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BICKETT TALKS TO NORTH CAROLINIANS IN N. Y.

Speech of Attorney General Thomas W. Bickett to the New York North Carolina Society, May 20th—Loved John Charles McNeill—The New Declaration. Keely vs. Moonshiners.

Raleigh News and Observer.
Mr. Toastmaster, Fellow Tar-Heels and Friends of Less Lucky Stars:

Dr. Talmage once said: "The scientist may puzzle us about when we came, and the theologian may worry us about whither we are going, but neither scientist nor theologian can rob us of the satisfaction of being here."

Tonight I can give a hearty amen to the words of the preacher. Fresh from the land of the Cornucopia and happy in the warmth of your reception, I am in a superlatively optimistic mood, and subscribe to the full capitalization of the hour. The common sense of today pleads the statute of limitations against the worries of the past, and the laws of North Carolina make dealing in futures a crime.

Dear John Charles McNeill, in lines that smell and smack of the soil, exposes the folly of making all our deposits in the Bank of Tomorrow:

I knowed a' ol' man died powerful rich—

Two mules, en lan' en a cow.
I jis' soon die fum fallin' in a ditch,
Fer he went to his grave fum's plow.
He never had nuthin' 'twas good to eat,
Ner no piller upon his bed;
He never took time to dance wid his feet,
But he's gwine a take a long time dead.

I knowed a' ol' ooman wut scrubbed an' hoed

En never didn't go nowhar,
En when she died de people knowed
Dat she had supp'n hid bout dar.
She mought a' dressed up en' a done supp'n wrong,
En had her a coht-case ple'd,
But she didn't hev time to live veh long;
She's gwine have a plenty dead.

So I say, if I manage to save enough
Fum de wages I gits dis yur,
I is right den takin' a few days off
At one thing an' ano'er.
'Ca'se while I is got my mouf en eyes
En a little wheel in my head,
I's gwine a live fas', fer when I dies
I'll sho be a long time dead.

AUTHORITY ON MONEY.

Upon being asked to speak to a New York audience, my first impulse was to talk about money. Now was not that a singular contradiction of the law of association of ideas? I suppose the thought must have been born of a subconscious conviction of my ability to handle the subject in masterful fashion. Questions of finance, high or low, frenzied or frigid, are so easy of solution to the man who lives in a village of two thousand people. He can approach their consideration with an absolutely quiet mind. Take the knottiest problem that vexes Wall street, and on a night like this I can easily dispose of it between soup and cigars. The secret of my power is this: As the old maid is an ultimate authority on children, so is a North Carolina State officer the ultimate authority on money—neither has any. But I shall refrain from elucidating the subject. It is apparent that it will be of no interest to you on this occasion. I can see that you all feel and I realize that you have a constitutional right to feel, if but for a single night, that you have plenty of money and no poor kin.

So, eschewing everything that is of argument or exegesis, putting behind me the great temptation to lay before you a formula for the healing of the nation, and steering far from those high zones traversed by the oratorical aviator, I am just going to gossip

with you a little while in family fashion, about "the folks down home."

The entire family, regardless of age, sex, race, color or previous condition of servitude, send loving greetings to the boys. We all feel that you are our big brothers who have stood the acid test of this metropolis and have proved pure gold. Frankly, we are a bit proud of you and don't care who knows it.

CONSPIRACY AGAINST US.

Indeed, there seems to be on foot a conspiracy to rob us of the virtue that has made us famous—our humility. And the head and front of this conspiracy seems to be the President of the United States. Why, he came down home and found an editor who is so modest that sometimes his very paper blushes, and made him the first Lord of the Admiralty. This imposed an awful tax on our humility. Well, I will observe in passing, that if that editor ever takes a notion to get out a pokeberry edition of the United States Navy, the nations of the earth will sit up and take notice.

And then he went out to Missouri and found a man born in the same county as Andy Jackson and myself, and placed him at the head of the department that is doing more for the physical and financial salvation of the folks than any other agency of the government. Our humility creaked and groaned under this added strain. But when he came up here and took a former president of this society and made him ambassador from the greatest republic to the greatest throne, our humility went to smithereens; there was a volcanic eruption of pride, and Gath and Askelon heard us shout for joy!

KEELEY VS. MOONSHINER.

But the most unique appointment made by this administration was that of Col. W. H. Osborne, of Greensboro, as commissioner of internal revenue. The foresight, the sagacity of that appointment was downright uncanny. Talk about the Webb bill! And it has brought on some talk. But in the cause of prohibition it is as the little finger to the loin compared with making the head of a Keeley Institute the official foe of the moonshiner. This appointment is a shrewd embodiment of Mr. Wilson's great doctrine that the surgeon's knife is used to heal and not to destroy. Col. Osborne will never be content with catching the moonshiner. His mission will be to cure him. And I have no doubt that he has already issued orders to all his deputies that as soon as they clap the bracelets on a moonshiner to at once inoculate him with chloride of gold, thereby completely shifting his affections from mint juleps to milk shakes;

And this is not all—but piling Pelion on Ossa we have Funnyfold M. Simmons leading the United States Senate, Claude Kitchin, the best rough and tumble debater in the House of Representatives, and Locke Craig, who, having vainly endeavored to persuade the railroads that it pays to be a Christian, is now preparing to teach them that the wages of sin is death.

And, although the old State has generously contributed to

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A COLUMN OF STATE NEWS

Short Items of North Carolina News of General Interest To Scotland County—In Condensed Form For Exchange Readers—Gathered From Contemporaries

The latest city directory of Charlotte estimates the city's population to be 48,005.

The old Charlotte mint will be abolished after June 15. This removes one of Charlotte's historic places.

Safe crackers visited Kernersville Sunday morning blowing the postoffice safe. They secured \$1,263 in stamps and \$50 in money.

Thursday the State issued eight charters to new North Carolina enterprises, the authorized capital of these amounting to \$1,090,000.

The police of Durham emptied five hundred bottles of beer on the ground in the jail yard Saturday. The beer had been confiscated.

Asheville comes forward with another strike. The street car men and the market delivery boys struck and now the boot-blacks have walked out.

Trinity College, with its endowment of \$1,400,000, gives North Carolina the distinction of having the most richly endowed college in the South.

Mrs. Metta Fogler Townsend of Greensboro has been awarded a prize of \$100 by the National Association Opposed to Woman Suffrage for an essay on the subject.

The North Carolina Epworth League Conference in session at Burlington during the past week, at its closing meeting chose Wilmington as its next place of meeting.

Senator Overman in an interview at Salisbury Saturday expressed the belief that it will be proven that the "insidious lobby" as charged by President Wilson, does exist.

Judge Bragaw who presided over the Superior Court of Mecklenburg county the past week gave the women of the segregated district of Charlotte five days to clear out and get away from the city.

At the conclusion of the exercises at the University commencement at Chapel Hill, the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred on President Marshall and on Charles Alphonso Smith, of the University of Virginia.

The delay of a Southern train caused a Charlotte baseball team to miss a connection in Greensboro and failure to reach Durham in time to play the game Thursday. The umpire declared the game forfeited to Durham, 9 to 0.

The Monroe Enquirer tells of how a goat caught the mumps. Mr. Clayton Parker of Buford township had a mild case of mumps and concluded to shear the family goat. Billy took the mumps and his head swelled up to about double its normal size.

In the will of Herbert Luttrell of Fayetteville who died May 24th., E. L. Utley, his nephew, for the past three years a fugitive from justice, is left \$5,000. Utley escaped from the State prison three years ago, where he had been sentenced for a term for murder.

Bishop J. M. Horner, of Asheville; Governor Craig, former Governor Glenn and Senator Simmons have appealed to President Wilson to commute the sentence of William Breece, convicted of a violation of the national bank laws at Asheville. The president is considering the matter.

CONDENSED NEWS FROM EVERYWHERE

A Column of the Week's Happenings Throughout the World Told in Brief—Gathered From Our Contemporaries and Boiled Down For Our Readers.

Snow fell in Chicago Saturday. The Standard Oil Company will cut a \$60,000,000 melon for its stockholders tomorrow.

President Wilson says Japan's latest note opens the way for "very interesting and friendly negotiations."

Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, introduced an anti-trust amendment to the underwood tariff bill Thursday.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Levi Quandenfield, of Philadelphia, a son. The father is 70 years of age and the mother 15.

The Supreme Court has ruled that street car lines are not subject to regulation of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Convictions of five officials of the American Naval Stores Co., of Savannah, were set aside by the Supreme Court Monday.

According to an opinion expressed by Attorney McReynolds, neither the Standard Oil Co. or the tobacco trust have been dissolved.

Former President Taft visited the Capital Saturday. He got lost trying to find the office of Speaker Clark, and before leaving declared he was the happiest man in the United States.

Senor Ossio, of Chile, who arrived in New York Friday, gave out the information that John D. Rockefeller is a pauper beside him. He is the nitrate king and is said to be worth nearly a billion.

Hugh B. Buist, a prominent citizen of Greenville, S. C., committed suicide recently by drinking carbolic acid. He left a note saying he was determined to die, and left directions as to the disposal of his property.

The first man to pay the death penalty for such a crime in the District of Columbia was Nathaniel Green, colored, who was hanged Monday for assaulting a white woman Christmas night. Green confessed and the President refused clemency.

A train on the Norfolk & Western Railroad plunged down an embankment near Cleveland, Va., last week and demolished a home near the tracks, scalding to death Mrs. J. Owens and her daughter, who were in the house, and injuring a number of those on the train.

Incensed because his wife left him, Robert Roach, aged 27, of Canton, Ohio, started in to destroy her family Thursday night and succeeded in killing his mother-in-law, sister-in-law and 16-months-old baby, and seriously wounding an officer who attempted to arrest him.

In response to an appeal signed "The Ladies," and which read as follows: "We, as the ladies, ask that you prohibit the wearing of split skirts without undergarments; we hope that you will take this seriously"—the police force of Indianapolis, Ind., have been instructed to enforce the order.

A judge at Clearfield, Pa., handed out an odd sentence a few days ago when he sentenced H. L. Drew, a prominent young man, to have his hair clipped once each month for the next year. Drew, who was very proud of his luxurious locks, had been convicted of larceny and bail jumping. He begged the court to send him to jail, but was refused his request.

THE VICE-PRESIDENT AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY

Speech of Vice-President Marshall Delivered at the Commencement Exercises at the University of North Carolina. Believer in Evolution Along Social and Economic Lines.

Greensboro Daily News.

Vice-President Marshall was introduced by President Venable in a happy talk of several minutes, and spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, Friends and Fellow-citizens:

"I do not know your president very well, but I think I may venture in view of the laudatory remarks which he made in presenting me to you, to tell you a story. I was born before the days of 'sodywater,' and I well remember when the first sody-fountain came to town in Indiana, and old Uncle Jim Epherson, with his good wife Mary, came to town one Saturday afternoon and went in where the 'sody fountain' was, and Uncle Jim ordered a glass and tendered it to his good wife, and she said: 'Naw, Paw, your stomach's stronger than mine; you take it fust, and if it don't hurt you I will try it.' So Uncle Jim drank it down, and ordered another glass, and said: 'Here, Maw, take it down; 'taint nothing but sweetened wind.' And I hope your distinguished and lovable president will pardon me when I say that his method of presentation has not affected my attitude toward life at all. I realize it is only sweetened wind. I took it down and it has not hurt me. I am a Hoosier to the manner born and in the manner bred, the son of a Hoosier, whose infant eyes first caught the light through the primeval forests of Indiana, the grandson of old Virginia, and thus I come as a connecting link between the old time and the new, to tell you that there is scarcely a county in my good state of Indiana where there are not splendid citizens with recollections of the early days, and pleasant recollections of the fact that men from the Old North State helped to make Indiana what I believe her to be—the greatest commonwealth in the Republic. And so it is an unusual pleasure for me to come into the Old North State and face its citizenship, and to look, with the permission of Mrs. Marshall, in the eyes of the fair women of North Carolina.

"I assume that upon such an occasion as this, that perhaps some thoughts that may be elevated to that high plane may fitly be spoken touching this university and touching this work. We believe now in evolution, and I think we should believe more in evolution along social and economic lines, if we would but remember that evolution is much like a tree, which has two ways to show itself to human kind. The tree grows in circumference every year; it strikes its roots deep in the ground; throws its head higher to the sky; it spreads its branches farther and farther and furnishes shade for people; and yet the tree has fruit. And sometimes when the boy picks it in the spring of the year, when it is green, and he gets appendicitis, he thinks the tree ought to be cut down, and says 'by its fruit it ought to be known'; and as it has not good fruit, the tree ought to go. And so, sometimes in the fall of the year, the fruit is unfit for use, because it is too ripe. And, if we are always to look at the present condition and the outward manifestation of the fruit of our life, there may be many of us who would say that the civilization under which we are living is one that ought not to endure, be-

cause, in some instances, its fruit is green and knarly and unfit for use. But we ought not to so consider all the affairs of life. We ought to remember that the fruit is but an evanescent thing so far as the tree is concerned.

"May I illustrate by calling your attention to just one of the phases of our modern life; I refer to the art of printing. The art of printing is a good thing for the world regardless of the fact that there is a 'good deal' of fruit that comes from the printing press that is not fit for public consumption. Some of it is green and knarly, and some of it is overripe, and the people are beginning to inquire as to whether the discovery of the art of printing is really a good thing for the world, and they are wondering as to whether the accounts of murders, suicides, divorces and other crimes of the republic, which are described in the headlines of the newspapers do not disclose the fact that the art of printing would be far better if it had never existed at all. We must not look at it in that light. The newspaper man admits the criticisms of the public are correct. The newspaper man says that he could run a newspaper on anything larger than a cider press, if it were not, for the public demand for such material; and so he passes it back to you, and says that you are responsible for the fact that his paper is filled with material of this type; and so we reason in a circle and nobody knows whether the newspaper is to blame or the reading public is to blame; or whether the one or the other or both are to blame—but that is no reason why the art of printing should become a lost art. It has enabled this republic to sink its roots deep into the ground, and regardless of present conditions, regardless of the doubt and fear of many people of this land of ours, I am here to say for one man in the republic that I believe God planned the United States of America, and that God will keep it in His own good hand until the Angel of the Apocalypse proclaims 'Time is, Time was, Time shall be no more.'

STANDS FOR INDIVIDUALISM.

"Now, without being partisan upon this occasion, following up the Mecklenburg declaration of independence, came the declaration of independence written by Thomas Jefferson. I don't want to speak in a partisan sense today, although I imagine there is no place in the universe that a Democrat could not get a squarer deal than in North Carolina. (Applause.)

"Now, I have been a follower of Thomas Jefferson my whole life long; but even the best of men have their limitations. It was of Mr. Jefferson that there should be a separation of church and state in America, and you remember that there were but three things which he thought worthy to have inscribed on the simple monument at Monticello, and they were that he was the author of the bill for religious freedom, the writer of the declaration of independence, and the founder of the University of Virginia; but that education and religious freedom and the guarantee of the rights of man as contained in the declaration of independence were the most important

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