

The News and Observer

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Morning Tonic

(Philippians 1:29) ACCORDING to my earnest expectations and my hope, that in nothing shall I be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

Uncle Walt Mason

"G.O. get a pall of water, kid," said Jeremiah Jink; for, wearied by the work he did, he longed to have a drink. The kid, John James, he just had hired, to do the daily chores; to see the furnace was kept fired, and head off noxious fumes.

ASKING QUESTIONS.

at the spring, or at the creek in yonder dell, where cheerful buffaloes sing? Or shall I tap the hydrant's flow, or seek some quiet drain, or shall I to the cistern go, the moisture to obtain? And shall I take the twelve-quart pail, or yonder china urn, to bring this jag of Adam's ale, for which you seem to yearn? Oh, had I better take the lift, or down the stairway go? Before I on this journey drift, these things I'd like to know." You take your bonnet," said the boss, "and kindly fade away; that youth will never come across who questions asks all day. When you are told to do a thing, you shouldn't scratch your dome, and ask conundrums—you should spring to fetch the bacon home. The lad who would to honor rise, and travel with the best, must use his brain and hands and eyes, and give his tongue a rest."

A resolution for State-wide prohibition was passed by the South Dakota Senate. The movement marches on.

We think we see a tendency on the part of those who write for the press to boll it down. But we are touting wood.

Deposits held by the banks of the city of Chicago stand around a billion dollars, but it is money that is working that does the good.

The demagogue and agitator must go," declares Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler. Yes, along with the carping, sneering college president of the type of Butler.

At nearly every Legislature the divorce evil shows its hideous head. This is a question which, if the people could vote on it, would be placed on the shelf, there to stay.

North Carolina has taken a back seat in child labor legislation. Surely it will not be put with the non-progressive again by the enactment of an easy divorce law. Let's save the day for one respect at least.

A Boston physician claims that vaccinating a child with the white of an egg will cure it of asthma. Some of the claims of the doctors have to be taken with several degrees of allowance—but in the light of what they have accomplished one is prepared to believe almost anything possible in the way of putting disease out of business.

Maximilian Harden, a noted German editor, writing of the new German war zones, says: "What is about to happen has been imposed by pitiless necessity, and must be. And let no cry of pain and no menace sound in Germany's ear." In other words we have got to do what the tenderfoot in the West was told to do—drink the liquor, drink it out of a tin cup and swear. It's good.

The News and Observer makes it an unvarying rule not to publish communications when the name of the writer is not attached. This will explain to a number of people why their communications do not appear. We often receive communications that we should like to make public, but as the writers seem afraid to accept responsibility for them and because of the unbroken rule of the paper the communications do not see the light.

To meet the wishes of one constituent it sometimes happens that a law is placed on the statute books making divorce easier. If the operation of the law would stop right there, it would not make much difference. But it does not stop there. Many others beside the one for whose benefit it was passed use it as a means of relief from responsibilities that have become irksome, and thus the whole reputation and character of the State are affected. Making divorce easier for one means making divorce easier for all, and legislators ought to think easy divorce laws as they would the plague.

Still they come—meaning the new newspapers. Hard times seem to bring more rather than less of them. Here is a welcome to Number One of Volume One of the Chadbourne Herald. Mr. F. A. Falor is the editor and the initial number is an attractive sheet. We also acknowledge receipt of the Home Chronicle, the publication of which has been commenced by the management of the Children's Home of the Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Printed on an excellent quality of paper and filled with well prepared matter, this is an especially attractive publication. Winston-Salem is the place of publication.

DON'T MAKE DIVORCE EASIER

Ten years separation should never have been made a cause for divorce. To make five years of separation a cause for divorce is making our divorce law twice as bad as it is. The Senate should make short work of the ill-advised measure that got through the House by the narrow margin of a single vote.

There is no new argument to be offered against easy divorce laws. It is an old story that the home is sacred, that what operates to tear it down is hurtful to the best and most fundamental thing in human life, that the marital relation is the most solemn and sacred of relations and should be guarded with the utmost care to maintain it pure and sweet. But the fact that the argument for difficult divorce is old and time-worn does not take away any of its force. For these arguments have stood the test of years and they have never been answered. And no one can doubt that easy divorce laws tend to break up the home life and tend to bring the marital relation into contempt. You have only to look at States which have easy divorce laws to see the disgraceful conditions that inevitably result. Sow an easy divorce law and reap a bountiful crop of divorces with its accompanying loss in popular respect for the obligation and dignity of the relation of marriage. It never works out any other way.

In one State, Ohio, we believe it is there are five divorces to every marriage. Think of that! Think of how far that condition is from the scriptural standard! Is it safe to drift so far away from the advice and counsel of the inspired writers? The law is too easy, not too rigid and it should be let alone if it cannot be improved in the direction of making the taking of the marriage vow a more serious and solemn thing instead of making it a thing to be used to gratify a passing whim and then to be as lightly tossed aside.

Legislators are too prone to look at the merits of individual cases and to be little concerned about the effect on the moral fibre of the people as a whole. In such matters the average lawmaker is not as safe a guide as a minister of the gospel. The lawmaker is in the nature of a special pleader and he thinks of the hardship that may obtain in a particular instance, while the man of God is a just judge with extraordinary opportunity for studying the texture of organized society and detecting the danger spots in it. It is highly significant that the ministers are with practical unanimity opposed to letting down the bars in the matter of divorce. The minister is closer to the home than any other outside of its own charmed circle and the minister knows more surely than the layman when danger threatens the home life of the State. Four years ago when this same question was up the News and Observer obtained a number of expressions from leading ministers and a few of them are reproduced this morning. They are just as good now as then and they present an argument that is unanswerable.

Two years ago also the fight for easy divorce was made and lost. We have faith that it will be lost again this year.

WATCH FOR THE SNEAK BILLS.

The Legislature is more behind in its work than any of its predecessors of recent years. During this, the closing week of the session, the lawmakers will have a crush of business greater than that of any previous Legislature in the last decade.

The House has appointed a calendar committee charged with the special duty of guarding against the sneak bills which are sometimes gotten through legislative bodies when the calendars are greatly congested and there is not leisure for the proper inspection of measures presented for action. This is well, in fact, will be difficult for either House to make too great a provision with the purpose of keeping out errors and jokers.

One of the most disappointing and regrettable characteristics of the Legislature is this matter of putting off till the last minute so much of its work. Some comparisons of the relative amount of work done in the concluding days of the several Legislatures in recent years show the remarkable and growing tendency to wait until the last minute to do the work of the General Assembly.

In 1907 fifty-eight per cent of the bills were passed in the last ten days of the session. In 1909 sixty-six per cent of the bills were passed in the last ten days, in 1911 seventy-seven per cent and in 1913 seventy-six per cent. It is estimated that there will be three thousand pages of the public and private laws passed at this session, these figures being arrived at from the amount of legislation gotten through by previous Legislatures. Only enough bills to cover 250 pages have been passed by this Legislature. In other words, during the remaining days of this session eighty per cent of the bills of the session are to be passed!

Members of the Legislature who would not stoop to get a sneak bill through and themselves confronted with the duty of seeing that none other succeed in anything of this sort. We should like to think that there is not a single member of the Legislature who would attempt to "put anything over," but recollections of similar attempts in the past are fresh in the mind. Watch for the sneak bills and guard carefully against the errors which are so liable to be made in the congested rag-end of the legislative session.

NOT UNCONSTITUTIONAL.

The question of the constitutionality of the Grier anti-liquor bill has been raised, but it is likely that no difficulty will be encountered in this connection. The bill has been passed on by some of the best lawyers in the State and it would not have received the sanction of the anti-liquor forces if its constitutionality had been doubtful, for the foes of whiskey realize the need of a law that will stand all tests.

On the question of the constitutionality of the bill Rev. R. L. Davis, Superintendent of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, has made some inquiries and the result of his investigation is such as to assure friends of the measure that there is no danger that it will be found violative of any of the provisions of the Constitution. On this matter Mr. Davis sends the News and Observer the following:

"As the constitutionality of the Grier House bill to prohibit the delivery of liquor for beverage purposes in North Carolina was questioned of the Editor of the News and Observer, I deem it in order to say that as soon as the question of its constitutionality was raised some days ago

I took the matter up with several attorneys, and I also wrote to Congressman E. Y. Webb. All these attorneys seemed satisfied on this score. In writing to Mr. Webb I stated the grounds on which the constitutionality of the bill was questioned, which I understood, having previously talked with Senator White and others. In Congressman Webb's reply one paragraph reads: "However, I don't think the above case covers the point you raise and, giving an off-hand decision, I don't see that the bill would be unconstitutional on the grounds suggested."

"Let none of our friends in the Senate be disturbed on this score, for this bill has been passed upon by some of the best attorneys in the State and it only remains to be enacted into law to give us the results we desire."

THE CHILD AND THE KINDERGARTEN.

There appeared in Saturday's issue of the News and Observer a brief editorial, the last paragraph of which read as follows: "The legislator who takes part in the making of laws to protect childhood can have no regret for his action. The great heart of humanity calls for legislation which will properly care for the child. The present Legislature should do its part in caring for the children of North Carolina."

Since the editorial referred to appeared our attention has been called to the fact that the sentiments therein expressed are particularly applicable to the Kindergarten Bill recently introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative W. P. Stacy, of New Hanover, and it occurs to us that in the turmoil and confusion of the closing days of the present session of the General Assembly the importance to childhood—our greatest asset—of this bill should not be forgotten.

The best posted educators testify that children who have had preliminary kindergarten training make far better pupils in the first grades of the public schools than those who start in without such training.

Kindergarten is no longer an experiment; on the contrary, it has been in practice long enough to have demonstrated its value and usefulness; and our legislators should not neglect to enact this most important measure into law.

In another column we print the Kindergarten Bill in full, so that our readers may be informed as to its provisions.

RELIEF THAT SHOULD BE GIVEN.

The Senate can well afford to follow the House in passing the semi-monthly railroad pay bill. Such a bill will work no hardship on the railroads and it will be of great assistance to the employees concerned. Under the present rules the railroad workers have to wait longer for their pay than they can reasonably be expected to wait.

But they are not the only ones interested in the bill. Business men in the places where railroad men live also join in the request for the passage of this bill. It would be better for them as well as better for the men themselves for semi-monthly pay to be the rule.

There is understood to be no very serious objection to the bill on the part of the railroads, for the employees in making their plea seem to have a strong case, one the force of which it is difficult to overcome. This relief should be given to the men who toil in the railroad shops.

The House by a majority of one vote passed the easy divorce law. The vote was not creditable to the lower branch of the General Assembly. The people had a right to expect better of it. But the Senate will hold the ladder true.

Why Not Five Thousand Students at University?

(University of North Carolina Alumni Review.)

At the Annual Inter-Society Banquet held at Commencement in 1914, Chief Justice Walter Clark, the principal speaker of the evening, took the position that the enrollment of the University of a great State like North Carolina, should be verging on 5,000 instead of 1,000 and that so far as the University and the State jointly had failed to make the number 5,000, to that extent they were seriously at fault and had fallen short of their high privilege. In support of his position, he cited the fact that the States of the North and East had their Harvard and Yale and Brown and Columbia and Cornell and Princeton and Pennsylvania, and that Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Kansas, Illinois, Texas, and California, though not so old by a half or even a fourth as North Carolina, had out-distanced North Carolina by far in the number of students enrolled in their universities. The University which first gave us the position in Science for December 25, 1914, in which statistics of attendance at thirty universities of the country are given. In this tabulation, Columbia tops the list with a total of 11,294. The University of Texas, only 32 years old at its last birthday, stands 16th in the table with a total of 3,371, while Carolina falls to qualify at all on the basis of attendance. And that too after a history of practically a century and a quarter!

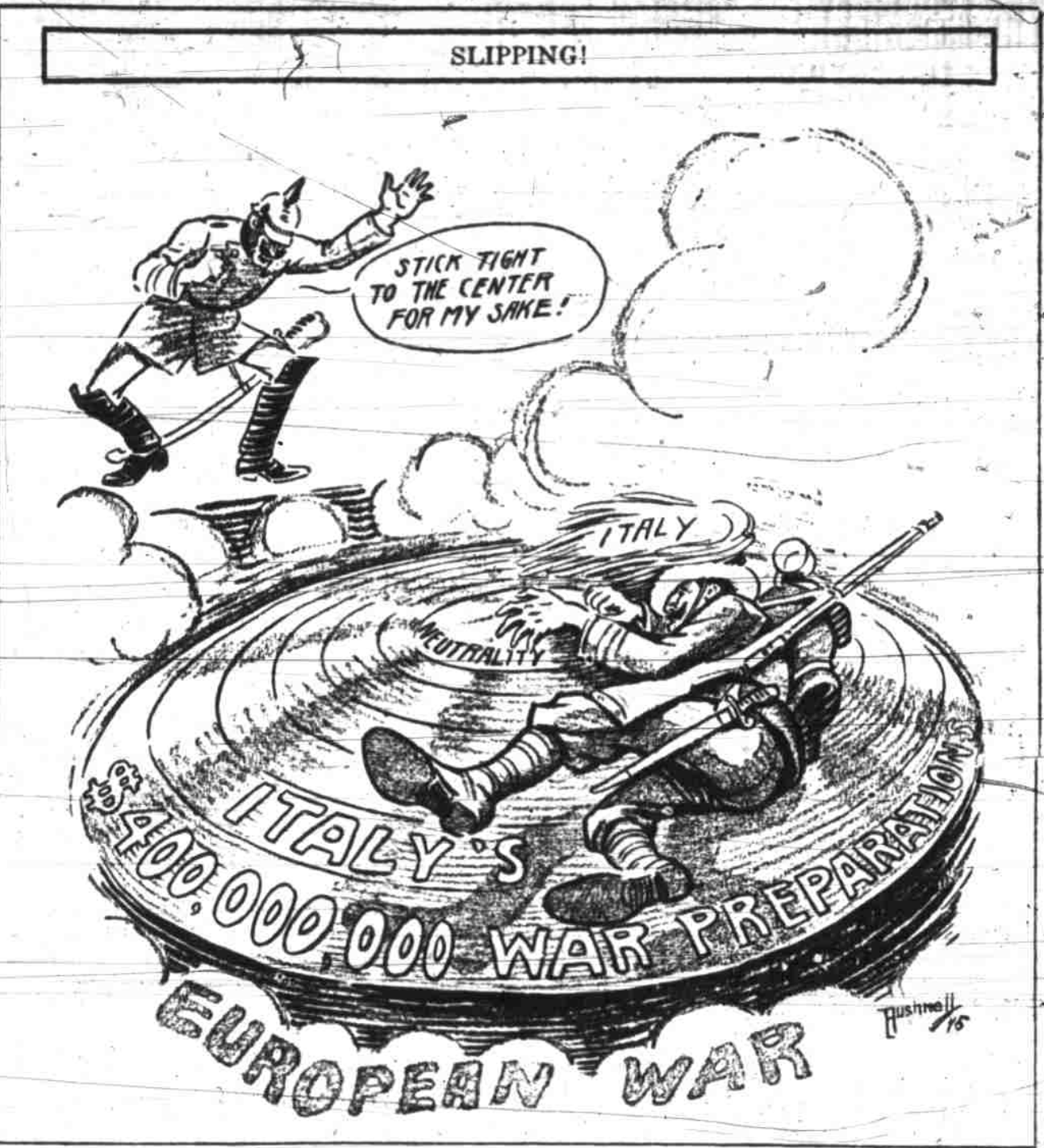
Why has the enrollment not reached 5,000? Does not North Carolina need as many men at the State University equipping themselves for the State's upbuilding? The Review does not propose to attempt an answer to these questions, or to explain the causes which have retarded so long the attainment of the present enrollment. It will, however, make mention of several facts which it considers significant. One of these, as shown in the January issue, is that North Carolina is one of a very, very small number of States which charge resident students tuition in their State universities. The passing of this fact upon attendance is at once obvious. Again, the first appropriation made to the University for maintenance—\$5,000—was not granted until 1851, or 34 years ago, and 90 years after the institution was founded. Furthermore, of the 25 buildings now on the campus, the first to be built by the State out of funds from the State treasury, was the present chemical laboratory which was erected in 1905 at a cost of \$50,000. And from a statement contained in the president's report for 1911-'12 of the total amount of the \$1,137,500 plant which the University now comprises, only \$41,500 has been contributed directly by the State for permanent improvements and buildings.

Two further causes have been contributory to this end. Until 1907 no provision had been made for a system of State supported high schools, and it was only in 1913 that a compulsory school law was placed upon the State's statute books.

Savoyard's Letter

LEADERSHIP.

I DO NOT recall a statesman on the House side of Congress who could beat Claude Kitchin for "looks" since Tom Ewing, of Ohio. Roscoe Conkling was the most magnificent personal presence I ever saw among the statesmen at this Capital; but there were old fellows who



Racy of the Soil

The Road Drag Fever, An Element of Ambition.

Nashville Home. The Road drag fever is spreading and it's a mighty good element of ambition to possess. Mr. J. C. Morgan, one day last week dragged the section of road leading south out of town from Marville to Beavercreek, and it looks and rides like a new road.

Exchanged Watch For Corn.

Waxhaw Enterprise. Dr. W. H. McCain made a very profitable exchange of some corn for a mighty good watch one night last week. The deal came about in this way. Some unknown party of parties entered the doctor's crib during the hours when darkness prevailed and relieved his feed room of about a bushel and a half of good corn. But in his haste to get away before he was discovered the thief left a good high jeweled Elgin movement watch beside the barrel where the corn was.

Hiawasser Railway.

Andrew Sun. The work on the Hiawasser Valley Railway is being pushed now and it will only be a short time until the grading will be finished. This is a very important line to this section and we seem to be general rejoicing that the work is progressing so satisfactorily. (By county and Valleytown township are certainly doing a great work for the people of this entire section. The trains will be running on this line sometime this summer and you will see the great benefit it is to all our people.)

Smile and Be Happy

HIS BEST PHRASE.

Tom is a great talker. Says a lot of nice things. Yes, I remember one saying of his that pleased me greatly. What was it? Good night.

VERY GOOD PROOF.

Of course, Jack, I'm very fond of you. Why haven't I just danced six times with you? I don't see any proof in that. You would—if you only realized how you dance.

The blacksmith begins at the foot and gets many a kick.

Mr. Underwood has been a very capable leader of the House of Representatives. He is a man of strong will. In the Sixty-second Congress he got a Donna Julia approbation out of Claude Kitchin for a tax on wool in a Democratic tariff, though the Hon. Claude would never consent. In the succeeding Congress the Hon. Claude opposed the President in the repeal of the free tolls for the ship trust for its craft passing through the Panama Canal. At this moment the leader, Mr. Kitchin, is opposing the President, who is striving to relieve the situation by the ship purchase bill.

I shouldn't wonder if the Democrats regard that Finis Garrett is not the leader of the majority in the Sixty-fourth Congress. Washington, February 21.

As I Was A-Sayin'

The coincidences of life are interesting," said Mr. W. H. Swift, secretary of the North Carolina Child Labor Committee. "On the day first set in the Senate for the consideration of the Weaver child labor bill came the news that the lower House of Congress had passed the Palmer-Owen child labor bill. The vote in the North Carolina Senate was postponed."

"Saturday the vote in the North Carolina Senate was taken. The Weaver bill was defeated. Within three hours came the news that the committee of the United States Senate, to which the Palmer-Owen child labor bill had been referred had reported the measure favorably.

"It is hard to break the allied lobby forces in this State. It looks, however, as if we shall find in national legislation a remedy for the worst of our State evils in child labor.

The hotel lobby at the Yarrowburgh yesterday afternoon was enlivened by the presence of United States Attorney Francis D. Winston. Naturally the political situation came on for a part of the conversation. "Who is to be the Republican nominee for the presidency?" he was asked. "Why," said he, "of course it Colonel Roosevelt—self wants that nomination he can have it for the asking." It seems that the District Attorney was quoting from a Washington correspondent in whom he has great faith. Colonel Roosevelt then came in for review by the crowd assembled. First one thing and then another was said. It was an interesting dissection of the Colonel. "Do you know," asked a gentleman, "I have often wondered why the word Armageddon was used by Roosevelt in the last campaign?" "That is easily accounted for," said Judge Winston. "Colonel Roosevelt is a great reader of Scott's novels. You know he named a son after Quentin Durward, of the Scotch Archers, the hero of the novel of that name. Doubtless Colonel Roosevelt favors Woodstock as one of the best of the novels written by the Wizard of the North." When Cromwell sequestered Woodstock, the royal park and Dutey Hall, one of his Commissioners was General Harrison. He is supposed to have been the ancestor of Benjamin Harrison, one of the Presidents of the United States. He was Cromwell's right hand man—He was of dauntless courage on the field, and of exalted enthusiasm among the military saints and sectaries who composed the main strength of Cromwell's army. He was bred to his father's trade of a butcher. He was the chief leader of the Fifth Monarchy men and went far beyond the fanaticism of the age, interpreted the book of Revelation after his ownancies; considered that the second advent of the Messiah was at hand and that he was the chosen instrument for establishing the new reign, or Fifth Monarchy, as it was called; and was fated to win his honors both terrestrial and celestial. He had been guilty of great cruelties and outrages. It is said the remembrance of these often drove him to frenzy, and he would, gashed, array himself in his regimentals, go to some solitary woods and conduct imaginary charges against imaginary enemies. When night disturbed him he became something rapt in the spirit and then he conceived that he was commanding a reserve of pikes at the great battle of Armageddon! At least that is the description given of him by Joseph Tompkins, his trusted secretary. Doubtless you can see the resemblance. At any rate that is where the Colonel got the idea. You know, of course, Armageddon is in the Bible. So is Mizreda."

