

THE CONCORD TIMES PUBLISHED MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

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J. B. SHERRILL, Editor and Publisher

Special Representative: FROST, LANDIS & KOHN

ENDORING MR. WILLIAMS.

Much support should develop for H. S. Williams, of Concord, who has been suggested by friends as a candidate for District Attorney of the new Federal district recently created in North Carolina.

Mr. Williams has been successful at the bar; he is recognized over the State as well trained lawyer. He has had sufficient experience with such cases to be familiar with the work that he would have to do as a district attorney and his friends—Democrats and Republicans alike—agree that he is well fitted for the post for which he has been suggested.

John J. Parker ran for Governor, was defeated and later was named to a federal judgeship. Isaac Meekins ran for Governor, was defeated and later was appointed to a federal judgeship.

McADOO IN FLORIDA.

The Jacksonville, Fla., Journal, has just finished another one of those useless straw votes, in an effort to get the opinion of Florida people as to the next Democratic Presidential candidate.

If this ballot proves anything it is the fact that William G. McAdoo is the choice of Florida Democrats. The same thing may be true in other Southern States at the present time.

Eliminating the scattered votes, tabulation shows the following distribution of ballots among the first choice candidates voted on by the Jacksonville paper's readers:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Includes William G. McAdoo (1670), Governor Smith (428), and others.

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Includes Senator Reed (204), Governor Ritchie (76), Governor Donahay (41), Senator Walsh (36).

WHAT WILL THE FARMERS DO?

President Coolidge studied long and hard, no doubt, over the McNary-Haugen farm relief bill before vetoing it. It was one of the hardest tasks facing him as President and many argue that it had much to do with his political future.

The President vetoed the bill, he said, because it did not do what it was supposed to do—benefit the farmer. That was sufficient reason and the President is to be congratulated upon doing what he thought best, regardless of what the politicians in some of the western States may think about it.

The question of farm relief is certain, however, to come up in the next Republican campaign. All of the Republicans do not want Mr. Coolidge to run again and they will use his veto of this bill as a means of trying to break down his influence with the farmer.

Mr. Lowden approved the bill so maybe the measure will become one of the political issues. It might go far in determining who will be the Republican nominee in 1928.

WHO WILL GET THE JOB?

Everybody knows that some Republican will be named judge of the new Federal District in North Carolina but so far there seems to be no agreement as to who will get the job.

With one Democratic and one Republican judge in the State and the Republicans in power in Washington there is no doubt about the party affiliations of the man to be named, but it seems that the Republicans themselves can't agree.

That's about the way the thing goes, but the trouble is there is no recently defeated candidate for Governor available.

That brings up the names of District Attorney Linney and Johnson J. Hayes. Mr. Linney was defeated for Governor about twelve years ago and Mr. Hayes was defeated for the Senate in the last campaign.

Your claim is barred by the statute of limitations," say partisans of Johnson J. Hayes, "and besides you got 'yourn' when you took the job of district attorney."

WHAT IS ADVANTAGE OF BILL?

What is the real advantage of the bill which would require successors of Senators to be elected by the people to fill unexpired terms?

tion. What good feature has the bill to offset this item of cost?

The only argument we have seen in favor of the bill is that a gubernatorial appointee would have an advantage in the next election over other aspirants.

The people of North Carolina have great confidence in any man they elect to the governorship, we believe, and they would be willing for him to make the appointment.

We can see no reason for the proposed law. It is purely a political move and would cost the State much money without serving any good purpose.

THOUSAND BOOKS FOR THE LIBRARY.

The recent book drive for the Concord Public Library was a success. It is reported that approximately 1,000 books were secured during the drive and these will do much to relieve the shortage that has handicapped the library for several months.

The result of the drive shows, we think, the attitude of the public toward the library. These books came from homes in all sections of the city, this demonstrating too, that every class of citizens is interested in the library.

A bill to provide a bond issue for funds to erect and equip a modern library here has been forwarded to Raleigh and it is to be hoped that the bill will be rushed through the Legislature.

If the bill is ratified by the Legislature and accepted by the people of Concord the future of the library is assured.

THE BABE WILL NOT QUIT.

Babe Ruth has been getting \$52,000 a year from the Yankees and he's worth it. Wherever he goes he is a big attraction.

This year Babe wants more than \$52,000. It is said that Ty Cobb will get \$60,000 at least from the Athletics and the Babe craves to be the highest salaried man in the game.

We can't take seriously the threat of Ruth to quit the game unless he gets what he wants. He talks about a string of gymnasiums and a correspondence course in physical culture but that's not like making more than a thousand a week for the year by playing about five months.

Nothing will be done before 1928 in all probability. The tax commission would investigate fully the tax system of the State, especially as it relates to industry, and certainly it could not be ready with a report this year.

STOP THE INTEREST EXTORTIONISTS.

Walter Murphy has presented to the Legislature a bill designed to stop the practice of extortionists who prey on wage-earners in need of money for the time being.

In commenting on this piece of legislation and its intent to do good, the News and Observer would have every avenue guarded so that the loan shark may not operate under the cover of legislation.

And now that the Murphy bill would reduce bootleg extortion of the poor, up springs a corporation asking to be licensed to lend money at the rate of 3 per cent a month, with mortgage on wages, household and kitchen furniture, the note to be husband and wife and probably by other

members of the family. It is a sort of chattle mortgage piece of slavery which the Legislature is asked to impose upon families in distress and to compel them to pay interest of 3 per cent a month for the chains this legalized loan shark corporation would rivet upon necessitous borrowers."

We want to see the State of North Carolina do everything possible to prevent extortion by law. A law has been presented giving certain companies the right to charge more than the legal rate of interest. We should have no such law.

The strong arm of the State should be used to protect to the utmost that class of earners who are subjected to the conditions out of which the loan shark grows and prospers. Every small loan made to small borrowers should be regulated; every means possible taken to guarantee that this small borrower be not mulched by greed and that he find a way to secure a loan under conditions that are just and fair and do not bring him into distress."

5400 TROOPERS IN NICARAGUA.

The United States has 5400 troopers in Nicaragua to protect about 150 Americans. Or at least the administration has insisted that the soldiers are there simply as a protection.

The people of the country have never been informed fully as to the American aims and purposes in Nicaragua. Secretary Kellogg has spoken on the matter, to be sure, and President Coolidge has had something to say in regard to the landing of troops in the South American country, but the full facts have never been given.

We have established about 10 neutral zones in the country with the 5400 soldiers and in addition we have fighting craft of various kinds on the harbors, ready for an eventuality. Just how much force does it take for the United States to protect the 150 Americans and their property in Nicaragua?

Great Britain has sent one cruiser to Nicaragua because the American consul has advised the British government that in case of further fighting the United States would not be able to guarantee protection to British subjects.

What has happened to the American marines that 54,000 of them cannot protect 150 Americans? The public feels that something more than "protection" is at the bottom of the American policy in Nicaragua and that same public is entitled to the facts.

We have enough soldiers in Nicaragua to clean up the whole country, yet about every week Washington reports the landing of more troops and the dispatch of more cruisers or battleships to Nicaraguan ports.

We are getting deeper and deeper into the trouble in this South American republic and apparently Washington does not know how to get out. Apparently we are going to send our standing army there to protect a man who was refused by the people as a Presidential choice.

TALK OF SPECIAL SESSION.

Raleigh reports indicate that there is quite a bit of talk there now about a special session of the Legislature in 1928. Judge Winston's bill to revise the constitution is one reason suggested for the special session, and the report of the tax commission is another.

There may be nothing to the charges by corporations that they are paying too much taxes, yet there's a lot of smoke about this thing, indicating that there is fire somewhere. We do not argue or believe that corporations are trying to dodge all taxes. They appreciate the advantages of North Carolina, but at the same time they feel that taxes have increased faster than income and that something should be done to remedy the ills they are now confronted with.

Governor McLean will call the special session if he deems it necessary, but we feel that the necessity will have to be rather aggravated before the Governor acts. The tax commission should be ready next year, and if it is the session may come then. However, there is the possibility that nothing could be done before 1929 and the entire matter may go over until the Legislature meets that year.

THE KLAN MAKES NO OBJECTION.

Phileas is still asking why the sesquicentennial failed. Phileas may be reminded that the world has moved since the centennial and the Columbian exposition stirred the American fancy to a degree that is now attained only by a queen from Rumania tours the country, wearing masks and keeping their identi-

ty unknown, has been passed by the General Assembly. The bill was introduced early in the week and passed before the week was out.

There are several remarkable things about this bill. There was not a dissenting vote and it was introduced by Rev. Oscar Haywood, former lecturer for the Klan, and Senator Johnson, bitter opponent of a similar bill two years ago.

Members of the Klan must not have made objection for more than likely they could have secured some votes if not a majority. But the bill apparently has the approval of all and it had easy sailing as a result.

There is no evidence that the Klan is to cease functioning in North Carolina, so does the bill mean that its members have decided against masking? Or did the Klansmen say nothing on the assumption that they would not be arrested despite the law?

Our most serious objection to the Klan has been the fact that its members always went masked when they had anything to do in the open. We have never had faith in an organization that hid its face. If the Klan has decided to come out into the open in North Carolina then it has made a wise move. If it plans to disregard the law then it should be dealt with mercilessly.

The Australian ballot bill was defeated. Of course the politicians will be given the credit. It has been charged all along that the politicians were afraid of the bill and were against it, so naturally the charge will be made that they defeated it. And the charge may be true. The average politician is pretty well satisfied with the present voting system in the State.

TEST FOR MINISTERS.

Dearborn Weekly.

Bruce Barton, in Collier's for July seventeenth, writes an interesting article wherein a fictitious character, easily identified with many thoughtful persons, proposes certain qualifications for the examination of prospective ministers of religion. Among them are these:

- 1. Could you conduct a successful carpenter shop? The Master did not until he was thirty years of age. Most of the disciples had been in business before becoming disciples. Recognizing that the ministry is a far more difficult profession than any other, would it not be an excellent preparation if you were to demonstrate success in one of these lesser employments before assuming the greater?

CAUTIOUS CHURCHES.

The Fourth Estate.

How to increase church attendance is a question of interest alike to preachers, advertisers and publishers. The New York Sun has recently issued a folder bearing on the subject in the excellent way usual with that newspaper. It is captioned "How to Increase Church Attendance," and while the presentation is principally from the Sun's standpoint, the lessons learned are helpful to all concerned. The Fourth Estate is pleased to quote from it these two paragraphs:

HARD TO KEEP A BALANCE.

Charlotte Observer.

The Australian ballot bill which has been spinning its way through the legislative halls has at last been brought to a permanent halt. The House put it in its coffin and clinched the lid upon it. For a bill destined to certain death, this Australian ballot proposition has developed considerable talk, but it was noticed that the talk was done by its advocates. The faction opposed to it spoke neither eye nor nay, perhaps in assurance that talk on its part was unnecessary. It was opposed mainly on the score of expense, contention being made that it would create a burden upon the tax payers which might as well be avoided. And yet talk of that kind might not be legislatively consistent, for, as the secret ballot was defeated because it might increase the tax burden, right on its heels came a salary-increase bill. The Governor's compensation would be raised from \$6,500 to \$7,500 and the salaries of other State officers would get a thousand dollar lift. There can be no contention among fair-minded people of the State on the fact that its public officials ought to be better compensated, for the salaries now prevailing were fixed before the country heard of the "high cost of living," and the Governor and his official family could easily stand a raise. The incidents are of mention merely to show how hard it is for a Legislature to establish and maintain a consistent attitude on certain related matters.

It will not do to dismiss Representative (Miss) McLean's bill to embrace all of Mecklenburg county in the city of Charlotte without consideration. It may have more merit than merely increasing the population of Charlotte. If it passes, will the delegation from Forsyth incorporate all that county into the Winston-Salem municipality? And will Greensboro, Durham, Asheville, Raleigh and other large towns do likewise. Are we headed toward absorption of the country by the city, or improvement of the city by taking in the country?

Phileas is still asking why the sesquicentennial failed. Phileas may be reminded that the world has moved since the centennial and the Columbian exposition stirred the American fancy to a degree that is now attained only by a queen from Rumania tours the country, wearing masks and keeping their identi-

OUR STUDENT SCHOOLS

Winston-Salem Journal.

COUNTY HISTORIES

Chaplotte Observer.

MR. TAFT WAS

Raleigh News and Observer.

A SLEEPING INDUSTRY

Charlotte Observer.

The Observer has always made a point of that gold mining, for the gold face of this part of the State, to find it, where the primitive has not been out. One encouraging token is the fact that the famous prospect in Rowan County, has been prepared by a company that is preparing yellow metal by improved process.

THE ERROR WOULD HAVE

Asheville citizen.

Our vigilant proof-reader caught days ago that he could have done serious damage to truth. In a sort of a meeting held here, a speaker saying "every man is a judge" the proof of the story was reading as follows: "Every man is a peeper." The proof-reader being a cuss, changed it to "every man is a peeper." But if he had not done this, it would have been serious consequence. It was not the expression of the speaker that the story was suppressed. If the error had been left in the world have been done to actual interest in mail.

Judge Staek may be right about tons out of court room. He has about saying "we don't have one" One Superior Court judge was bench papered because he had no bench paper in the court room in a Judges may go "a little too far" and Observer.