

THE STATE'S VOICE

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FOR STATE-WIDE CIRCULATION

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Beef Cattle Production Needed

If North Carolina has pasturage for the 75,000 beef cattle to be shipped from the drought area of the west, it is evident that it has pasturage for the raising of that number of cattle. Beef is one of the things that North Carolina does not produce in sufficient quantities to supply its own people. There is little reason why it shouldn't.

Kill the Absentee Ballot Business

The State's Voice joins with Attorney-General Brummitt in opposition to the continuance of absentee voting. The next legislature can do nothing better than to repeal the absentee ballot law. Mr. Brummitt thinks there is more need of prosecution under existing election laws than of new laws. Removal of election officials for law violations is a mighty slim punishment for an offense against the whole people of the State.

It Will Be a Wonder

Attorney Claude Bell of Dunn, has a unique job. Fifty years ago, funds from a Blackman estate were deposited with the Cumberland county clerk of court. Those funds have not been withdrawn. It is his job to find them and to disburse them. I do not know the amount of the original fund, but if it were a sum of any considerable consequence, and if investments have been regularly made and interest collected and invested, there should be a pile of money due. But it will be remarkable if the fund is found intact. I should hate to risk fifty cents on the dollar for the estimated sum at 4 per cent compound interest.

This Looks Good.

Mr. R. P. Holding, executive official of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company, of Smithfield, Dunn, Clinton, Roseboro, Louisburg, Kinston, Beaufort, New Bern, Morehead City, and Benson, says that the deposits of the system have increased more than fifty percent since January 1. That looks mighty good, from both the viewpoint of the Citizens Bank and Trust Company and that of eastern North Carolina as a whole. There must be a considerable degree of prosperity among a portion of the people at least. The writer noticed a statement in the Beaufort News the other day to the effect that the Beaufort unit of the bank, opened in February, has already deposits totaling more than \$300,000.

The Citizens Bank is not hesitating to meet any legitimate banking demand.

A True Yard Stick Must Be Used

President Roosevelt makes out a good case for the recovery program, yet it is necessary in measuring the improvement to use a true yardstick. One must take into account not merely the improvements but the ground of every improvement. Any advance that has been utterly due to the distribution of government funds, and borrowed funds at that, and would cease to be if the government funds should cease to flow, is nothing of permanent value. The Voice still thinks that the activities of the past 15 months amount to little more than making conditions as comfortable as possible while an attempt is made to find a real means of escape from the economic bog into which the country has fallen. The inauguration of planning, faulty as the plans thus far have been, is the one real step toward a final solution of the economic problems. Anything that suggests a departure from the old haphazard procedure and dog-eat-dog policy is a step forward, though many others must be taken before safe ground is attained.

It was a big convention and a good time was had by all present, presumably, but one wonders what was the use of it. The thing called a platform is a mighty small mouse for so large a mountain to bring forth.

The cost of securing renewals of State's Voice subscriptions is the big hindrance to its progress. Practically all subscribers renew when visited, but such visits cost too great a part of the dollars collected. The paper, upon the dollar basis, could be greatly improved in the course of a year or two if renewals were automatic. But the most of us don't think of such matters till somebody calls.

HOW TO GIVE THE EDITOR A LITTLE REST

You are probably aware that The State's Voice is a one-man paper. In addition to the work you have discovered that that one man has been doing, he is also writing six to eight columns of editorials for The Dunn Dispatch each week.

90 Percent Renew When Visited.

This hot weather the circulation work is taxing him severely. Probably 90 percent or more of the last year subscribers renew when visited. But the dollar subscription is so small that few conceive of their dollars being of vital importance, and therefore neglect to renew till The Voice man calls, when it is only occasionally that the subscriber does not pull out his dollar and renew his subscription.

It Is Pleasant But a Great Tax.

The editor enjoys going about and greeting the subscribers, but the renewal work is so slow that it is seriously retarding the addition of new subscribers and is putting an additional burden upon the one-man force of The Voice. It is expensive and prevents entering new territory.

Absences Make Our Work Harder.

He must have those dollars or quit eating. This

Repealists Raising Their Heads

Just so soon as the political schemers and the friends of liquor get in position to talk and act without danger of rebuke from the hundreds of thousands of enemies of the legalized liquor trade in North Carolina they become bold and begin to talk and to resolve. Any kind of excuse will set them off. The other day at Raleigh, it was the suggestion that northeastern North Carolina is being overflowed with Virginia liquor that formed the excuse for a resolution by the delegates from the First Congressional district favoring the repeal of the Turlington Act.

North Carolina blockaders were formerly used as a bogeyman. But it seems now that the blockaders have left the Albemarle section in the lurch. Poor fellows! Booze-fighters of that area are dependent upon liquor bought at the present largely prohibitive prices in Virginia ABC stores and brought down to the Albemarle section and sold, of course, at a further profit!

If liquor is selling from two to five dollars a quart in the State-operated stores of Virginia it would seem quite certain to us that the flow southward through bootlegger channels will not long flood the Albemarle section. Many may try a few quarts for "the big" of the thing, but the average Albemarian is much better off than prices of potatoes, beans, etc., would suggest, if the payment of such prices on a large scale continues long.

In the beginning of the new repeal regime, it was supposed that North Carolina bootleggers would be a menace to Virginia with its liquor "controlled," and its bootleggers and blockaders put out of the running. But, lo, it is now North Carolina, already presumed to be drowned in blockader liquor, which must protect itself against Virginia's legal booze, sold at almost prohibitive prices and in limited quantities to any one buyer, yet brought to North Carolina after such purchase and sold at sufficient profit to pay for the risk taken and the time and work given the traffic.

The excuse sounds exceedingly thin. It suggests the ingenuity, however, that will be employed by repealists in the forthcoming legislature. The 300,000 who registered their opposition to the legalized sale of liquor in North Carolina will be scattered from Manteo to Murphy while the friends of booze congregate in Raleigh. The latter will be as bold as you please next January to May. It becomes even thus early evident that an attempt will be made to repeal the Turlington Act. Such an attempt is of a character to make anti-repealists wish they had made a united battle for only dry legislative candidates. But they did not desire to relegate all other issues to the limbo nor to bring any disturbing bones of contention into the recent primaries. But it is easy to make the anti-repealists repent of their generosity. It was generally conceded that the liquor issue in this State had been settled by the "general election" held last November 7. "Wet" speakers and newspapers have conceded as much. It would better be so. Better it were for members of the legislature next winter who disregard the expressed will of the people in that November election that they had never consented to become candidates.

The people will not always be trifled with. Liberties were taken during the last session of the General Assembly on the assumption that the prevailing sentiment in the whiskey besogged atmosphere in legislative circles represented the sentiment of the people. One lesson should be enough.

But is it?

summer weather, too, makes it very hard to see the people. Holidays, vacation trips, and forty other things result in visits for renewals without profit. In one building the other day three men whom we hoped to see were found to be out of town. That means harder work for The Voice man while many others are taking their summer's vacation.

All I am asking is for subscribers to send in their dollars for renewals without waiting for a visit. When it takes two or three trips to find one of you at your place of business, the dollar you do pay has already been more than earned.

The difficulty of securing renewals is the only bar to The State's Voice growing in both number of subscribers and in quality.

I am going to send some of you notices by mail. Please do not let me lose the cost thereof and still have to go out and collect a living for these hot weeks.

Twenty-five Dunn subscribers might heed the above and save us useless calls. You might not be in if I called, but somebody will take your money if you call at The Dispatch office. You know when it is convenient for you to renew; I do not.

People You Should Know

(Continued from Page Three)

B. from the State University. It will be interesting to note the attitude and the ability of Mr. Allsbrook when he succeeds to the senate seat formerly held in succession by the Long brothers.

E. L. Travis.

The name is familiar, isn't it? It was only a few years since he was chairman of the Corporation Commission. But many things have passed under the bridge since, and here are a million young folk who have become cognizant of things since Mr. Travis was in the public eye as chairman of one of the State's chief departments.

He still has his home at old Halifax. Court week, I should think, would be a picnic for him, for Halifax is just about the smallest county-seat town in the State, and I believe Mr. Travis is the only surviving lawyer in the town. The Halifax bar is scattered about at Enfield, Scotland Neck, Weldon, and Roanoke Rapids.

But do you older readers know that Mr. Travis is a native of Virginia? He came from that State when he was a boy of fifteen to make his home with his grandfather Clark at Halifax. There he attended the Halifax school and studied law under the former notable barrister, R. O. Burton.

Governor Kitchen's administration gave him a friend at court and when a vacancy occurred on the Corporation Commission, his Governor friend appointed him to it. Twice he was re-elected, but resigned during his second full term.

Mr. Travis is a gentleman of the old school. He married a Miss Grady. Their son, who was clerk of the Halifax court, and was most highly esteemed in Halifax county, died last fall in the prime of life.

A Popular Clerk of Court.

I have on former occasions mentioned the fine quality of many of the North Carolina clerks of court. Clerk M. D. Owens of Wilson is one of that kind. Born on a Wilson county farm, the youngest of eleven children, he was not reared with the proverbial silver spoon in his mouth. There were hardly "silver spoons" enough to go around. Educational opportunities were at a premium. The baby Owens boy did get a chance, nevertheless, to attend Trinity Park school and to take a year in Atlantic Christian College.

He spent several years in the employment of the American Express Company; next he was in the clothing store business till he took it into his head to become Wilson's clerk of court. He went after the job and got it four years ago.

For renomination this year he was opposed by one of Wilson's popular young lawyers, but Mr. Owens ran off with the nomination by a four-to-one vote.

An Older of the Eleven.

In the Clerk's office I am introduced to Alfred C. Owens, one of the older of the eleven. Alfred Owens was a farmer, had a family when he moved to town and found employment as a salesman in a store. Becoming a justice of the peace, he decided to study law, despite the fact he was over forty. He did so and won his license in February 1933. He is a member of the city's board of aldermen.

I advise visitors to Wilson, if they desire to meet a friendly man, to visit the clerk's office.

Henry E. Faison of Clinton and ye editor were presented with an identical grandson a week or so ago, the first for each, but the youngster bears the Faison tag—Ferninand Johnson Faison, Jr.