

## Pertinent Thoughts From Other Editors

### ONE NEEDED ABOLITION WILL NOT MATERIALIZE

Peterson's "State's Voice," the non-advertising publication of the former editor of The Chatham Record, persists in voicing its idealism. The world may go all wrong, but not without Peterson putting it on notice as to what is the true, if narrow, path of righteousness. In the latest issue, he attacks the continuing running sore of our magisterial system. To quote:

"The Voice agrees with Sheriff Turner of Wake County that every fee based or contingent upon the conviction of an accused person should be abolished. Justice, pure and outright, is hard enough to obtain when there is no premium offered for conviction.

Two or three magistrates to the county, strategically located, and salaries sufficient to recompense them for the services they render, would be better for all concerned than a flock of justices with the privilege of collecting fees upon conviction of the accused brought before them. Whatever fees collected could be turned over to the county and could go toward paying the salaries.

Add dignity to the position of justice of the peace and it will be easy to get worthy men to accept the limited number of positions provided under the scheme suggested."

True in every line and word, so far as it goes, but while the going against an entrenched evil is good, why not go the whole way? There is no longer rightful place in the judicial or semi-judicial system of the State for old-fashioned magistrates, limited in number or not, and removed from the temptation of holding court and imposing sentences for fee or not. This scandal of long duration will not be cured by any makeshift or compromise. It will be relieved when it is definitely abated, and not before.

We have taken our own shots at the magisterial abuse, but have never been deluded that the fire amounted to anything except wasted ammunition.

Unless the Legislature has acquired an access of grace and a freedom from petty politics it has given no sign of enjoying or desiring, it will be only a few weeks before it will be turning loose upon the people the usual wholesale appointments of magistrates, most of whom are ignorant and some of whom it may be counted upon, will be venal.—Raleigh Times.

### TAX EXEMPT SECURITIES

Just as long as the fear and desire to escape taxation causes those who have money to invest to put them in tax exempt securities, the tax income will steadily decrease, and values are decreased as well and this will accelerate the situation, for the reason as the money of the country is withdrawn and sent to Washington in exchange for bonds will business, agriculture and industry dwindle for lack of capital.

All property should be taxed, and should be made to pay its share of the expense of government. It is protected by laws and the cost of government, and there is no just reason for its exemption. Why government or state bonds should be exempt any more than real estate, or personal property, has no foundation in justice or equity. We are simply ruining our country and its business interests by allowing it.—Wilson Times.

### CITRUS SODA

Californians who beg for beer have something to think about. There has been a decided rise in the softdrink trade since the advent of prohibition. Grape juice and citrus drinks have shot up miraculously.

Citrus drinks have increased 68.2 per cent the past five years.

The wine industry would gain by repeal; but what about the orange and lemon growers?

Uncle Sam drank the juice of 1,231,632,000 oranges at soda fountains last year. It took 13,330 cars to haul them to him and 6,153,460 boxes to contain them. The soda fountains of the country used 13.7 per cent of the country's total crop. This ought to

be drink, if not food, for thought to those crying for beer to produce two or three hundred millions in taxes. The lemonade drinkers accounted for 283,431,000 lemons being squeezed at soda fountains. Lemonade absorbed 15.5 per cent of the total crop.

So far as this State is concerned beer as a prosperity restorer has much less value than orange juice and lemonade.—Los Angeles Times.

### Raising College Tuition Fees More Logical Than Practical

If it were possible to be logical about higher education, or education in general, the report of the sub-committee of the Joint Appropriations Committee suggesting the elimination of free tuition at the University and other collegiate institutions which are State-supported and an increase of the fees themselves would be something to be adopted in the interest of serving the emergency.

The committee shows that tuition fees at such institutions already are extremely low. The University maximum is \$75 per session, that at the North Carolina College for Women, \$100, at State College, \$125, ranging down to nothing in the case of students at the various Teachers' Colleges. It would materially increase existing rates and charge tuition in those institutions in which it now is free.

An educational institution is something like a telephone exchange in that the cost per unit increases, instead of decreases, with the number of units served. No class of citizens gets so much for so little as college students. As to free tuition, it must be remembered that many so-called free students are beneficiaries of scholarships from which the State receives a return, but at every institution there are devices by which numerous students are carried at the expense of their fellows and of the State.

But this matter is not, unfortunately or otherwise, apt to be handled according to logic. There is involved the matter of a carefully nurtured sentiment. It is the boast of the University and other institutions that they find a way for every earnest student to carry on, however destitute he may be.

Still, if these institutions are to have their budgets cut to the blood, they must look to doing something to make the student bodies more nearly self-supporting—no matter if attendance be thereby radically decreased.—Raleigh Times.

### BANK CONCENTRATION

"Americans fondly believe that because we have 20,000 banks in contrast to some 17 banks in England, 12 Federal Reserve Banks to one central bank in England, there is no concentration of bank funds here. And once again," Business Week tells us, "the year-end banking figures have belied this belief." These figures show that ten banks, constituting one-twentieth of one per cent of the banks of the United States, have over one-fifth of the deposits of the commercial banks of the country, while one-half of one per cent of banks have over half of the total deposits. Concentration of bank deposits has occurred in the larger cities of the United States, and during the past ten years more than 10,000 small town banks have been wiped out of existence. The small bank, composed of local business men and directed by these same men, once fitted, and fitted well, the need for which it was created, but it is now becoming a thing of the past. Our authority continues: "Whether we like it or not, this situation has changed. In place of the unit store, we now have chain stores; in place of the small independent manufacturing plant, we now have the local link in a vast industrial enterprise; in place of the small utility, we have the town served by what is likely to be a region-wide utility. The hotel, the newspaper, the garage, and scores of local enterprises are now managed by employees of larger corporations, the corporations themselves doing their financial business in the industrial centers. . . This changing tendency in American life in itself is largely responsible for

## Possible Only to Farm Owners

(By Guy A. Cardwell)

In last week's letter I discussed briefly the Rural Home-Ownership situation in the United States. In this article I mentioned that the Southeastern Council would rebuild a satisfying rural civilization (in the South) through a substitution of farm ownership for tenancy.

Even though the suggested change is needed and vital to our future welfare, I expressed doubt that the plan could be advanced until farm produce values substantially increase and tax demands of government are reduced.

In considering our tenancy problem, I recalled that conditions in the little Kingdom of Denmark are very different from those in this country, and yet, like it is with us in the South, agriculture is also the chief occupation of the Danish people. From this thought it was only a step to the library shelf to see what that excellent book "Farm Life Abroad" by Dr. E. C. Branson, Kenan Professor of Rural Social Economics, The University of North Carolina, had to offer about home-ownership. Dr. Branson devoted twelve months about ten years ago to the study of rural life and farm conditions in Germany, Denmark, and France. I had the impression that I would find in his book some suggestions for the solution of our problems.

Here is what I was looking for:

### Commercial Agriculture

Now domestic agriculture is one thing and commercial agriculture is another. To a Dane, farming on a commercial basis means (1) crops to feed the farm, family and farm animals (2) Livestock to convert crop

surpluses into milk and meat products. (3) Farm industries to convert these products into fit forms for final consumers—creameries, cheese factories, egg-packing plants and the like, owned and operated by the farmers themselves, or their experts and business agents, (4) sales agencies and financial institutions of their own, on a cooperative basis, and (5) a state whose service agencies are all busy in behalf of agriculture.

### Possible Only to Farm Owners

Commercial farming is the last word in farming. It is a kind of farming that is possible to farm owners alone, and to intelligent farm owners—never to tenants and never to farm regions cursed with widespread illiteracy. There are no farm tenants in Denmark, or too few to count, less than ten percent in fact—less than two and a half percent in the American sense of the word. And there are no illiterates except the feeble-minded. Danish illiterates are only two in the thousand of population against 1.60 per thousand in the country regions of North Carolina in 1920.

Any Dane of character can own a home or a farm. The state is expending in the present three-year period twenty-two million kroner, or nearly four million dollars in American money, to help tenants and farm laborers into the full ownership of homes and farms. Danish tenants are few, but Denmark means to have none at all in it if humanly possible to put every man into a home of his own."

(Editorial Note: There seems to be an error in the percentage of rural illiteracy in North Carolina in 1920, but data are not in hand to supply a correction.)

## Tar Heel Poetry

### NOT TO BE A BEGGAR

Belvin Nathan Blalock

I knock at your factory doors America,

And ask for a chance to earn;  
My body is bent from hunger  
And my soul does yearn. . .  
Not to be a beggar.

I will work for just food, America,  
From rising to setting sun,  
I will shiver in old rags  
To help my little one . . .  
Not to be a beggar.

My wife was strong and so happy,  
America,  
Her head lifted high with pride;  
Now her spirit earthward droops,  
She fell on my breast and cried. . .  
Not to be a beggar.

Though I am hungry and ragged,  
America,  
I was born of the free and brave;  
My spirit too noble for a beggar,  
Kind death a way does pave. . .  
Not to be a beggar.

I leave a child at your door, America,  
A bread-line beggar for life;  
Make him prideless in training,  
So he'll not seek death in strife. . .  
Not to be a beggar.

### YESTERDAY

This is the path we knew,  
This is the hill—  
Where violets their perfume blew  
At evening still,

This is the same road bend,  
The same old fence,  
We swore our love could never end,  
And each day since

I have been thinking much  
Of all we said,  
The book of love we did not touch,  
Till love was dead!

And now you are gone away,  
As far as Avers go,  
And still we cry for yesterday  
Of very long ago.

—Frank L. Alderman

the concentration of banking assets  
law or no law, and it cannot be checked  
by making branch banking illegal."  
—Christian Sun.

### RASCALLY BANKERS COUNTRY'S GREATEST EVIL.

The evidence continues to pile up on Mr. Mitchell Chairman of the Board of the National City Bank of New York before the investigating committee of the Senate.

He not only made a fictitious sale of his stock to a relative in order to evade the income tax law but he has been selling out his customers, and allowing his officials and favorites to borrow money without interest from a fund set aside for this purpose, clearly a violation of the national banking laws.

If this committee will continue its investigation it will also find other things it has not yet discovered, but which the Times has been consistently calling attention to.

We hope sufficient will be disclosed to break their influence away from Washington, so that every time one of their lobbyists come down to the capital city to endeavor to influence members of congress the odium will be so great they will be told, as Woodrow Wilson told them, to go back home and stay there.

That is the only salvation for this country, for they have done more to ruin it and get us in this condition than all the rest of the evils combined.—Wilson Times.

### THE STRANGER WITHIN THE GATE

A little Jewish girl came so irregularly to the reading-room maintained by the Church's mission to Jews at Long Island that she was asked what was the matter, and she explained that she and her sister had only one dress between them. A woman who heard the story took the little girl to the nearest store and bought her a simple dress. The child barely had time to get home before her mother, a Spanish Jewess, arrived at the mission, overwhelmed, and said that her family had suffered much in this country from unfriendliness and even persecution, and this gift was the first act of kindness any of them had ever received from any Christian.—Carolina Churchman.

Art little? Do thy little well;  
And for thy comfort know  
Great men can do their greatest work  
No better than just so.—Goethe.