most equitable method possible.

Seed Shortage In Corn Belt

Des Moines, Iowa — Midwest agronomists said the corn belt faced a shortage of high quality seed corn unparalleled in years, as farmers planned their 1936 plantings, scarcely two months away.

The agricultural experts termed the situation serious in Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota, with good seed scarce in Wisconsin, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri, and South Dakota.

They warned, however, against "panic buying" asserting the solution of the problem lay in locating and distributing the seed from abundant areas to deficient ones at fair prices.

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DOUGHTON DEFENDS F. R.'s TAX PROGRAM

(Continued from page One) "Second, impose a graduated tax on that portion of corporate profits which is not distributed to stockholders in dividends. Establish rates for this tax which will yield just about the same revenue to the government from these undistributed profits as if they had been distributed and personal income taxes had been paid on them.

At the same time, make all dividends received from corporations by individuals subject to the same tax as any other personal incomes. They are now exempt from the normal tax. This exemption would be abolished.

"Thus there would be only one corporation tax instead of three, double taxation would be ended and there would be one system and scheme of taxation that would affect all alike.

"These are the plain facts to bear in mind about what has been proposed. It will be well to bear in mind amid all the confusing and misleading voices that will be raised, many of whom will speak from the standpoint of self interest and partisanship. While I believe the principle of reform embraced in the President's message to be sound, it must, of course, be applied constructively and with the definite view in mind of doing no injustice to any taxpayer or to any legitimate industry.

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