

**The Concord Times**

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**MAKES THINGS DIFFERENT.**

The editor of The Monroe Journal noticed several days ago a truck load of school children from a distant part of the county riding through Monroe on a tour of inspection. Declaring the trip for the children could be made in an hour or so now, The Journal says "there is nothing uncommon about a sight like this. It is the order of the day."

The automobile is right. The automobile has transformed things. It has made a vast difference in our daily habits, in the manner of living and in many phases of life. Writing recently in The University News Letter Paul W. Wager declared the automobile is fast transforming the relations of town and country life, running the two sections together and obliterating dissimilarities. The schools are being transformed and the Churches will follow.

"The country people," says Mr. Wager, "go to the county seat to trade, attend lodge meetings, to consult a doctor or lawyer. The rural community has been suddenly and marvelously enlarged. It is true that the readjustment is not yet completed. Old institutions are dying in some cases without new and better ones to take their places. The situation has changed so suddenly that a lagging of readjustment is not surprising. The reorganization of rural life in terms of the automobile and a larger community is the task of the hour. It is a task that demands statesmanship and leadership of a high order. Is such leadership appearing and will it have the vision to build wisely?"

"Not only will the automobiles change both the city and the country but it will blend them. The mingling of farmers and town-men is breaking down the provincialism of both. The ease with which the farmers get to town and the ease with which the urbanites get to the country means closer acquaintance and better understanding between the two groups. Furthermore, many farmers and farmers' sons are finding employment in the cities, driving back and forth fifteen or twenty miles each day. On the other hand, the business and professional men of the cities are buying farms and living on them several months in the year. This movement is not so pronounced as yet in the South as in some areas. It is very common in New England. Indeed the automobile has already gone far in transforming and revitalizing the rural life in New England."

**"LINDY" SEES THE BULL FIGHT.**

Despite protests from various agencies and individuals, Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh went to a bull fight in Mexico City Sunday. He said all along that he was going, since he went to Mexico as a guest and not as a reformer.

The people of Mexico don't see anything wrong with bull fighting. They are as accustomed to it as we are to baseball and football. They might think an American football game was just as brutal as a bull fight.

Colonel Lindbergh would have been foolish to have declined to invitation, since the fight was primarily arranged for his benefit. He spoke wisely when he said the people of Mexico know what they want. It is none of his business to tell them they shall not have what they have been having for all these years.

The trouble with so many Americans visiting in other lands is that they try to change customs as soon as they get there. They make everybody mad and instead of doing good they do evil. Col. Lindbergh has enough sense to be courteous and he would have been anything but that if he had deliberately snubbed the bull fight party.

And in this connection we see in Ambassador Morrow great wisdom through the manner in which he has accepted Mexican customs and contentions. He has not been arrogant, egotistic and biased. When problems were presented to him he didn't start the argument with a declaration that the United States was always right and the other nations always wrong.

He accepted the differences as a true diplomat. He has been willing to hear both sides of the question. He has given a sympathetic ear to the Mexican contentions, and because he has done this questions that were serious 11 months ago are working out all right now.

What good could Lindy have created by refusing to attend the bull fight on the pleas that such fights should not be

allowed? He might think they are too brutal but that doesn't change the attitude any of the Mexican people. They think they are all right and were doing him an honor in staging one for his benefit. He was wise in the decision to attend.

**GOING TOO FAR.**

Senator Norris didn't mince words in his denunciation of William R. Hearst for the publication of certain documents charging four Senators with being party to a slush fund raised in Mexico. The other Senators were Borah, Heflin and LaFollette.

Hearst said he bought the documents from a Mexican and in his examination before a Senate committee admitted that he did not think the charges were true. The documents intimated that the four Senators were to receive about \$1,000,000, presumably for a friendly attitude toward Mexico.

Senator Norris charges that Hearst is a man "without honor" and charges him with being unfair. Before such documents were used, the Senator argued, Mr. Hearst should have made inquiry of the Senators, and certainly should have expressed his own personal views.

We agree with Senator Norris in the contention that the publisher did not do all he should have done. If he felt that the documents did not represent the truth, and he admitted on the stand that such was his belief, he should have said so in an article accompanying the documents. Rather, if he felt that the documents were not true he should never have published them.

We doubt that many other publications and agencies are offered such documents as these. Senator Norris said it was common knowledge in Washington that such papers are offered often, but where the publisher finds them to be without fact they are turned down.

That is what Hearst should have done. He was particular to study the libel law before he published them, he admitted on the stand. He did not carry the names of the Senators, disclosing them for the first time during his examination before the Senate committee. The fact that he studied the libel law first and omitted the names of the Senators proves, it seems to us, that he knew something was wrong somewhere.

Hearst has a bitter hatred for Mexico and apparently was willing to make public documents he did not think were true in an effort to prove that this nation has reason to despise Mexico. That is the most serious aspect of the case it seems to us. If he had any other motive, what was it?

Just a deep-rooted hatred for everything Mexican and he was willing to publish charges he didn't think were true, charges affecting seriously the reputation of United States Senators, simply because he wanted cause further complications between the two nations.

**HELPING THE TIMID MALE.**

A Birmingham store has introduced a new idea for this part of the country. Finding that many men feel a hesitancy about buying certain goods from women, especially when these goods are for other women, this Birmingham store once a week replaced all female clerks with male clerks, the plan being tried at night only. One of Birmingham's store executives, commenting on the innovation, says:

"The plan works something like this: Invitations are issued by mail to men residents that, on such-and-such a night, such-and-such a store will be open to men and that all saleswomen will be supplanted with salesmen, thus precluding any embarrassment in certain departments.

"We were not only most successful with this evening financially, with store crammed full of men seeking sanctuary for one evening of uninterrupted shopping but had an amusing and entertaining time as well. The only improvement I would make on the occasion would be to have it earlier and this year I am going to have two of them.

"Speaking of our evening last year, and the amusing as well as the successful financial side of it, the men shoppers made quite a lark of it. We had only 15 men to wait on customers, and the store became so filled that patrons had to be directed to go ahead and make their selections alone. The men were all about having lots of fun out of each other—trying on kimonos, hunting for sizes and so on. It was three hours of real fun and profit, for the sales were very large, and the store crowded during the entire time with men streaming in up until the last minute."

**TELL THEM ABOUT THE SOUTH.**

In the course of an announcement of a special issue planned for publication by the Charlotte Observer the following amazing statement is made about the lack of information in regard to North

Carolina in the text books studied in the schools of that state. On this point The Observer says: "The high school students of North Carolina find more information in their text books about the resources of the Congo than they do of their own state. There is not a text book in print which gives the slightest conception of the dramatic struggles made by the leaders of industry to place North Carolina in the front rank of states as a great industrial center and the rising generation is given practically no information about the state's billion dollar industry or the history of its establishment."

The Manufacturers Record thinks it is time the text books in the South gave the students an accurate idea of what the South is doing. It is well and good to know about the Congo, but it is far better for the children to know about their own South, its progress, its future hopes and the men and things who have made it the talk of the world today. The Record wisely says:

We do not for a moment question the accuracy of this statement, and yet it is a striking illustration of the unwisdom of educational work in the South which never has adequately set forth what the South has, what it is doing, and what the history of the Old South tells of the men who created the business interests of that section. We have often marveled to find that many professors in Southern colleges know so little about the Old South or the real achievements of the South of today. For years we have been pleading with Southern educational institutions to stress the importance of the history of the South from the industrial or business standpoint as to its past and its present. It is gratifying to see that The Observer has come out with such a bold statement, which should challenge the attention of every educator in North Carolina and challenge the attention of every father and mother in the South who should demand that their children be adequately trained and educated in a knowledge of the South.

**WHAT WILL BE THE PLEA?**

It is almost impossible to conceive of the thought that led to the kidnaping and murder of the 12-year old Los Angeles girl. Lured from home by a lie, the child was forced to write her parents and then before the demands of the kidnapers were met, she was mutilated and murdered.

Rewards totalling \$50,000 have been offered for the arrest of the guilty persons and it is hoped this huge sum, plus the aroused ire of the whole country, will lead to a quick solution to the mystery. There have been few such revolting crimes in the history of America. It makes ones blood boil to contemplate the fate of this innocent child.

And when the trial finally comes up, for the murderers will be caught, there will be the same old pleas of insanity. There will be efforts to make the trial drag along until the public has somewhat forgotten the horrible details, and technicalities galore. Every agency at their command will be utilized and no doubt it will be months and probably years before the guilty persons ever pay for their dastardly crime.

One can hardly picture a sane person cutting off the arms and legs of a girl, or wrapping a wire around her neck and sticking the ends through her eyelids. Yet, one cannot picture an insane person mapping out such a program as the slayers did in this case. The letters to the father of the girl were not the products of a diseased mind. They were written by a distorted, evil and designing mind, but we can't afford to let such people escape the full power of the law. The whole thing was planned by some criminally inclined persons who showed a brutality seldom equaled in American history.

There should be no let-up in the manhunt until the guilty persons are caught and then justice should move with speed and determination. We can't afford to let such cases as this drag through our courts. America cannot sit idly by while such crimes as this are being committed. It demands speed and vigor, both on the part of the law enforcement officers and the court officers.

**DON'T TAKE CHANCES WITH CHILDREN.**

Suggestion has been made by one of Concord's physicians that the public schools should be closed three weeks instead of two, so that scores of children now suffering with measles will have time to thoroughly recover from the effects of the disease before resuming work.

Without seeking to dictate a policy to the school officials we pass the suggestion on to them, with the belief that they are primarily interested in the welfare of the children. Measles often has a distressing after-effect, affecting in many

cases the eyes of the patient. For that reason this physician suggested that work should be halted for three weeks, so that those children who are ill, or those who will be ill during the holiday season may have time to thoroughly recover before resuming their work.

We can't afford to take chances with the children. It is a fact that scores of them are ill now and while the holiday season may check the spread of the malady, it will not bring to an end completely the epidemic now sweeping the county, and school officials, it seems to us, would be wise to give consideration to this physician's suggestion.

The disease is especially prevalent among the primary grades and these children are just at the age where their future is at stake. Bad effects of measles might leave them handicapped for the remainder of their lives, and certainly no such ill effect would follow from an additional week's holiday. Our suggestion is that the school officials give this matter consideration, remembering that their first duty is to see that the children are not unnecessarily exposed to conditions that might hamper them through life.

Washington, it is said, does not like at all the Hilles statement that President Coolidge will be forced to accept the Republican nomination. It is felt in the capital that the President has been explicit enough finally on this question and that his admirers are doing an injustice to him and to others who want to be candidates when they insist that the President will be forced to accept the nomination. In this attitude we sympathize with the President. We do not think he was explicit enough in the August statement, but certainly in his talk before the National Committee he was plain enough, and there was in the statement no hint that he wants to have or will accept the nomination again. By insisting that President Coolidge is the one man they want certain Republicans are leaving the impression that the others mentioned for the place are not suitable, and this is embarrassing to them and their supporters. Certainly in some quarters some Republicans are giving the impression that the party is without Presidential timber with the elimination of the President. That may be true but certain of the Republican leaders don't want it emphasized to such an extent.

**TOO SOON FOR PROPHECY**

The speculation in Washington as to the possibility of a veto of the new Tax bill, because it calls for a reduction in excess of what the administration believes to be the safe limit, is a bit premature. The bill in its present form is by no means the measure which will eventually be presented to President Coolidge for his signature. It has yet to run the gauntlet in the Senate, where it will be considerably altered if that body adheres to its long-established custom. Then it will go to conference and emerge as a hybrid of the House and Senate productions.

What can happen may be inferred from a summary of the history of the Revenue Bill of 1923. As it passed the House, that bill called for a cut of \$225,000,000 or \$25,000,000 more than recommended by the treasury. The Senate went the other way, proposing to raise the cut to \$450,000,000. The conference compromised with a reduction of \$387,000,000. When the Senate got the bill from the House it proceeded to throw out the estate tax and the taxes on automobiles and theatre admissions. When the measure went to conference these taxes were restored, but with some changes from the rates in the House bill.

Something similar may be expected from the present Congress. Whether the Senate will again favor more drastic reductions than the House has made cannot, of course, be forecast. If it listens favorably to the plea of the National Chamber of Commerce for a total reduction of \$400,000,000, as is expected by some Washington observers, the House will hardly concur. But it is too early to judge whether the Senate will again prove more liberal than the House, or whether this time it will hold closer to the limit urged by the administration.

**PROGRESS**

Newton D. Baker, secretary of war during the latter part of Wilson's presidency, yielded to a newspaper reporter's request the other day and glanced back over the past quarter-century for changes. He found that in his opinion, the world is improving. He named four items of betterment. Business morality has infinitely improved over what it was even 20 years ago. Modern conveniences have given more leisure which the public is using more wisely. The political life of the country has vastly improved—the oil scandals and other evils of the period are bad enough, but should not be considered typical of the times or of the whole political field. Education has improved in technique and content.

There are occasions when it takes much optimism to see these gains. But an honest and intelligent person must recognize that on the whole they are accomplished facts.

**OUR CHARITY SITUATIONS**

Rutherford County News. Every community that is progressive has charity problems. Holy Writ says, "The poor ye have with you always." There are people in our community who need and will get no Christmas treat unless someone helps them. There are children who will not know about Santa's visit on Christmas Eve, unless they get help. The case of this distress is another story, which we shall not discuss.

The Associated Charities which was organized last fall has not properly functioned. It has done much good. The News suggests that, since the various churches and civic organizations of the community will do charity work, so that they inform the superintendent of public welfare, or pastor of the various churches just who they will help, so the work will not be duplicated and no one missed. The list of needy cases will be published next week. Pick out the ones you wish to help and notify the superintendent of public welfare or your pastor. Then the welfare officer and pastors can co-operate and much good be accomplished.

**STATISTICS OF FREE LOVE**

New York World. The Rev. Dr. John Haynes Holmes, says a dispatch from Chicago, told an audience at the Abraham Lincoln Centre that "marriage may become obsolete: free love is more prevalent than at any other time in history."

If such is the case, it would be idle to deny that the situation is grave. But is such the case? Is free love "more prevalent than at any other time in history?" If so, how does the reverend doctor know? Has he any exact statistics? For we suspect that it is part of the nature of those who indulge in free love to lie about it afterward, and thus any figures that have been collected from them must be very dubious. And if the reverend doctor hasn't any exact statistics, why does he speak so confidently and get people excited over a state of affairs which must exist largely in his own imagination?

For our part, we believe that this free-love business is pretty much the same now as it was fifty years ago or a hundred and fifty years ago. So we decline to get excited, or to fear that the human race is going to pot. It has been going to pot, we notice, at all times in its history, and yet it never seems to get there. As to marriage, the last time we visited the city hall there were two or three hundred persons waiting to get married, and that strikes us as enough for one day.

**DEGENERATED RELIGION**

Winston-Salem Journal. "King Ben" Purnell died Friday. "King Ben" was head of the House of David, an eccentric religious sect, the members of which shared an implicit confidence in his motives and leadership. No authentic mention was made of his death at the colony because his disciples thought it would be useless since he would rise on the third day, which was yesterday. "But Monday came and "King Ben" remained cold and lifeless in death. The form that had been his continued to lie motionless—there was no resurrection on "the third day."

Such freaks as "King Ben" and his House of David colony may do some good—by contrast they bring out into clear relief the value of rational and sane religious beliefs. People think religious thoughts with the same mind they think any other kind of thoughts. A wholesome religion and a healthy mind are mutually essential. Some people take no interest in religion at all. They ride along with the tide apparently believing that the ebb can never change into the flow. But there can be no such a thing as the absolute disappearance of religion. Nor will human beings ever outgrow it. But religion can degenerate into meaningless, unintelligent, even-immoral forms. Of the latter, "King Ben's" outfit was a startling illustration.

**RUSSIA "GRANDSTANDING"**

Charlotte News. On the heels of Russia's doubtful proposal to scrap all armaments, there now comes news that Moscow is formulating the revolution in China and that Russian officers are at the head of the bloody Communist uprising.

When Russia made her startling recommendation a few weeks ago that every nation in the world destroy its military and naval forces, thereby bringing an effectual end of war, other powers were dubious. Russia had been caught red-handed arousing discontent in England. She was accused by the United States of mixing into Mexican affairs and suspected generally of being at the bottom of disturbances all over the world. And Geneva delegates could not believe the wolf could so suddenly be transformed into a lamb.

Now, by its activities in China, the Soviet has given further proof that it was playing to the international grandstand at Geneva. It is trying to shake hands in daylight and slit throats at night.

**TAX REDUCTION PROSPECTS**

Charlotte Observer. The Washington correspondent of The New York Journal of Commerce indicates that the Democratic opposition to making the proposed reduction to corporate income taxes retroactive is going to be lost. Representative Garner is leader in this opposition and he is reported as admitting that he would probably not be able to hold the Democrats in line, while there is some talk that there will be quite a block of Republican votes for him. The total, however, is expected to fall short of a sufficient number to vacate the action of the committee and leave the proposed 11-12 per cent rate to be applied for the first time against the corporate net incomes of next year.

The Democrats have three other objectives—a further reduction by one-half of 1 per cent in the corporate tax rates, repeal of the tax on automobiles and dues and repeal of the tax on amusements. While not all of the Democrats are in sympathy with a further corporate tax cut it would be hard to find any number who will fail to support the other two moves. It is predicted that the move to repeal the automobile tax will be successful.

**HEARST AT BAT**

Durham Herald. W. R. Hearst says of the Democratic presidential possibilities, James A. Reed stands the best chance of being elected and Alfred E. Smith the best chance of being nominated. It is a bit surprising that Hearst would admit that Al stands a good chance of achieving any honor. Hearst is not a Sixth admirer, and the feeling is reciprocated by Al. The more Hearst attacks Smith, the stronger Smith gets. One of the reasons for Smith's large support is the enemies he has made. But we can't figure out how Reed stands any better chance of election. He is wet, and the prohibitionists, if they are consistent, will be against him. He was the bitterest enemy Woodrow Wilson had except Henry Cabot Lodge and, therefore, should not have the hearty support of Wilson's friends. He has no platform that will win votes from the Republican party, and for any Democrat to be elected he will have to carry the Democratic states and win a lot of Republican votes to boot.

**ENGLAND'S VANISHED CIVILIZATION**

G. K.'s Weekly. In the age of Pitt or of Peel the ruling class was in contact with the people; it was representative and very patriotic, in spite of its faults it was a tolerable regime. The aristocracy reduced all public affairs to private business, and decided national questions in accordance with the wishes of individuals and of factions. The only justification for men who assumed that the revenue of the state was their private right was the patriotism with which they used it. Today the aristocratic civilization of England has perished. It was a thing peculiar and very national, noble and generous in spite of its faults. It is for a new generation to create a new civilization out of its remains, for plutocracy has brought those who still adhere to the old face to face with chaos.

Most trouble from our modern youth is caused by those in their second childhood—Wall Street Journal. The man with the hoe doesn't get nearly so far these days as the man with the hokum.—Beloit News.

**FLOGGINGS**

Durham Herald. From The Charlotte News: "If memory serves me Wake county is the only section of the state that has been visited by outrages of this kind in years." The News was speaking of floggings in Greensboro News reporting that, although floggings must be some folks in Durham county that it were so."

The only distinction that Wake county has its exclusive property is that arrests of the county a bit of money, as no convictions can be had. We had hoped that Wake county have had a good effect not only on that but in other counties.

We have long ago given up hope of arrest in connection with the Durham effort to find out something about the election quickly and the law officials in that county get and effectively subsided. They have dismissed it from their minds even get peevish if anybody is so true as to it to their memories. As nothing was done during the past year, it was thought much to expect anything in the next year.

The coming year is election year. What should elective officers fear the voters' element that is not given to full and observance of the law more than the law-abiding voters? It should not be that but it is. The more responsible citizens should go to the polls, while those who have no elective officers know where to count in when election day comes. Those voters who a substantial outlay of money to stand in line to vote, for the sake of the vote, supposed to vote solely on principle. The result is too evident. Many practical politicians know where to look for vote necessary to win.

If the element of voters who should be interested in proper law enforcement and government would ever get the habit of voting per cent strong, there would be a change in attitude of officials towards floggers, bribery and other political interests that are working for selfish purposes.

**LINDY AND THE BULL FIGHT**

Winston-Salem Journal. Should Colonel Lindbergh have attended bull fight given Sunday in Mexico City was the question. He did so regardless of the tests forwarded by individuals and some of this country urging him not to accept the invitation. Despite the protests, the noted aviator's countrymen will not prove his action in accepting an invitation extended him by his hosts to an exhibition of their national sport.

Colonel Lindbergh did not go to Mexico for the people. And if it is doubtful whether passion for bull fighting is a weakness that he modified or wholly existed, that is not in this country. Sentiment is against it, it is perhaps well enough. The people of the States know nothing about bull fighting, what they have read. Probably the only enough. It is extremely unlikely that bull fighting will ever be introduced into the United States as a sport. It is just as likely, however, many Americans would be surprised to see a bull fight were they visitors in Mexico. Bull fighting is criticized because it is brutal and inhuman. But Americans, who have the sight of animal blood, though hunters go out after birds, ducks, bear and the sum total of suffering inflicted upon hunters' prey is probably vastly in excess of torture Mexican bulls that have to face the man torturers endure. And as for the human danger involved in bull fighting, that matched, if not outdone, in the American mobile race where the spectators wait with less anticipation for a wreck in which life or limb of daring drivers is endangered. It is unbelievable that a Mexican might be expected to attend an automobile race in the U. S. States.

**HEADLIGHT LAW**

Warren Record. "It is just another scheme of the State to money out of us poor car owners," someone commented as he stood in line last summer waiting for his automobile license. He referred to headlight testing law. Arguments followed and con.

We believe the person above quoted was as to the purpose of the State in passing the regulation. We believe that the idea is a good one. But the law seems to have just a few others in the unenforced class in North Carolina. So far as practical results are concerned it might as well be "another scheme of the State to money out of us poor automobile owners."

We feel that an actual count of the highways would show fully 50 per cent of cars without the certificate required by the law. The person who has his lights repaired as a secret. He is just as likely to be wrong to penalize for obeying the law as the merey of the man with the glaring lights.

If we could pass one rule that governs the legislature, it would be: No law could be enacted until it was demonstrated that existing machinery had been provided for its enforcement. The headlight law enforced is a scandal. The State should have more respect for the justy of its laws and see that this one is enforced.

**POLITICAL CHANCES**

Durham Herald. "Has Lowden a chance?" asks the Citizen. That's not the interesting question here now. Can the Democrats elect any possible candidates, at all? No, not at all. It is Smith, Reed, Riche, Young, Denton, Adon, Baker, or some of the others. That question, that is, is not of importance, whether Lowden has a chance? Unless there change among the Democrats about the support to Lowden, Hoover, Baker or some other Republican is to win the nomination. With half of the Democratic party supporting Hoover and the rest of them not supporting anyone in particular, being just against Smith, it is readily seen why the Republican position scrambling for the nomination.

**EFFICIENT INEFFICIENCY**

Monroe Journal. There's nothing like government efficiency. The statistics were given out by the publishing statistics were given out by the publishing last Thursday. They contained the usual gobs ginned up to December 1, 1922. The local statistician been allowed to go to the newspapers the figures for Union county. A meandering time these figures reached the editor of a day or two ago from the hand of the statistician. And now Mr. Fisher, the head of the Union County, will be allowed to tell us how many were ginned in Union County. The figures were ready been informed by the government.