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FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1917.

THE SHORT BALLOT AND COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.

The sensation sprung in Buncombe county over the secret sale of county bonds is still the subject of animated discussions. Two propositions are now under consideration for restoring confidence in the county government and preventing a relapse in the progress of road-building and other public work for which Buncombe has been noted among the counties of North Carolina.

The short ballot idea applied to the counties would contemplate the election of one man who might be given the title of County Governor or something of like meaning, or a commission of three men, as is the plan of commission government in a number of progressive towns.

This is the meaning of the short ballot system, and Governor Bickett has started an interesting line of thought and discussion. We take it that the mass meeting in Asheville tomorrow will give this subject some consideration and that it will be some live question all over North Carolina before many other campaigns are waged.

One of the chief features of government under the short ballot system will be publicity, frequent statements of financial transactions, and minute itemizing of all sources of income and disbursements, and the practice of sound business principles, efficiency and progress in every department of county work.

HIGHLY ENTERTAINING ARTICLES.

"Catawba in Days of Yore" as set forth in the weekly articles which The Enterprise has been publishing is quite the most readable and entertaining local history ever published in the county; and this paper is very glad indeed that it has been favored by the author with the series. The articles appear each Tuesday but shop difficulties prevented the publication of the installment last Tuesday and it appears today. Scores of readers have had something to say about the articles, and from their expressions we judge that pleasure in reading them has been universal among Enterprise subscribers.

No doubt the allies are bullying Greece and violating her rights; but the wail she is putting up sounds weak and silly when compared with the groans that issue out of Belgium.

There can hardly be a comparison of Greece with Belgium, for the allies have not devastated the land, killed non-combatants, or carried them off wholesale into slavery.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Bills are already before the Legislature to carry out two of the recommendations of Governor Bickett. One is to appoint a commission of State officers to study the financial and taxing systems of other States and make a report and recommendations to the next Legislature.

Henry Page's bill making it mandatory on all boards of county commissioners to call an election for school boards and county superintendents on the petition of a majority of the voters is being away from the uniformity in the educational system that Governor Bickett so strongly enjoined in his inaugural address.

The meeting of the Republican National committee in New York Monday on a call of chairman Wilcox to cement more firmly the solidarity of the Republican and Bull Moose forces, was a failure. Even George W. Perkins and Colby of New Jersey who appeared last fall to have returned to the Republican party for good, kicked out of the traces and declined to break bread with the old lines who got complete control of the committee.

The Congressional investigation of the charges that advance information of President Wilson's peace note was peddled by men in the confidence of the administration to certain stock speculators and that cabinet officers and members of Congress made money in stock transactions on account of the "leak," is now on in earnest. When threatened with jail unless he give the names of the men he had heard were the guilty parties and the name of the Congressman from whom he had gotten his information, Tom Lawson, the sensational Boston speculator, named Henry of Texas, the chairman of the committee as the Congressman referred to and brought in the names of Secretaries Lansing and McAdoo, a Senator who was known as Senator O, German Ambassador Bernstoff, Secretary Tumulty, a newspaper correspondent White, and several bankers.

The county commissioners of Catawba have subjected themselves to some criticisms similar that in Buncombe for disregarding the accustomed rules of publicity, in their failure to publish the items of disbursements.

LINCOLN NEWS NOTES

(The Lincoln News)
V. P. Asbury of East Lincoln, was among the few visitors in town today. He reported that Mrs. Mary Ann Ballard, an aged lady of the Kidville section, died Saturday night at 7:30. The funeral and burial was conducted Monday at Marvin church, Rev. Dodson conducting services. There will be a birthday reunion at the home of Mrs. Eliza Heavener, on Saturday, January 20, in honor of Rev. L. L. Lohr, who performed the ceremony. The groom is of Cleveland county. The bride is the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Scronce, of Lincoln county.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

HOW BESS BROUGHT WORD

"Observer," in Asheville Citizen)
"Stranger, there's queer things happen in this world, and that's a fact, sure. Folks generally don't believe dogs can reason, for instance. But me, I know different. Take that hound dog there, now. She came back home that afternoon and told us about Bud getting killed on yonder side of that mountain. The rest of the pack staid there and guarded the body." He stooped over and patted the old hound, whose tail wagged understandingly.

"Bud"—the old hound looked up quickly at the name—"and the dog were babies together, almost. I've always kept night with dogs on the place, you know, for it seems like I couldn't get along with less. But Bud and this one here took naturally to one another from the start. The boy'd often save some of his own dinner to feed the pup, and it grew to be the stoutest of the pack.

"Bud always wanted to get out in the woods and he could handle a rifle better than most men before he was ten years old. Wherever he went this hound went with him. He used to go to the school for his dogs and those pines—over there on the Asheville road. The worst fight Bud ever got into was when one of the other boys there rocked Bess. Seemed like they were better friends than ever after that. One of the rocks hit the dog on the leg. She limped for a long time and Bud used to carry food down to the barn. They were good friends, hey Bess?"

"The bear-eyed hound whined unceasingly. She looked at me with the man with the rifle resting easily in the hollow of his arm. Her tail no longer wagged understandingly but the light of intelligence and affection shone in her eyes.

"Well, then, one afternoon, about this time, Bud said he was going hunting. He'd done his chores and split up an extra supply of fat pine for his mother to use in the kitchen stove next morning. Bud was a thoughtful boy, for his dog, since he's gone his mother and Bess seem to act different. Me, 'pears like I have to talk about it sometimes or I'd bust. Are you interested stranger? Yes?"

"As I started out to say, Bud went hunting one afternoon and the whole blame pack of dogs went with him. They saw Bud with the gun and Bess he trailing him and God Almighty couldn't have kept them dogs on the place then. I watched him go down the hill and strike the rifle, and gose the fields to the Asheville road. His mother stood close by the big oak at the house, shading her eyes from the sun. She always did say that Bud was too young to be trusted with a gun, but she trusted him. She never says anything about it now, though. But she acts different, somehow."

"The shadows of the mountains were lengthening and the old hound's eyes were on the man with the rifle. The man placed his gun against the side of the stone station and looked with steadfast eyes at the clouds in the western sky already beginning to hold promise of many colors. "Another clear day, stranger, for tomorrow, I reckon," he said at last. And then he fell silent for a space.

"Bud didn't come back that night. We waited until nine o'clock or thereabouts, thinking maybe he'd stopped at a neighbor's along the road. He was a friendly little fellow and they always made him stay for a bite or a few tunes on the organ or banjo. But we couldn't wait any longer then, and I started out. I inquired at maybe a dozen places if they'd seen Bud that afternoon. Most of the time they said no, but one place, over there, they said, 'I searched along until nearly midnight, 'hen I went back and told my wife. She put a trap on and went and told some of the neighbors along the way, and the way and did the same thing. Long about 3 o'clock in the morning there was maybe fifteen or more men hunting for the boy. It wasn't no use, though, and they went back home. I had to go to bed for I couldn't say any travel, I was that tired. His mother never said a word, that morning. She just sat there in a chair, and rocked and rocked. I couldn't do anything more for a while and laid down to rest."

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

A. & M. SHORT COURSE FOR TEXTILE WORKERS

The cotton mill men of the state should be interested in the announcement that the textile department of the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts is now offering a short course in textile work for mill men, beginning February 12 and extending through March 24.

This course is especially designed for busy people who wish to cover as much ground as possible in a short length of time and will include such subjects as picking, carding, spinning, loom fixing for plain and fancy weaving, cloth analysis, designing, and dyeing. Any and all of these subjects may be taken in the six weeks. These subjects will be taught practically and as thoroughly as the time will permit so that the mill men will be able to get as much out of the course as possible.

At the last meeting of the North Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' Association a number of manufacturers signified their intention to send men to take this course. Since that time other manufacturers have notified the textile department that they expect to send representatives. Present indications point to a large attendance, making it advisable for anyone intending to take this course to write to the textile department immediately. All supplies used in the work will be supplied at cost and no charge is made for tuition.

Found a Sure Thing. I. B. Wixon, Farmers Mills, N. Y., has used Chamberlain's Tablets for years for disorders of the stomach and liver and says, "Chamberlain's Tablets are the best I have ever used." Obtainable everywhere. adv.

Statesville is going to enlarge her limits and take in 2,500 more people with three-quarters of a million dollars of property.

Those who breakfast at eight o'clock or later, lunch at twelve and have dinner at six are almost certain to be troubled with indigestion. They do not allow time for one meal to digest before another. Not less than five hours should elapse between meals. If you are troubled with indigestion correct your habits and take Chamberlain's Tablets, and you may reasonably hope for a quick recovery. These tablets strengthen the stomach and enable it to perform its functions naturally. Obtainable everywhere. adv.

Three captains of the regular army have been dismissed on charge of having traced the fortifications of Fort Leavenworth and turned them in as original drawings.

The Habit of Taking Cold. With many people taking cold is a habit, but fortunately one that is easily broken. Take a cold sponge bath every morning when you first get out of bed—not ice cold, but a temperature of about 90 degrees F. Also sleep with your window up. Do this and you will seldom take cold. When you do take cold take Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and get rid of it as quickly as possible. Obtainable everywhere. adv.

Pete Wright and Aza Pruetto of No. 11 Wraith in Cleveland county have been arrested by revenue officers on charge of making whiskey. They are out on bonds of \$300, cash, for their appearance the 25rd at Shelby.

CONFERENCES ON MEXICO HAVE ENDED IN FAILURE

The commissions appointed by Mexico and the United States to agree on some sort of conditions which would insure peace and order on the border, were dissolved Monday, having failed to agree on anything. Carranza refused to sign the protocol, and the whole matter reverts to the president to settle as he sees fit. There seems a desire to withdraw the American troops from Mexico, but at the same time it appears that this will not be entertained until Carranza can say that the bandits which infest the border have been broken up. In fact, the troops will very likely not be withdrawn until the president knows for sure that no more bandit troubles will arise.

Children Cry FOR FLETCHER'S CASTORIA

The Chinese government is about to open its first aviation school.

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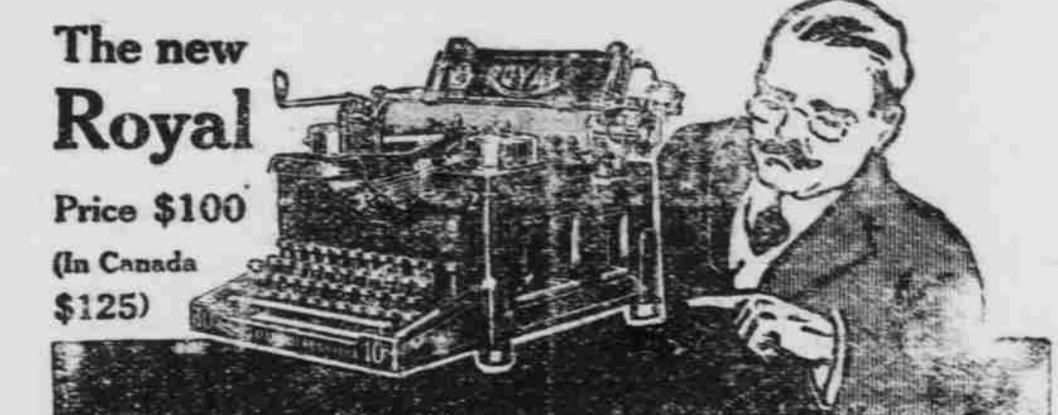
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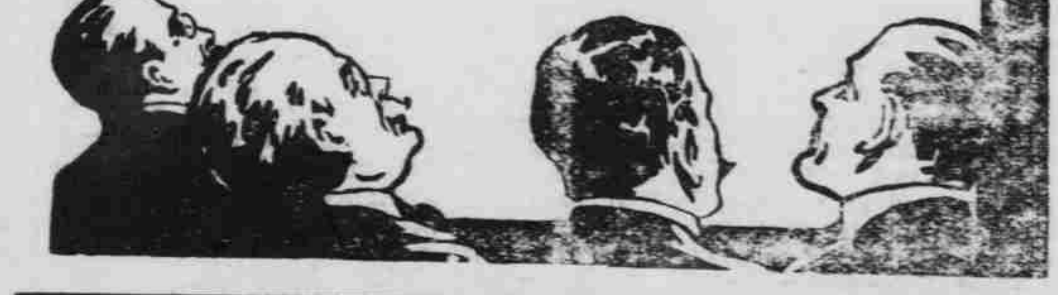
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