

The Charlotte News

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1921.

LET'S THINK OF OTHER THINGS.

We are disposed to regard the reporters' story from Raleigh relative to the predicted Daniels-Simmons contest three years from now with the same attitude that we look upon the gubernatorial race in 1924.

A LESSON IN ROADS.

The bad roads of Mecklenburg county were never worse and as the majority of the roads are of this description, traffic in this community has hardly ever been so difficult since the time when we first began to progress toward better roads.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

The interstate commerce commission has ruled that South Carolina must raise its rates on the passenger trains and that other alterations in the present tariffs on the railroads must be made so as to comply with national levels.

A WORTHY UNDERTAKING.

Good fortune to the Elks of this city who are thinking of building a modern opera house in connection with a new home which this benevolent organization has been contemplating for some time.

A DOLLAR FOR EVERY AUTOMOBILE.

There are 125,000 licensed automobiles in North Carolina and North Carolina has contributed \$125,000 to the suffering children of Europe, a dollar the state has given for every automobile owned by its citizens.

THE GAMBLERS.

Practically everything that humanity has attained to, every reform that has been brought about, every upward step in the scale of civilization, has come about through the spirit of the gambler that has been in the heart of some one man or some single class of men.

America came to be discovered by Columbus because in the soul of Columbus was this spirit of speculation, it wanted to take a chance, a vision he had him enthralled and driven by the resistless sweep of this gambling spirit, he set sail and this rich and piteous republic was his reward.

So might be enumerated a veritable catalogue of the great events of all history indicating that the big things have been attained under the driving dynamics of the gambling spirit. Men leap away from the commonplace and the routine and the monotonous; they dream dreams and they see visions, and they wonder if by doing this or that, if by accepting this theory or practice of life and conduct, a better way will not be discovered, and when they have the daring to make the plunge, the discovery lies at their feet.

The dreamer and the visionist who are invested with this spirit of faking-a-chance remain in ill-repute, even though the world of attainments is regarded as their trophy. We are so obsessed with practical, material, matter-of-fact things, we are so pinned to the beaten paths, we are so disposed to cling to the usual and to ignore the unusual, that the man whose vision stretches far through the mysteries of the unknown and whose spirit is speculative enough to take the plunge, is held in disregard.

That accounts in large measure for the status of this nation at this time as it regards the other parts of the world. We are over here all to ourselves, going about our business in the same old beaten way, doing the things we have been doing generations, thinking the thoughts our fathers thought, and so enmeshed are we in this practical, commonplace, easy-going sort of a way that we have spurned the opportunity of doing a great big thing and outlining for ourselves a new national ideal. We wouldn't have anything to do with the rest of the world, because Washington in the decades ago said something about wishing that his great country would never form entangling alliances. We still have Washington's point of view, old and discarded as it actually is to all intents and purposes, and we are stubbornly refusing to leave it. It suits us, it meets the beliefs of the leaders of the people and the exceptional man who said that the biggest duty of humanity is to become entangled with his fellow-man in an enterprise of uplift and altruism is soon to leave the White House discredited by the masses, crucified by his enemies and the enemies of a great Christian ideal. Woodrow Wilson had the vision, then he had the initiative of the gambler to take the chance, but—

BRANCH BANK DESERVED.

A committee of bankers from North and South Carolina consulted with members of the Federal reserve board in Richmond Friday in reference to the establishment of a branch bank at some point in the Carolinas.

THE SCOUT BAND.

A very diligent and worth-while effort is being made to equip and maintain a boy scout band in Charlotte and partial success has already attended the attempt. An aggregation of some 40-odd young fellows, identified with the scout movement, are practicing and receiving instruction twice a week under a competent teacher and it is already clearly indicated that the band can be organized so far as the development of the proper talent is concerned.

NEGRO WOMEN FROM SOUTH WANT PROBE.

Washington, Feb. 12.—Negro women from 29 states, meeting here at the call of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today presented to the national woman's party a request that it urge congress to investigate the alleged disfranchisement of negro women in the south at the last general election.

AVOID THE WASTE.

And the wear and tear caused by undigested food that exhausts your digestive organs, does not nourish your blood, and weakens instead of giving strength. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a splendid tonic for the blood, stomach, kidneys and liver. It creates an appetite, perfects digestion and assimilation, secures 100 per cent nourishment from your food.

A SAFELY-BALANCED CIVILIZATION.

The fact that North Carolina is becoming more dominantly urban than it is rural is taken by The University News-Letter to be an encouraging trend. We doubt it. In a society that is so located as to be dependent upon agriculture for the creation of its wealth, it is difficult to understand the logic which suggests that it is better to be an industrial state than an agricultural. We are looking at it from an economic and not from a social standpoint.

"We have long had too many producers," says The News Letter, "of existence necessities—food, fuel, shelter, clothing, and the like—and too few little consumers, offering nearly farmers ready cash for everything they produce. Our apple crop illustrates the situation. We produced last year nearly eight million bushels, but barely more than three hundred thousand bushels found their way into the channels of commerce. The balance were consumed at home, sold for a song, fed to the pigs, or left to rot on the trees.

Under this condition of heavy rural majorities in the open country, this State has found it difficult to move up upon higher levels in mass organization for economic and social advantages. The farmers find it difficult to organize for business enterprise, for county health departments with whole-time county health officers, public health nurses, local clinics and dispensaries, for local libraries with county-wide service, and the like; and we think about State institutions of learning and benevolence as individuals and localities rather than in commonwealth terms, as North Carolinians.

But during the last five years the city-ward drift has been enormous in North Carolina. There are not fewer people in our country regions, but there are relatively fewer, because our city populations have increased so rapidly. And what is even more significant, the wealth produced by our mills and factories and foundries now overtops by many millions a year the wealth produced by the farmers of the State. We not only lead the South in industrial enterprise, but our manufacturing industries at last produce greater wealth than all other agencies combined: that is to say our industrial output for the first time in our history exceeds the combined output of our farms, forests, mines, quarries, and fisheries. We are being urbanized and industrialized far more rapidly than any other State in the South, and agriculture has at length displaced as the dominant factor in the economy of the State.

All of which means that we are moving into a better balanced civilization; that, all in all, the State at large considered, the city-ward drift is well not ill for North Carolina. Or so it may be, if only the enormous industrial wealth of the State can be generously surrendered to commonwealth advantages.

The change is fundamentally significant, and the need is that our people understand it in competent ways.

TAM BOWIE AND

in the matter, be settled on Tuesday next. That was agreeable to the senator from Ashe, since Minority Leader Bumgarner was on leave of absence and would not be back until that time.

MR. NIXON PROTESTS ABOUT MONEY RATES.

Editor of The News: Money is simply a medium of exchange issued by the sovereign authority. The sovereign authority in the United States is the people. Whatever the people usually and lawfully constitute and employ in buying and selling is money. The stamp of the government on money, whether gold, silver, or paper is the people's mark for money.

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Money is necessary for the progress and prosperity of the people, and the volume required is measured by the amount of buying and selling required for marketing labor and the products of the people.

When money is hoarded or congested or withheld, as it is today by Reserve Banks, and those waiting for the rate, business stands still and becomes stagnant. Democracy, a few years ago, demanded "more money and cheaper money." This was in response to the people's demand, and the demand was enacted into law, (1) Reserve Banks, and (2) Federal Reserve Loan Banks. The one is now demanding usury, and the other is being held up in the court by inimical financiers.

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The one is now demanding usury, and the other is being held up in the court by inimical financiers. And today, while there is more money per capita than ever before in the history of our country, the people cannot get it for legitimate buying and selling.

Reserve Banks, the created servants of the people, are demanding from their creators from six to twelve per cent interest! Demanding usury, and getting it! Violating the state laws in defiance of the fundamental principle of their creation, "More money and cheaper money for the people!" This, in the name of the farmers of our country alone, at least five billion dollars, and cost the other people of our country, who have suffered thereby, practically enough to pay off the war debt. All this in six months! Did the people sell their servants to deflate? Did their chosen representatives tell these banks to bring on such ruin? Read the speeches of both republicans and democrats in congress, and review their efforts to stop this "deflation" which our own Senator Simmons said meant "DESTRUCTION."

These banks contend, and perhaps rightly, that they are following the strict letter of the law of their creation; but they violate the laws of the states and the people and principles of their creation. "Reserve" is "keep in store for future special use." Has there been any special use of the hall which I have reserved against the time of trouble? (Job). The "time of trouble," which the banks themselves have precipitated, has come, yet the "treasures of the hall" have been withheld, hidden away, and used only as a means for exacting the last pound of flesh, the last cent of usury.

Is it not time for bankers, state and national, merchants, farmers, and all people to protest? Will the people stand for "destruction" by an investment which they created for their salvation? Must the people sit idly by and watch deflation and liquidation, the two drastic bludgeons of the Reserve Banks, drive prices down and reserve so low that all property will pass into the hands of the capitalists? Is it not time for all political parties, all congressmen, all citizens, male and female, to inquire and require that these banks fulfill the object of their creation, even though the technical statute creating them has to be amended? Who would have voted for a system of banking that demands and requires usury at a time when the people are least able to pay? Is it possible that this system of banking can finance a world war and not finance its own creators in the moment of distress?

TAM BOWIE AND

Chicago, Feb. 12.—The bomb explosion at the nineteenth ward democratic headquarters last night, which seriously injured six men, was attributed to politics today by Anthony D'Andrea, candidate for city council from that ward, who had a narrow escape himself. A big hole was blown in the wall of the brick building close to the speaker's stand, but D'Andrea had just finished speaking to a crowd of about 300 of his adherents.

TAM BOWIE AND

Washington, Feb. 12.—President Harding's inaugural address may be heard from Washington through the wonder of wireless.

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Thousands of wireless amateurs in the east and middle west, it is said, are equipped to receive it, and it is being proposed that such amateurs organize parties for hearing the address. The naval air station now occasionally entertains the amateurs with wireless music.

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New York, Feb. 12.—Catcher Frank L. Mills, of the Atlanta, Southern Association club, has been purchased by the Brooklyn Nationals, the management announced. Mills went to Atlanta from a Youngstown, O., semi-professional team.

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Chicago, Feb. 12.—Negotiations of Boston promoters of the New Continental Baseball League with the American Giants, a Chicago negro team, were ended today by John M. Schorching, head of the Giants, who declared his team would not join with the new league in an effort to establish a branch of the Continental League, composed of negro teams. It took five years to form a league of eight negro clubs, Schorching said, and this season it is thought the organization to which the American Giants belong will have a complete circuit of eight park clubs and two traveling clubs.

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in the matter, be settled on Tuesday next. That was agreeable to the senator from Ashe, since Minority Leader Bumgarner was on leave of absence and would not be back until that time.

The first signs of a break in the Doughton-Bowie ranks came after the session had worked its way half through the session when Representative Bowie moved to have his bill providing for a reduction of twenty-five percent in all real estate values taken from the finance committee. He wanted the house to pass upon the measure before the adjournment for 1921 was agreed upon.

Governor Doughton objected and asked how the representative from Ashe arrived at the decision that twenty-five percent cut was a fair and equitable reduction.

"I do not arrogate to myself the right to say that it is just," Mr. Bowie replied, "but I am firmly of the opinion that the motion should prevail."

Mr. Bowie, after further objection by Governor Doughton, said that he would withdraw his motion with the understanding that his bill would be acted upon by the committee. This brought the "Grand Old Man" to his feet again. "I am not sure of the opinion of the members of the finance committee and I am not making any agreement with anybody," he said amid cheers.

"I think the finance committee will recommend a reduction in land valuations but the work has not been completed at this time."

The bill to regulate the charges of hotels, restaurants and cafes in the state was introduced by Representative Gosney of Wake. The bill provides that no hotel operated on the American plan shall be allowed to charge for "the room alone more than one fourth of the rate per day for that room with all meals and no hotel so operated shall charge for such room with one or more additional meals more than one fourth of said published rate plus one fourth of said rate for each meal taken by the guest occupying said room."

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That no hotel, restaurant, cafe or lunch counter in this state shall charge for any article of food or dish of food served and sold to a patron a price which shall be greater than twice the retail price of such raw article of food or the ingredients of such dish when purchased on the local market from grocers, bakers, butchers or other local dealers in such raw article of food or such ingredient; provided that any hotel, restaurant, cafe or lunch counter may charge for said article or food or dish a price which may be twice the actual cost of such raw article of food or ingredient of such dish as actually purchased by said hotel, restaurant, cafe or lunch counter from a wholesaler of such raw article of food or ingredient.

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For violation of the proposed law a fine of not less than ten dollars and not more than fifty dollars or by imprisonment of not less than ten days and not more than thirty days, or both is provided for.

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To carry out the provision of the state wide censorship of all moving pictures in the bill introduced by Representative Matthews of Bertie, the North Carolina State Board of Censors is provided for to be composed of two men and one woman, to be appointed by the governor. All pictures must be approved by the board and only those recognized as "moral and proper" are to be endorsed and those "sacrilegious, obscene or clearly immoral or such as may tend to debase or corrupt the morals of persons viewing them" are to be disapproved.

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