

PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

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the Young family, that of the little girl, moved away, the big boy was not at all disturbed, if fully aware. But four years later, the Ruggles family came South, and, lo, in the course of a few years the paths of the lad and lassie crossed in the sandhills of North Carolina and marriage resulted. E. W. Ruggles is one of the consequences of that marriage. His father is dead, but his mother, Mrs. A. S. Ruggles, still lives at Southern Pines and is the oldest person in respect to residence in the town of Southern Pines, and an authority upon the events of the Sandhills. Some of these times I hope to see her and fill up on the history of the wonderful Sandhills development.

With Mr. Ruggles the other day as I talked with him was a youthful doctor of philosophy, W. W. Cruze, hailing from Tennessee, a Ph. D. graduate of Peabody of the class of 1934. He is one of the two teachers of psychology at State and one of Mr. Ruggles' extension workers. At that time he was teaching a class at Warsaw.

A Man Who Kept Working.

Mr. S. J. Adams is the competent chief clerk of the Wake County auditor's office. The county commissioners, for some reason fixed his wages at \$3.00 a day, though the sum of \$1,800, the usual salary, had been budgeted. Mr. Adams couldn't very well accept the \$3.00 wage, but somebody had to do the work. So he kept plugging away, but was able, being an old bachelor, and with a rainy-day provision laid up, to keep on the job without any pay. A bill has been introduced in the legislature to restore his salary, but nobody quite knows, it seems, what he will get for those months which he has worked without salary.

There are three men in that auditor's office, all gray-headed, when and where any hair is still left, but there is no office in the state that has a better reputation for its output. When Auditor Holding says it is thus and so, it has always turned out that it is just that way. It is hard to beat ye old-timers.

Half of the Republican Senators.

I am going to tell you here about half of the Republican senators. It is Senator J. P. Gibbs, of the 30th district. He lives at Burnsville, Yancey County. He was in the house in 1921.

Mr. Gibbs had one year of study in the U. S. Grant University, Tennessee, a school which was consolidated with another in Chattanooga. He is so much of a Republican, you see, that he even went out of the state to attend a college named for a Republican president.

Nevertheless, he is a sensible and likeable customer.

Mr. Gibbs is a farmer, growing the grains and raising fine-blooded Guernsey and Herefords for sale to breeders. Not only that; he is the owner of feldspar and mica property, which minerals are mined for him on a royalty basis.

The Mechlenburg Delegation.

Mechlenburg is one of the few counties which have three representatives. They are Wm. F. Scholl, lawyer; Edward T. Tonissen, and Paul R. Erwin, lawyer.

Mr. Scholl is a native of Wake, reared right up here at Holly Springs and having relatives at Angier and probably at other points in Harnett county. He is a fine young man. He is the author of a bill to kill the absentee ballot law, but will have to fight for it on a minority report. But here's hoping that he and his two Mechlenburg colleagues will make a gallant fight against the abomination. You will find Mr. Scholl's picture in this paper.

Mr. Tonissen is a native of New York, a son of an immigrant from the Scandinavian country. He came south about thirty years ago. He is approaching his fiftieth birthday. He is the Southern manager of the Consolidated Cork Corporation, and an expert for the N. C. Railroad. I am disposed to consider Mr. Tonissen a mighty solid citizen. E. W. Price so adjudges him, and I place much confidence in the judgment of the secretary of the Industrial Commission.

Paul Erwin is the youngest of Mecklenburg's trio. He is a graduate of Duke University, receiving the degrees of A. B. and LL. B. in 1931. Like the other two, Representative Erwin is not a native of Mechlenburg County. Though he has been practicing so short a while he has been recorder pro tem of the Mechlenburg county court.

The three Mechlenburgers sit together and seem to dwell in the utmost harmony.

Liquor Question Always The Concern Of Religious Groups

By CHARLOTTE STORY PERKINSON

The fight against the liquor evil began in the churches and will always be the concern of all those who have the common good of their fellows at heart, the group which Mr. C. A. Paul calls religious. The word Christian would be far better.

In all the Bible I know of no words which better define a true Christian or a truly religious person—no better test to apply to one's self to ascertain his real spiritual condition, than these: "Ye know ye have passed from death unto life if ye love the brethren." In short there is no guess work about it. You are sure that you possess the spirit of Jesus Christ in your heart if you have a genuine interest in the spiritual, physical and economic welfare of your fellowman.

And it follows if such are your feelings, you cannot fail to concern yourself over the world's oldest and greatest social evil, the thing which blights brilliant minds and makes strong men weak, pitiable and helpless and their children born but to die.

Bootleggers No Political Menace.

As time went on and the power of the liquor interests increased to such an extent that they became a menace to our institutions of free government, some of the politicians joined with the members and leaders in the churches to throw off their stranglehold. The activities of the Brewers Association had become so obnoxious and so dangerous that the Senate ordered an investigation in which our own late Senator Overman took a prominent part, and if you would see the dangers we face politically now, you have but to read this record. It should be remembered that in the old days the Brewers owned a large percentage of all the saloons and manipulated large blocks of votes of those who were connected with the saloons or patronized them. And the records say that 90 percent of the drunks were drunk on beer.

The fight which began away back in the seventies with women praying in the streets before saloons or upon their sawdust floors, and culminated in the passage of the eighteenth amendment, was long and bitter. Contests involving the liquor question have always been attended with a good deal of bitterness, more formerly than now, because of the strong entrenchment of the liquor interests.

The 1933 Election Expressed State's Sentiment

We had a right to hope that the matter was settled, at last for a while. But those who think more of gain than they do of the welfare of their fellows never rested until they brought about repeal, and the situation which we as a State now face. Because the liquor question has become more or less of a political baseball and human nature what it is, there are some politicians who will compromise and make liquor the goat, as the opponents of the sales tax, or some of them, are now doing. Also some other supposedly dry individuals.

"But we have liquor anyway, why not legalize it and get the revenue?" you say. Yes, but certainly there is no one who can say that the State government is controlled by any organization of bootleggers or is in any danger of being. It can and will be controlled by the organized liquor interests if we allow them to do business in this state. Out of every dollar of revenue received the state will have to pay out many times as much in providing for an increase in police officers and in caring for those whom an increase in poverty, misery, insanity and general wretchedness has made incapable or unable to provide for themselves. It is a strange paradox and state of affairs which keeps a man from getting a decent job if he drinks, and would punish severely all drunken drivers, and then even considers going into the liquor business and making more men drunk and incapable of driving or getting employment.

Then comes the matter of advertising. When the traffic becomes legal the liquor concerns immediately begin to advertise to increase consumption of its products and the consumption does increase day by day, and year by year, until we have many more drunkards and potential drunkards than we have under prohibition, I don't care how black you paint it. To me it is worth keeping the liquor folks out not to be faced at every turn with their advertising. Three out of every ten drinkers become drunkards, statistics prove. There may be many speakeasies in Raleigh where liquor is sold, but so far they are not apparent to the casual observer and not so obnoxious as to make it unsafe for any lady to go about safely night or day. It was not so in

the old days. I agree with my friend Peterson. There are thousands of ugly, unsightly hog pens in North Carolina, but if one's mind does not run to the ugly, they do not see them. I prefer that the ugly and evil things in my city should be kept out of the sight of the young.

Legalization Would Be Betrayal.

In the fall of 1933 the church people of North Carolina, opposed by almost every politician then in power, voted against the return of the legal liquor traffic by a very large majority. All were advised by the leaders of that campaign that a vote against repeal was a vote against liquor, and a warning to our next legislature, and the outcome was so interpreted. This intensive campaign was waged for no other reason than because these so-called religious people really believed that the liquor traffic is against the well-being of their fellow men. If this group of people seem bitter and write ugly letters to their representatives, it is because they feel that they have been betrayed and their indignation is righteous, and justified.

Enforcement of Prohibition the Easiest "Control."

It has always seemed to me that the best way to handle the liquor business is to prohibit it and then to enforce the law insofar as it is possible. And right here, let me add that prohibition can be enforced much more easily than all the prohibitory clauses in the Hill bill. It was because the liquor dealers broke every law made to control their business that prohibition came into being. We may start the vicious circle all over again, but if this generation legalizes it, the next will outlaw it, because the liquor traffic is inherently evil and conditions surrounding it become intolerable to saint and sinner alike. It is against the common weal, the supreme reason for the existence of all law and of government itself and the heart of all true religion.

What Is Ahead Of The United States?

(Biblical Recorder.)

Charles A. Beard, the historian, has an article in the New Republic with the title, "That Promise of American Life," in which he makes some modest suggestions about what we may have in the United States in the near future. Knowing his history, Mr. Beard advises us that, as the political, social, and religious backgrounds of our country are different from those of the countries of the Old World with their inheritance of the feudal system and state churches, so our development may be expected to take a different course. We take this to mean that we are not going to Communism, Fascism, or Nazism, in Mr. Beard's view. In the past American life has been economic and realistic, a conquest of material things. We have learned to produce; our problem now is to do the most with what we produce. Mr. Beard believes that three ideas with reference to this have found lodgement in the minds of the people of the United States. These are: "(1)" It is possible for great technology to provide a high standard of life for the whole mass of the American people; (2) on the side of engineering rationality, the immediate task is to make a standard-of-life budget for the whole mass of the American people and to indicate the technological operations necessary to bring that standard into being through management and labor; (3) the fullest possible mass production cannot be effected under inherited capitalistic practices and the latter must give way to any extent required to fulfill the law of mass-production economy."

It will be observed that Mr. Beard has the same idea as the President. With our immense production in this machine age, every man should have a decent living; there is enough for all, or there may be if our great resources and new inventions and improved machinery are used for the common good. Just how the proper adjustments are to be made Mr. Beard does not profess to know, but he believes that the promise will come to realization since the American people have so determined in their minds.

Here goes one copy of *The State's Voice* without a long, heavy article.

Senator Spence's amendment to the Hill bill would require White Lake, Page's Lake, Lake Waccamaw, and other points without police to have liquor stores if the Hill bill should become law. Senator Spence, doubtless, has the Moore county resorts in mind.