The Charlotte News

-Published By-THE NEWS PUBLISHING CO. Corner Fourth and Church Sts.

W. C. DOWD ... Pres. and Gen. Mgr.

TELEPHONES: Circulation Department 2793 City Editor Editorial Rooms 362

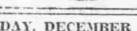
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES. Dy Carrier. Three months One month Sunday Only. One year TIMES-DEMOCRAT.

"Entered as second-class matter at

(Semi-Weekly)



THE ROAD DECISION.

The people of this county have voted like voting for at this time and it is their desire that the road bonds availwithout having to resort to any other additional levies for road construction. If the court had decided in favor of the highway commission, the county comfunds at all, would have been forced this amount. That would have been uite contrary to public sentiment as to what was right and proper and just in the premises. The Monroe road was completed,-\$42,000 worth of the work was done,-after the highway commission acceded to authority in road-building work in this county and it stands to reason, therefore, that it inherited the contract for this road along with all work of all sorts.

There has been no dispute between the two boards about it except as to which was within its legal rights to pay the bill. If the county commissioners had conceived from the outset that they had any law upon which they could move in liquidation of this bill, they would have paid it without a question; and so would the highway commission for that matter.

The Supreme Court was asked to give ruling on it only for the purpose of stablishing authority for paying the lebt. There has been no feeling or any port of unfriendliness about it between the two boards. And neither could be publicly censured for having moved so autiously and so slowly in winding up

THE TESTIMONY OF OFFICERS.

here. Judge Ray is somewhat brusque and crude at times, says things that

of the way to agree with the judge There is a very manifest disposition on recite evidence as it has come to their to a rather alarming extent.

Officers, of course, want to bring about convictions. If they have any

recitation of their testimony. We do not undertake to assert that and Active Citizenship." the testimony of officers ought to have The several professors who are com- John D. Rockefeller give me a thouabsolutely upon these men. Nevertheless, is to follow later and Dr. B if we get into the hobit even of miminizing the testimony of these men whose is to follow later and Dr. E. C. Branson through druggists a large box of PE-duty it is to break up sprong doing we not only bring discouragement to them, but in economic and social movements in days. Old sores heal up like magic; we tinker with the very foundations North Carolina. upon which the social order is establishmake law enforcement a veritable trav- these addresses. They will be profitable derful. Mall orders filled by Peter-

THE TENDENCY OF POPULATION.

Fourteen of the largest cities of North Carolina absorbed nearly half of the total increase in North Carolina's population during the last two decades. These cities were Gastonia, Rocky Mount, W. M. BELLAdvertising Mgr. High Point, Winston-Salem, Asheville, Durham, Greensboro, Wilson, Charlotte Salisbury, Goldsboro, Raleigh, Wilmington and Newbern.

During the 20 years in question, the all news dispatches credited to it or four times the increase in country pop- be in favor of allowing the treasurer

There is, therefore, no longer any ular incident. doubt as to the tendency in population | And this tendency is not only mark 8.00 and the countryside will be more sparse- dates are more nearly given them. Legset in motion by which the population of the horse. can be held to the country.

the postoffice at Charlotte. N. C., under the issues properly, but the mere recitation of representative government to have the Act of March 3, 1897."

The decision of the Supreme Court as where for those basic products upon where there has been no referendum to which of the two county bodies, the which our wellbeing depends. That situ- taken. In such instances, he is obliged Is liable for the balance of \$42,000 due For 10 years, the disproportion in sup- posed to do what a majority of his conon the Monroe road, turns out pretty ply and demand in Charlotte has been stituents want done. much as has been anticipated and, in acute. So many people have deserted It would be well to get back to this addition to being right in law, is also the farms and come into the city that early practice in our representative govright on morals and right according as Mecklenburg, the county, is no longer ernmental bodies and give the people for all the road money which they feel the county to the city doubles the prob- is their country. They are capable of the town, he not only deprives the of the Constitution gave them. tracts frao mand adds to the equation. the result being that his transfer doubly accentuates this problem of supply and

> Dr. Branson, of far-seeing eye and gifted in social analyses, discussing the general situation in the State as this make. He is of the opinion that whether the movement is economically good or bad, it will continue to long as present conditions remain. "The problem world-wide" he says. "and it is not to turn people back to the farm or to keep people from leaving the farm, but to make farm life efficient, prosperous, minded people who choose to live in the country. There are now and will always be many country-minded people in every state and nation, but at present they are Yap has been due, first to President eing driven out of the country by unendurable conditions, economic and

If these conditions cannot be cured and in the main they must be cured y the country people themselves, then country life in North Carolina will fall into Jecay as in the New England and the North Atlantic states. The industrial supremacy of this area is now imperiled by the decline of agriculture. As a result eastern factorie; are being moved into regions of larger food pro-Mecklenburg juries need to have more quetion and lower food costs. Meanfaith in the testimony of the officers time New England monufacturers are of the law, Judge Bis Ray said on the spending millions of corporation money occasion of a recent term of the court for agricultural rehabilitation in the

have an edge to them, and naturally, too many producers of farm products, therefore, is easily misunderstood, but an dtoo few local consumers. Our towns he i sa well-meaning judge and wants and cities have been too few and too to see the laws enforced. He was speak- small to furnish ready, profitable maring of the tendency to depreciate the test kets for any farm products but cotton timony of officers in a certain class of and tobacco as surplus money crops for cases that find their way into the crim- demand for these in the markets of inal court rooms. "If an officer of this the world reduces the net income of county were to drop dead, the average our farmers to the lowest possible jury would stick a pin in nim before terms. The way out lies (1) in breadaccepting it as a fact" Judge Ray said and-meat farming and (2) a large conremarking upon this frame of mind of suming public at home, (3) with cotton Court attendants do not find it out local and for world-wide consumption.

Activities of city and county officers the part of some juries either to disre- against blind tigerism these day remind United States in regard to the Yapgard entirely or to minimize the testi- us that they are seriously interfering, mony of officers of the law who swear no doubt, with at least a part of the to facts as they have gathered them or public's plans for an egg-nog Christmas

SERIES OF FIVE LECTURES.

The Mecklenburg Alumni Association prejudices, they are on the side of the of the University of North Carolina is law and against the evil-doer, but, at promoting, in connection with the Y. the same time, their natural inclinations M. C. A., a very instructive program in and Conquers Piles are no sharper nor more definite than bringing here for a series of addresses those testifying for defendants, those some of the most outstanding leaders who have a special interest in the out- at the University for the Winter. The Peterson's Ointment. I had a running come of eases and who, for this rea- first of these is to be held Friday sore on my left leg for one year. son, are likely to have their feelings night when Dr. Howard W. Odum. or their friendships sway them in the sociology professor, introduces the course with a lecture on "Democracy Pa.

the right-of-way every time and that ing here are among the most expert sand dollars. It does me a lot of juries can afford at all times to depend leaders of progressive thought in the good to be able to be of use to my

duty it is to break up wrong-doing, we not come to be known as a powerful leade. In the healing power in this officient

It will be well worth the time of ed and this practise, run to excess, will the people of this community to hear for scales and burns it is simply wonto them as well as entertaining.

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE.

The effort made to bring about an increase in the salary of the treasurer of Mecklenburg county indicates a decided legislative tendency in these times .a tendency on the part of Representatives generally to put through legislation upon which the people have not been informed.

Understand us as having no suggestion to make that this attempt on the ratio of dwellers in the countryside de- sentatives, in this particular case, was creased from \$2.3 to 71.4 per cent of the without cause. We should imagine that total population and from 1900 to 1910 if the people could pass upon the issue the increase in urban population was themselves, they would very probably ulation and from 1910 to 1920, the urban an increase from \$3,000 to \$3,600 the increase was six times greater than the year, but we are speaking only of general tendencies and not of this partic-

in North Carolina. It is decidedly away ed as to Representatives in State Legfrom the farms and into the cities. That islatures, but as to representatives of means that North Carolina will soon city governments and to representalose its agricultural standing and be-tives in the National Legislature as well. come, more and more, industrialized The people are no longer consulted first in its society; the cities will grow large and mandates taken from them. Manly settled, unless the backward trend! islation is passed and the voters consets in and some economic reforms are sulted afterwards. The cart is in front

Covernment in a democracy has its Ought it to be held there? Wherein foundation upon the authority of the can the State become the greater, in people. Representatives are chosen agriculture or in industry? These are merely as vehicles through whom the pertinent questions. They can not be an people may express themselves and inswered, assuredly, within narrow limits, dicate their will. It was never the in-It would take a long treatise to discuss tention of the founders of our system tion of the statistics ought to be enough men go into the law-making bodies and to produce serious thought among those there write their own wills instead of who want to see North Carolina come the wills of their constituents. They are supposed only to represent the people.

The inevitable result of the city-ward | Of course, representing the people drift in population is to increase the is sometimes a difficult task. The Reprecost of living, to put consumption re- sentative must use his own judgment ouirements so far beyond native produc- in determining what the people want tion that we shall be forced to look else- and what they do not want in cases ation has already developed in some to gauge public opinion as best he can localities. It exists in this community, and then to act accordingly. He is sup-

supporting Charlotte, the city. When we a chance once more to be the final auconsider the fact that a removal from thority in all of these instances. This lem of consumption. It is not difficult running, although Mr. Taft once said to understand this process. When a they were not, and they are entitled to

> enjoyable Springs we have run across this time of the year in this part of the

THE YAP CONTROVERSY

About all the newspaper readers know about what is called the Yap controversy is that it has suddenly become qute sizeable for some reason or other. cityward Crift is now indicated, has and that the United States has been some very pertinent observations to drawn into it. Yap is a small island 400 Guinea. When Japan drove Germany from the Pacific in 1914 she seized this along with many of Germany's Islands satisfying and wholesome for country in the Pacific Ocean: the end of the cable reaching Shanghai she cut and connected with Japan.

> The sudden interest of America in Wlson's plan to "internationalize" it plan not accepted by the allies, for they were already under expressed obligations to give it to Japan; and second, to Secretary Hughes' use of it as the fulcrum for his diplomatic attack on the proceedings of the League of Nations. He contended that neither the allies nor the League of Nations could dispose of Germany's captured territories without the consent of the United States by whose aid Germany had been overthrown, and that, therefore, Japan could not claim exclusive possession of Yap nor of any of the north Pacific Islands, even though given to her by the

Japan's reply to these contentions has been first that Britain, France and Italy agreed in 1917 before America entered the war, that Germany's possessions in the north Pacific should come to her at the final peace settlement: second that there is no record of President Wilson's reservations or plans regarding Yap in the minutes of the Paris Peace Conference; third, that all mandated areas had been regularly assigned in the regular procedures. America having failed to attend the Commission on Mandates though invited; the fault therefore, is with America, not with the League; fifth, that nevertheless she was willing to make special arrangements with the Guam cable, and sixth, that it would be better and much cheaper to lay a new cable from Guam to Shanghai and give it to the United States than to come to blows about so trivial an affair.

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BURCH PROSECUTION CLOSED.

Los Angeles, Dec. 16 .- The prosecution in the trial of Arthur C. Burch for the alleged murder of J. Belton Kennedy rested its case late yesterday. Adjournment was taken until Monday on motion of the defense.



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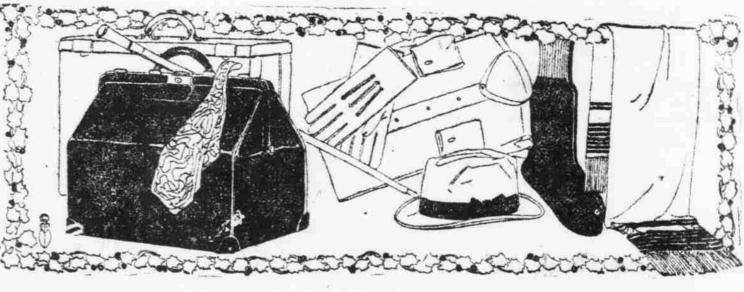
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