

The Charlotte News

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1921. INEXPRESSIBLE PEACE:— The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.—Phil. 4:7.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Some of the leaders of thought in the State are contending that it is time North Carolina is putting on a new apparel, dressing itself in the new garments of a constitution and strutting forth as among those who are most advanced in the styles. It may be that the Constitution under which the State has been living and moving and having its being for these past generations is getting a little tattered in spots and, perhaps, a patching up here and there would make it more in consonance with the needs of the times and the current thought of the people.

It is perilous largely because it would be difficult to set any bounds and limitations to what would be written into it. Not all of the men who would doubtless be assigned the task of revising the Constitution are at all times safe to follow. The majority of them, we may assume, whoever they may be,—we can imagine about the sort of men who would be selected,—are entirely honest in their convictions and many of them are profound in their thinking, but some of them are disposed to go out a little too far in front of the crowd, to leap a little beyond the capacity of the masses to follow and to bring such as these men together in a convention to revise the Constitution would undoubtedly become a hazardous venture.

There are places where the Constitution seems to be a little fragile or where it shows the result of wear and tear or where it is lacking in some essentials of a modern State-basis, we have the machinery for making such repairs. We have been tagging on amendments and we can continue to tag them on, although it is doubtful if even this is either wise or expedient. It is nevertheless, far less dangerous than having the complete structure taken down, torn apart and re-assembled by a few representatives of the people.

SETTING THE STATE RIGHT.

Hon. Pete Murphy wants no mistake made as to where North Carolina stands on the four-cornered affair that the Republicans are trying to put over. He has introduced a measure in the General Assembly that would voice that body's protest against this "un-American plan."

WHAT A CHILD IS ENTITLED TO.

This is the day of the child. The state is throwing before it advantages of which the men of today never tasted in their young days. There is the better school, the longer term, the more ably qualified teacher, with a great many modern derivatives which are just being introduced. There is also the opportunity for better health, better teeth, a tonsillitis throat and adenoid nose, straightened limbs,—a whole host of improvements of the body which a child of today may have for the asking.

These things are common developments,—a recognition of rights which are admitted and no longer challenged. There are some other things of even greater importance that a child is entitled to in its days of plasticity. One of them, certainly, is the right to faith. He learns by putting his trust in men and in their institutions as he moves into contact with these. In his period of trustful helpfulness, he has a right to find in every man and woman a friend, a helpful, guiding, instructing sort of a friend. He has a right to that fair play which we demand in the elder periods of life.

There is another right the child has,—that of moral safety. These are particularly dangerous days for children. We are not disposed to keep back from them so many of the hidden mysteries of life as was once the case. Parental control over them is much more lax than formerly. Many of the boys and girls of today are "farmed out" to nurses. The moral safety of the youngsters, has, therefore, become quite a question. Added to the training, or lack of it, which is being given in the home are other institutions in this age which instruct and train and shape destiny. The child is influenced not merely by what his father and mother say and do, but the store, the school, the street corner, the associates on the sidewalk, the movies, the billboards, the thought and conversation of men everywhere are handmaids in the task of "training up a child" either in the way it should go or in the way it should not go.

The child has another right which is being largely denied in these superficial times and it is the right to come into life prepared to live it with a proper possession of self-control, self-reliance and self-respect. Here is where a lot of failures are being met today in the education of children. They are entitled to approach maturity with some understanding of life, to know something of their own selves, their strength and their weakness, where they are vulnerable and where they are invincible. It is a question whether they should be made afraid of evil because of its consequences or should be taught to face it heroically, manfully and then aided in the conquering of it to the end that in the after-life ahead of them they may approach the dangerous spots with courage and conviction and stamina enough to pass them safely.

WHAT'S AHEAD?

There is a general disposition among all classes of the people to pause long enough to meditate on the probabilities of the future in respect to business. Somehow or other things have not turned out, just as had been generally expected so far and there appears to be, therefore, more than mere speculative interest in what is just around the bend of the days for men in their pursuits and professions, trades and industries.

Whatever may be ahead, however, the only worthy and rational attitude to take is to believe. We have been making considerable headway lately on nothing much more than faith and that has been one of the basic reasons that this continent has not been pitched into the throes of its most calamitous debacle. Men believed that conditions were essentially good and that business was essentially sound, that the distemper through which we have been passing was reflected and that it would be dispelled as soon as some artificial circumstances were removed. That was largely a fact and is largely true even yet. And so long as faith resides in men, it is going to be mighty difficult to down them.

TAXATION TENDENCIES.

It would not be sensible to caution the State to skimpiness in the matter of utilizing the wealth of its people, as this flows into the State through the channels of taxation, for the advancement and higher material interests of the commonwealth. Money spent on schools that are producing men and women who are economically worth more to the State than they would otherwise be, who make finer citizens and, therefore, construct a better civilization, is money well spent. There is a sense in which it is economical to spend whatever it may require to attain this result. And there are other appropriations which are defensible, as these contribute to the enlargement of the life of the people.

A farmer says that his taxes are over \$1,000 this year and he has not made anything like \$1,000 worth of stuff on his farm net. He will need to consult his banker as to where the money will come from with which to pay his privileges of citizenship. A young lady whose possession is a little farm must needs fork up nearly \$500 in taxes and she has an interest in three bales of cotton produced on that land. And then the large corporation complains to the State that the tax levied against it amounts almost to confiscation. It is unable to figure how it can sell its products, on the present market, and make enough to liquidate its account with the ingatherers of the tax.

These things indicate the clear duty of all those in authority everywhere, no matter whether it is in the township, in the city, in the county, in the State or in the nation. The first obligation has to do with an economical administration of all public monies, a holding down of expenses, a general policy of retrenchment. The second obligation has to do with an efficient public service. Give the people fruits meet for their taxation and in keeping with what they are being forced to lay into the lap of the government.

VIGILANCE OF COUNTY OFFICERS.

We had a word to say the other day about the exceptional law-abiding tone of the citizenry of Charlotte and how that this community is especially clear of the hoodlums and outlaws who are making life miserable and wretched in many other cities of the country during these days, giving due credit to the local police force for having an upper hand on the situation.

Equally as impressive is the splendid work which is being done by the county officers along this same line. With the prevalence of the automobile as an aid to evil-doing, much of the mischief which was formerly an urban problem has now been converted into a rural problem, shifting a large share of the burden of law-enforcement over upon the shoulders of the officers of the county.

How well the officers of Mecklenburg are coping with the situation is a matter of public comment and knowledge. The sheriff's office has become notably active in the apprehension of the most common type of wrong-doing now, which is running, Deputy Sheriff Fesperman has been leading fellow-officers into some effective raids within these last few weeks and it must by this time be no longer regarded as safe for the bootleggers to infest the highways of the county and for the moonshiners to hide themselves in some dismal swamp along densely-wooded creek banks.

The frequent apprehension of such evil-doing, the speedy conventions which are following, the practice of the judges to sentence a majority of the defendants to the roads and the loss of some perfectly good automobiles in the transactions, witness to the belief that Sheriff Fesperman and his forces are doing all that is humanly possible to make this county clean and law-abiding in this respect. They have certainly put the fear of the law into the hearts of some men recently by these alert activities and their vigils. The community is better off for their conscientious devotion to duty and for their fearless execution of the law.



Rufus Drake, the grocery man, can snap out quite a nifty plan on how to run a dry goods store. He shoots a mouthful and some more. And Hiram Hank, the dry goods gink, can tell you how to fix the sink while Eucelass Fowle, the railroad guy, can tell you how to make a pie. But none of them have any brains for business in their own domains.

AMERICAN MARINES SLIGHTLY WOUNDED

Washington, Dec. 14.—Three American Marines—Sergeant Lee Henry, of Louisville, Ky., Corporal Ray Frey, of Carthage, Mo., and Private Arthur Wren, of Spokane, Wash.—were slightly wounded in the "festa day brawl" of last Thursday in Managua, Nicaragua, reports to the Navy Department today said.

CONTRACTING FORCE MOVING TO HIGHWAYS

The State Highway Commission, through contractors to whom were given the jobs of hard-surfacing the Statesville road, and the mile and a half on the Monroe road lying between the city and township limits, is moving upon these two stretches of highway this week, planting themselves for a beginning of operations.

MOTHER!

Move Child's Bowels with "California Fig Syrup"



Even a sick child loves the "fruity" taste of "California Fig Syrup." If the little tongue is coated, or if your child is listless, cross, feverish, full of cold, or has colic, a teaspoonful will never fail to open the bowels. In a few hours you can see for yourself how thoroughly it works all the constipation poison, sour bile and waste from the tender little bowels and gives you a well, playful child again.

Millions of mothers keep "California Fig Syrup" handy. They know a teaspoonful today saves a sick child tomorrow. Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has all directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

OSTEOPATHY is the science of healing by adjustment. DR. H. F. RAY 313 Realty Bldg. DR. FRANK LANE MILLER 610 Realty Bldg. DR. ARTHUR M. DYE 24 Piedmont Bldg. Osteopathy, Charlotte, N. C. INFORMATION BY REQUEST

BELK BROTHERS COMPANY WE SELL IT FOR LESS

Helpful Suggestions for Christmas Shoppers

Ladies' Gloves. Christmas line Kid Gloves in all sizes and colors, \$1.69, \$1.98, \$2.50, \$3.00. Ladies' Silk Gauntlet Gloves, 59c, 85c, 98c, \$2.00. Ladies Short Silk Gloves in all colors at 85c, \$1.00, \$1.50, \$1.98.

Ladies' Handkerchiefs. 3 in box—plain white with embroidery corners 39c, 48c, 69c, 75c, 85c. Ladies' colored bordered Handkerchiefs 3 in box 50c, 69c, 75c. Ladies' colored Linen Handkerchiefs at 25c. Ladies' White Linen Handkerchiefs, at 15c, 25c, 50c. Madeira Linen Handkerchiefs 50c, 75c and 98c.

Exquisite Hand Embroidered Philippine Underwear. IN GOWNS AND TEDDIES. Gowns, in beautiful hand-embroidery work, formerly sold for \$5.95, at \$3.95. Gowns sold for \$8.95, this week at \$5.95. Hand-embroidered Teddies \$3.95, \$5.95.

Pretty All-Silk Teddies. In Crepe de Chine or Satin \$2.00, \$2.48 and \$2.95. Fine quality Silk Teddies in Kayser Italian Silk \$6.95. New holiday line of all silk Camisoles at \$1.19, \$1.48, \$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.98.

Fillet Scarfs and Table Covers. All sizes 29c, 48c, 75c, 98c, \$1.39, \$1.48. Pretty line of Fillet Centerpieces \$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.98. Japanese Lunch Cloths, all sizes, 98c, \$1.25, \$1.48, \$2.48, \$2.98. Japanese 13-piece Luncheon Sets \$1.25 and \$2.48.

1847 Rogers Bros. Table Silverware. How could you show your appreciation for Mother or Sister better? This Silverware has been the family pride for generations. We carry this in sets or singles. Come in, let us show you the best Rogers Bros. Tableware, Knives and Forks, Spoons for the children.

Holiday Sales On Silk Umbrellas. New line All Silk Umbrellas in all colors. The new handles, in rings, cords and leather \$4.95, \$5.95, \$6.95, \$7.95 and \$8.95.

Special New Line of Toilet Articles. In Combination Sets. Melba, Jergen's, Hudnut's, Djer Kiss, Colgate's, Babcock's Brown's. These come in sets—Face Powder, Toilet Water, Perfume, Sachet, Rouge, etc., from \$1.50 to \$6.95 the set.

Sample Hand Bags. In fine quality. We were fortunate in securing these Hand Bags—can give you a very special Christmas bargain in these samples. No two alike \$1.98, \$2.48, \$2.98, \$3.48, \$3.98, \$4.95. All these worth one-third and one-half more regularly.

How About a Pair of "Real Blankets" for "Mother". One lot 72x84 finest Lamb's Wool Blankets, finest made. A lifetime Blanket. The largest and best—beautiful colorings. Come see these. Packed in boxes, pair \$19.95 and \$24.95.

OSTEOPATHY. Nothing Else. Phone 1697. 803 Commercial Bank Bldg. Charlotte, N. C.

BRASWELL & CRICHTON. All Kinds. INSURANCE. Nothing Else. Phone 1697. 803 Commercial Bank Bldg. Charlotte, N. C.

THE PUREST ALL-WOOL BLANKETS. Blue, pink and grey plaids. These came in for this week's Holiday trade. Large Block Plaids. A regular \$12.00 value, for this week \$8.95.

NEW TABLE NAPKINS FOR XMAS. See our new kind—the Nik-Pan Napkin. Guaranteed not to rub off on your clothes. Looks and wears like real linen, dozen \$1.25, \$1.48, \$1.98, \$2.48. Sizes 16, 18, 20, 22 inches.

GOOD QUALITY TABLE DAMASK, YARD 69c 79c 85c.