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Morning Tonic

(La Rochefoucauld.)
How can we expect another to keep our secret if we cannot keep it ourselves?

Uncle Matt Mason

THE blacksmith labors at his forge and mutters now and then, "By George, I'd like to be a banker; it's weary work to swing a sledge, and manufacture iron wedge, and fashion plow and anchor. The banker sits around and glances over piles of bonds and stocks and notes, and invests in princely real-estate, while I must strain my weary thumbs to meet my Sons of Milo dues, or make some other payment. The banker's girls are wearing gems, his wife has priceless diamonds, all gifts-the kind goods bring 'em; but my good wife and girls, alas, have only beehives of plate glass, and they are wearing gingham." The banker, shy of brown and plith, admits the mighty, stalwart smith, all full of red corpuscles, he sighs, "Oh, chee, I'd give my wealth, to have that man's abundant health, his giant bones and muscles! I do not doubt that he can eat a side of mutton and repeat, and feel no indigestion; his stomach takes what it receives, and never balks, and never heaves, and never asks a question. But if I eat a crumb of cake I have twelve kinds of stomach ache, my works will be corroded; a sirloin steak would knock me cold- so what's the use of all the gold with which they say I'm loaded?" Complaining mortal, be content, and envy not the other gent, whose lot seems so much better; he also sighs for some relief; he has his share of care and grief, as sure as donor-wetter.

Economy is one prescription that all the financial doctors are giving and there is no kind of doubt that it is a helpful one.

Getting some real information out of the official communications of the European governments is about the biggest task the newspaper reader has these days.

While Europe continues to waste lives in the mad struggle among nations for supremacy, the United States proceeds with its war of tuberculosis, cancer and all the other diseases which are the real enemies of mankind.

The press in North Carolina is almost unanimous for the Constitutional Amendments. It is inconceivable that so many men, who to say the least are men of average intelligence, would make a mistake in this matter.

The Richmond News Leader uses dollar marks for the letter S in its reports of Wednesday's sessions of the American Bankers' Association. The News Leader is an excellent newspaper, but this was an odd way to show enterprise.

General Villa will not be president of Mexico, but the indications are that he will have a big part in naming the chief executive of that country. Villa is sensible enough too to use his influence for a man strong enough for the task.

Prof. Hugo Munsterberg quits the Harvard faculty so as to save the great university a bequest of ten million dollars, the Englishman who left the bequest having named as a condition that Munsterberg should quit. If Harvard professors had observed the President's advice to keep thoroughly neutral Harvard might have kept its Munsterberg and got its ten million too.

William Draper Lewis, retired Progressive candidate for Governor of Pennsylvania, says Clifford Pinchot will surely be elected Senator from the Keystone State. A Mitchell Palmer, the Democratic candidate, Mr. Lewis thinks, is destined to defeat because the liquor interests are against him. A distinction of that sort ought to be a big help to Mr. Palmer and November will show that it is.

A Constitution has to grow a little. The same one will not last forever without some repairs now and then. Speaking of the National Constitution a writer in the Popular Science Monthly declares that it "antedated the railroad, the steamboat and the French Revolution and was contemporary with George III, Marie Antoinette and fustic muskets." That we think was somewhat unjust to the Federal Constitution which had a more far-sighted authorship than the Constitution of this State, but it is pertinent as emphasizing a very generally recognized truth that no man, no matter how wise he is, can frame a law that will "fuzzee" and provide for all future conditions.

The two Constitutional Amendments we do not like at all are those providing for emergency judges and changing the tax system," says the St. Paul's Messenger. "We do need as many judges as we now have, and surely the people will not stand for more taxes." The Messenger will doubtless admit that one of the ugliest evils of the day is the law's delay, and that that often happens because a judge cannot be certain as to death and takes in his uniformly his post. None of the amendments provides for a plan by which taxes for many people will in all probability be lowered as a result of raising property that has hitherto escaped.

THE SUPPORTERS OF THE AMENDMENTS.

That was an overwhelmingly impressive list of names signed to the Address to the Voters upon the proposed Constitutional Amendments and published in the News and Observer last Wednesday.

To read the list of more than a hundred and fifty names is to call the roll of as representative a set of North Carolinians active in public life as can be found within our borders. Members of Congress, members of the General Assembly of 1913 and candidates for the General Assembly of 1915; college presidents, college professors, Judges of the Superior Court, Solicitors, leaders of the Farmers' Union, the most powerful agricultural organization in the State, and leading editors. There were leading men in the political parties of the State-and nearly every county in the State was represented.

When a cause can command support like this the great rank and file of our people can well afford to take it up. These men would not advocate changes in the Constitution that would do injury to the people of North Carolina-nay, they would not advocate them if they were not well assured that they will advance the interests of the people of North Carolina.

There are many of our people who have not the time to study constitutional questions. They will have to depend, when they come to vote, upon men who have studied them. We commend to them the opinion of this list of patriotic North Carolinians. They cannot go wrong in joining in with such men as these.

And it should always be remembered that the proposed Constitutional Amendments are submitted to the people after being given the most careful attention, and passed upon both by a legislative Commission and the General Assembly of the State. The very composition of the Commission which prepared the Amendments shows that they were considered with the utmost care, for as the Commission on Constitutional Amendments of the Legislature of 1913 picked from its membership a committee of its ablest and wisest men representing both political parties-E. L. Daughtridge, A. D. Ward, E. J. Justice, R. A. Doughton, A. T. Grant, J. A. D. Ivin, T. M. Washington, George W. Connor, R. L. Haymore, R. R. Williams, E. R. Wooten, Henry A. Page, W. A. Devin, H. W. Stubbs, and C. S. Wallace. Governor Craig added Dr. H. Q. Alexander, D. Y. Cooper, J. W. Bailey, A. M. Scales and N. J. Rouse. The General Assembly examined closely into the Amendments proposed by the Commission and of the fourteen offered adopted ten to be submitted to the people.

Indeed it is true that the people can well vote for the adoption of the proposed Amendments because of the men who declare that they are needed as part of the Constitution of North Carolina. And who advocate their adoption.

FIGHTING A GOOD FIGHT.

The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis keeps everlastingly at it. It has accomplished a very great deal in the way of educating the people of this country on the treatment of tuberculosis and more particularly on the way to prevent it.

Just now it is devoting its fine publicity facilities to the task of getting Tuberculosis Day before the public. In fact while the movement is known as the tuberculosis day movement the plan of celebration takes in a whole week. Sunday, November 29, will be Tuberculosis Day proper, and that Sunday and the six days following will be a week of activity aimed at tuberculosis.

The association does not ask necessarily that there be any special sermons preached on tuberculosis on Tuberculosis Day. If a church, school or lodge gives the subject attention in any way during that week, this will help in the national educational movement, the association holds. By spreading out the celebration over a week it is felt that there will be a better opportunity to bring the subject to the attention of a larger number of people than if a single day were celebrated.

Outlines for lectures or sermons on tuberculosis and "stock" talks on the subject will be furnished free to ministers and others who will use them by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, 103 East 22nd street, New York City. Literature for distribution in the churches, schools, lodges and elsewhere will also be furnished on application to the association at the above mentioned address.

The world is horrified by the dreadful waste of life in the great European war. But tuberculosis and other preventable diseases are claiming their victims by the thousands and but little notice is taken of it. There is nothing dramatic about a lingering illness, and then a death from a familiar disease, and hence but little attention is paid to it. But death is terrible and costly, whether it comes from consumption or strychnine, and it behooves mankind to prevent it if that can be in any way possible. Education is one of the great needs in connection with an effective warfare on consumption and the National Tuberculosis Association has done and is doing a work in this respect that entitles it to the cordial support and co-operation of public-spirited people generally. There should be a general and thorough observance of some day during Tuberculosis Week.

HAIL THE GREAT STATE FAIR!

Next week the Great State Fair! Raleigh has prepared for it in an unprecedented degree. Never have the decorations been quite so elaborate. Fayetteville street and portions of intersecting streets are gay with bunting and flags and at the opening of the big annual event on Monday the whole town will be bedecked in most impressive style. A fair never gets commonplace. Folks may stroll wave if aside and declaring it the same old thing they will not go. But they always yield to the lure and the week never passes without their having visited the grounds and caught with happiness the thrill that the sight of the crowds and lively scenes invariably gives to a normal individual. So the State Fair, while old, is ever enjoyable. And then there are the younger ones who have not been to so many Fairs. To them the Fair appeals in a way that the older ones can fully comprehend only by making a requisition on the memory. Oh, the Fair is an inspiring event and we are so glad that it is just around the corner.

GLENN FOR THE AMENDMENTS.

In an editorial taken from the Monroe Journal, republished in today's News and Observer, the remark is made that practically none of the men in the State who have been entrusted by the people with large leadership are against the Constitutional Amendments. That is about the way it looks to us. The great majority of the men conspicuous in the public life of the State are arrayed on the side of the amendments.

One of the men in the State who have been thought worthy of large leadership is former Governor R. B. Glenn, of Winston-Salem, who now holds an important post in the Federal government. He is unreservedly for the amendments. In a communication in today's paper he discusses them in a way peculiarly impressive. Without waste of words he goes to the heart of each and shows why it should be written into the Constitution. That there is nothing new or radical in the propositions advanced is shown by Governor Glenn in his statement that some of them were advocated by him eight or ten years ago.

Governor Glenn's communication is a strong presentation of the reasons why the amendments should be adopted. The Constitutional Amendments campaign committee would do well to circulate it widely.

Spirit of the Press

Consolidated Schools.

Baltimore American. A writer in one of the popular magazines boldly advances the theory that the little red-or white-schoolhouse along the roadside is not the sign of the up-to-date civilization of the rural community in which it is located, but, on the contrary, a sign of backwardness and indifference in educational matters. He would have, instead, fewer rural schoolhouses and larger ones; the concentration of educational effort and the grading of classes in country schools upon the plan provided under the best city school systems. The idea is not a new one. There are now in the United States about 2,000 of these consolidated rural schools. The scheme necessitates the providing of conveyances for the children to and from the schools, as such schools generally serve communities that have a range of six or seven miles in distance from the school centers. Perhaps this scheme, in the long run, would effect economies. It is apparent, anyhow, that it must make for better grading and classification of students and for a more effective arrangement of teaching service.

Why You Should Vote For the Amendments

Cure Defects in Constitution.

Albemarle Observer. Let the people of North Carolina not forget the Constitutional Amendments to be voted on at the general election the 3d of November. We read so much about the war and the prices of cotton that we are likely to forget even so important a matter as careful study as to amending our own Constitution. The war, we trust, will not reach us, but the defects of our Constitution have reached us for years, and that to our hurt.

They Mean Tax Reform.

R. R. Williams in an address at Monroe. The great purpose of the tax amendment is to remove the straight jacket which prohibits us from adopting a tax system which will conform to present-day needs and vest some discretion in the Legislature. No system is made compulsory. The present system may be retained or new systems put into practice either immediately or gradually as conditions may require. The amendment does place a limit on the rate of taxation, however, which will prevent the rate from becoming excessive. The supreme reason why it should be adopted is that every effort to enforce the present system has been a failure and that no administration for forty years has been able to enforce it justly or profitably that the system itself is defective.

Of Great Importance.

Monroe Journal. It is the settled policy of this paper to tell its readers plainly where it stands on all public questions. It does not expect them to follow it any further than their own judgment and reason dictate. It is our belief that a newspaper should express its opinions on matters of general public concern where principles are not more pronounced and involving changes which should be adopted, but which do not greatly matter one way or the other. But other are of great importance, such as that freeing the Legislature from the mass of local detail in legislation, and the one permitting the Legislature to try to adopt a fair tax law. So far as we know no man whom the people have regarded as worthy of large leadership is against the amendments. We sincerely hope that they will be adopted.

Justitia

(Walt Mason in Judge.)

Is there commotion in the land? Is our old government at fault? Justitia takes his pen in hand and says, "It's time to call a halt!" Often wonder who he is, this citizen of many woes; I'd like to gaze upon his phiz and see his tears and punch his nose. Through all my years I've seen his name attached to roasts in prose or rhyme, with kinking at whatever game he may be playing at the time. Most journals give him right of way and crowd him spars with out a price, and feature what he has to say, as though they thought it cut some ice. Sometimes he comes in a disguise, as "Constant Reader," to our view; sometimes as "More Anon." he tries to make us think he's something new. But as we read we murmur, "Nix! We do not fall for such a game! Justitia's at the same old tricks and hides behind a borrowed name!" He troubles broad above our land, so thick we fear they never will lift. Justitia takes his pen in hand and asks us, "Whither do we drift?" The citizens of Pruneville Heights are full of energy and go; they labor days and study nights to make the blooming village grow. We have a justling board of trade, whose members sweat and strain and strive to make the rival village face and show that Pruneville is alive. And every time a scheme is planned to bring about a mighty boom, Justitia takes his pen in hand and writes a halt a page of gloom. "The right of already-laid," he writes, "Justitia're feeling bum; this boom campaign should be relaxed, until a better time has come. These boomers, with their fuss and fret, would surely write our epitaph; the village isn't out of debt-it owes four dollars and a half. If we elect to him a hand, to celebrate some great event, Justitia takes his pen in hand and writes a boom of discontent. He fills the Ink with his groans and spills his pale-blue ink in ponds. "We'd better save our hard-earned bones, to pay the interest on our bonds." We citizens of Pruneville Heights are patient, mild, we suffer long; but some day this old guy who writes will push the harpoon in too strong. Then we'll arise and sternly cry, "This sort of thing is getting stale!" We'll hunt Justitia, and he'll try a midnight joy-ride on a rail.

THE POE IS AT HER GATE



Racy of the Soil

Sowing Wheat. Roanoke Chowan Times. Mr. Thomas E. Draper, who lives about half way to Jackson at Roanoke church, and owns a valuable farm was in town Monday for some improved seed wheat bought in Virginia. Mr. Draper has been raising wheat successfully several years and reports that some of his neighbors are going to sow wheat this fall. Estimates for seed wheat come from several sections and the indications are that the acreage in wheat will be much greater than in several years.

Champion Possum Hunters.

Willcox Patriot. Wilkes county's possum law which forbids the hunting of possums at night between the first of March and the fifteenth of October of each year expires today and the restless hunter can now enjoy the sport of catching that lascivious animal to his heart's content. The bird hunter is not so fortunate, however, as the open season for shooting quail embraces only Thanksgiving day and from December first to January tenth of each year.

Smile and Be Happy

NOT SCARED THEN. Pop! I hope you say your prayers every night? Willie! All 'cep moonlight nights, pop.

SOME KNOWLEDGE.

Mamma: Well, what did you learn in school today? Johnnie: I learned dat a rod is 16-2-3 feet, an' also something fer wallop kids wit.

ADVICE.

Miss Madcap promises to marry me if our eleven wins this afternoon. I advise you to throw the game.

SURE.

If I should try to kiss you, would you scream for help? No, you'd have to help yourself.

Go I Was A-Sayin'

Mr. Howard Jones, editor of the Warrenton Record, and superintendent of county schools, who was in the city a day or two ago was pleased at the school outlook in his county. He said: "Our schools are in first-class shape. The special tax districts are opening with full attendance. The outlook is for a splendid year's work. Our people are alive to the importance of education and are making splendid progress. Warren people are very proud of their schools. "Our people are taking a philosophical view of the cotton situation and are doing all they can to help the cotton farmer who needs help. Warrenton is doing fine in the 'buy-a-bale' movement. Farmers, however, are holding their cotton and very little is being placed on the market. "The tobacco farmers are feeling better as the price of the weed is a little better for the last two or three weeks or so. "Yes, Warrenton is making progress and there is some building going on. Alabama ever a productive tobacco country. The brick building being erected by Mr. William Dameron, of the Dameron Supply Company. "Warrenton has more paved streets and sidewalks to its population than any town in North Carolina. The Warrenton railroad is a big asset to the town, and the town sets a good dividend from it each year. "Alabamians are looking for Oscar W. Underwood to take a high stand in the United States Senate when he enters that body as he will shortly," said Mr. R. S. Stringfellow, of Montgomery, who was a frequent visitor yesterday. "Alabama people regardless of whether they were for him or for Mr. Hobson in the race between the two look upon Mr. Underwood as one of the most straightforward men they have ever known. His thoroughness and honesty have no doubt in the world that the best interests of Alabama and indeed of the entire South will be conserved as a result of Mr. Underwood's election to the Senate. "We have a very strong man in the Senate, too, in the person of Hon. John H. Bankhead. Senator Bankhead is one of the most popular public men Alabama ever produced. The Raleigh Chamber of Commerce was fortunate in securing him for an address here. He is a statesman of sterling ability. "Mr. Stringfellow is a traveling man and his work takes him over the entire South. He was asked how he found business conditions and gave rather a more agreeable story than might have been expected in view of the prevailing pessimism in this State on account of the depressing effect of the war on the price of cotton. "I have just returned from a tour of the principal points of Texas," said Mr. Stringfellow, "and the cotton movement has had considerable difficulty in securing advances on account of unmet conditions, the financial interests not knowing what to expect, and while a certain degree of depression has resulted with the element dependent upon financial assistance, a large portion of Texas and the South where rice, wheat, tobacco, corn and products of this kind are raised does not seem to be experiencing the depression, or unhappiness that seems to be obtaining in the cotton States. "And even in the cotton belt I find many who take a hopeful view, holding that when the war is over there will be a big demand from Europe for the articles that the United States has been furnishing and that business after the war will be all the greater for having been interrupted with now. "The farmers are holding their cotton in all parts of the South. Everywhere as I passed on the train, looking from the car windows, I could see piles of cotton stored in farm yards. Another indication that cotton is being held on a big scale is the large number of idle freight cars. The railroads of course are feeling the absence of the usual cotton movement at this time of the year and the cars which at this season in previous years have been swiftly moving to the various ports loaded with cotton are now for the most part standing empty on side tracks. Every farmer who can do so is holding his cotton and the fact that there are so many who are well enough off to hold and wait for higher prices is gratifying as showing that the Southern farmer is in much better condition financially than he was formerly."