MITTO OLLI MI TALL OTO GREENSBORD, N.C.

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Only Eighty-Four Years Ago.

In these days of quick transportation by land and sea, when every other man owns an automobile and the fellow who hasn't one of his own rides in his neighbor's; when all the luxuries of our modern life are provided on the splendid pullman trains that cross the continent in less than five days; when a net work of trolley lines makes of the populous centers one big community, and when every country town has its electric street cars and facilities for neighborly relations with the outside world, it is hard to realize that only eighty-four years ago the experiment of laying a railroad track on the streets of a city was attempted in America.

A man living at Summit, N. J., has brought to light from his collection of treasured relics a copy of the New York Courier and Enquirer containing a full and detailed account of the first trip made on the Harlem railroad over the mile of single track that had been completed from Prince street along the Bowery to Fourteenth street. In the light of what is going on today, and by way of comparison, the report, from which the following is taken, is so interesting as to make pleasant reading :

The Harlem Railroad Company with the Mayor, Corporation and strangers of distinction left the City Hall in carriages to the place of depot near Union Square where two splendid cars made by Milne Parker, each with two horses, were in waiting. These cars are made low with broad iron wheels which fit the flanges of the railroad after an improved model from the Liverpool and Manchester cars. They resemble an omnibus, or rather several omnibuses attached to each other, padded with fine cloth and handsome glass windows, each capable of containing, outside and inside, fully forty passengers. The company was soon seated and the horses trotted off in handsome style with great case at the rate of about twelve miles an hour, followed by a number of private barouches and horsemen. Groups of spectators greeted the passengers of the cars with shouts and every window in the Bowerv was filled.

The distance was not far from the old residence or farm of Governor Stuyvesant and could our worthy Dutch ancestors, Rip Van Dam and others, have beheld what was formerly their cow path, covered with iron railways on which elegant carriages were rapidly moving, they would have imagined that witches and warlocks had been at work, and spooks had whisked their old habitations in the region of fancy. Those who made violent objections to laying down these tracks, and fancied a thousand dangers to the passing travellers, now look at the work with pleasure and surprise. Carriages of all kinds now cross and recross the railway without impediment ; and there exists not a single objection to bringing it down to the Park or Bowling Green, except the temporary inconvenience of breaking the paving and laying down the stone abutment. The comfort and convenience of this railroad to our *Atizens will be inconceivable. Instead of being cramped and confined to a single lot of ground and close atmosphere in the city, an acre or two will be purchased and a comfortable house built at a reduced expense, a garden, orchard, dairy, and other conveniences follow; and the train of railroad carriages will start from Trinity Church and convey passengers to Harlem and the intermediate stopping places with as much facility and ese as they are now conveyed to Greenwich Village. These are a few of the advantages which this small undertaking promises; and in fact it will make Harlem the suburbs of New York. For fishing excursions to Harlem River and pleasant summer rides, it is presumed the cars will be kept in constant motion. In those days as in these, it will be observed, there was the doubting Thomas-the kicker, the man who didn't want the streets torn up, the men who thought the old way was good enough, and the man opposed to progress on general principles. But the man with a vision was there-he saw things and he convinced others. The track was laid, the idea worked out, the experiment was voted a success.

What's the Matter With Charlotte?

The city of Charlotte-the Queen City of North Carolina, has gotten the municipal government science down to a fine point when the city council can meet-once a month, is it?and transact all the business coming before that august body in thirty-five minutes by the clock. Following is a report of the last meeting, as given in the Charlotte Observer:

Exactly 35 minutes was the time taken by the executive board for transaction of all the city's business Thursday afternoon, timed by a clock at the city hall. During that short space of time very few matters cam ebefore the body and nothing of an important nature was attended to.

Following the reading and adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting Mayor Kirkpatrick read a request in which he stated that \$5.50 had been expended in decorating the city hall on Wilson day, asking that the money be refunded him. The board unanimously voted to refund themoney.

The only stage of the 35-minute meeting which took on a interesting angle was when a request was ready from R. D. Craver, chairman of the Charlotte committee which is in charge of entertaining the approaching convention of the North Carolina Motion Picture Exhibitors League, that he be leased the auditorium the night of December 19.

After the request had been read, Commissioner W. F. Elliott rose and stated that he did not know whether the auditorium should be rented to the convention or not.

When asked why, Commissioner Elliott stated that in view of the fact that it was to be used for a big ball the plans might conflict with the recent "Stewart law." There was a laugh and then the board voted to rent the building to the motion picture exhibitors.

And we are moved to enquire, what's the matter with Charlotte? How does it happen that in a great and growing city dealing with all the problems of our complex modern life. during the period of an entire month there could be no question of sufficient importance to be acted upon by this official body beyond passing upon a \$5.50 bill for money advanced by the mayor and a resolution to rent a public hall for a motion picture exhibit. Seems to us that the city is either standing still or is being operated by a city manager and doesn't know

Take it here in Greensboro, where our commissioners meet every day, and it is hard to limit the sessions to the time alloted for discussion of public questions. There is always a demand here and a suggestion there, and enough public interest to call for a daily report in the newspapers. It is to provide for such demands and to consider such suggestions that we have commissioners, and why shouldn't they be made to carn their salaries? That is the way the taxpayer looks at it and he feels that, inasmuch as he is paying the bills, he has a right to say what disposition is to be made of his property. But Charlotte appears to have solved all her problems and presents to the world the finished product in town building. Wonder what has become of Booster Kuester?

Food Problem Serious.

An effort to reduce the price of food stuffs to something like normal, in order that people of moderate means may be able to obtain the tionality of the Adamsdir eight hour law. It stuffs, as a means of meeting the present crisis. absolute necessities of life, has been begun in savs: New York city by the various civic organizations co-operating with the labor unions and citizens who see in the continued upward tendency real suffering ahead for many honest wage earners and a class of the unemployed in danger of winding up in the bread line.

In this great land of peace and plenty, wu* reports of good crops and unprecedented prosperity, it doesn't seem reasonable that people able and willing to work, and with plenty of work to give employment to all who seek it, should be deprived of proper nourishment because the prices of food stuffs are prohibitive. That something is wrong somewhere all are agreed, and as usual when there is a big problem to be solved, the men, in their extremity, have put it up to the women to assume that pleasant burden. State Commissioner Dillon, discussing his plan for a \$3,000,000 terminal, wholesale foodstuffs market said:

"When the people rise up in their might and demand the changes which would reduce the cost of living they can get what they want. I look to the women of this city to solve this problem. They are beginning to be interested, and as soon as they fully understand the situation they will force the hand of those in authority.

"At present producers haven't access to cold storage plants. They won't let them have facilities. Now, if there was a public terminal market with storage facilities, producers could store foodstuffs when things were cheap. What do you suppose would happen if the State of New York had such a plant and released for sale a lot of eggs when eggs were high and were being held by speculators for still higher prices? Prices would come down right away and speculators would have to be satisfied with fair, instead of exorbitant prices. And the consumer would get the benefit."

It is planned to organize a demonstration of 50,000 housewives to present to Mayor Mitchel a protest against high food prices. Unions in other cities are getting ready to send delegations to Washington to make a demand upon President Wilson for a Government investigation of conditions and to pave the way for remedial legislation.

All labor unions in the country are being asked to indorse the action of the American Federation of Labor's executive committee in calling upon the President to order such an inquiry.

United States Attorney Marshall admitted that the local Department of Justice is investigating the rise in food prices. If enough evidence is gathered to justify an investigation, Mr. Marshall says, Washington will decide which district in the country is to undertake the burden of an omnibus proceeding instead of allowing the various districts to carry on disjointed actions on their own hooks.

The New York Sun does not think much of the methods adopted for testing the constitu-

EVERITE TO BECODE

A Bit Too Hasty.

"Some of the most firmly established principles of American legal procedure have been conspicuously violated in the disposition of the litigation instituted in the West to test the constutionality of the Adamson eight hour labor law.

"In the first place, the judgment is only a pro forma decision. It is not the outcome of careful and deliberate judicial consideration. In the case decided in the United States District Court by Judge Hook there is no pretence that the decision represents the result of any serious thought upon the momentous question involved. It is avowedly a hasty judgment rendered forthwith upon the presentation of the case, because the Department of Justice desired to get it before the Supreme Court at Washington as speedily as possible.

"The motive of the Attorney-General is natural, but it has carried him too far when he insists upon a decision in the court of first instance which is only a decision in form. It has heretofore been an nvariable rule in appellate courts that they will review only actual determinations of the courts below, not fictitious judgments rendered solely to expedite appeals. This rule is based upon substantial grounds. The parties to a litigation are entitled to the carefully considered judgment of the trial court, not merely to a guess, as in the present case, whether an act of Congress is constitutional or not. Furthermore, the appellate tribunal in all matters of grave import is entitled to the aid and advice which may be furnished by an opinion from the court below. Here, however, we have the unprecedented spectacle of a Federal Judge condemning an act of Congress as unconstitutional without telling the reason why!

"In the second place, if a starute is susceptible of any reasonable construction which will uphold its validity it is the duty of the courts thus to construe it. Admitting that it is important that a review of the eight hour law by the Supreme Court should be expedited, and therefore that a speedy decision in the District Court was desirable, the District Judge, if he had to jump at a conclusion, should have acted upon the presumption in favor of the constitutionality of the law and pronounced it valid.

"The methods adopted in getting the courts to pass upon the Adamson law are almost as bad as the methods used to compel Congress to pass it. We shall be surprised if they receive the approval of the Supreme Court of the United States,"

No Cause to Kick.

Colonel Bob Gray, of the Raleigh Times,

Would Be Suicidal. WELLIN IN THE MERIN What seems to us a sane and reasonable position regarding the proposed embargo on foodis taken by the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot, which expresses the belief that the government cannot be misled into the adoption of a policy so suicidal. "It is, of course, unforunate that there should have been such a heavy shortage in the crops of foodstuffs this year, when there is such an extraordinary demand for them;" but the argument is advanced that "this situation is not to be helped by artificial attempts to regulate distribution, while any such attempts would undoubtedly have the effect of destroying, in greater or less measure, the legitimate stimulus

for a larger production next year constituted

by existing conditions." "To impress such an embargo as is proposed would be to reduce the farmers of the country. including the hundreds of thousands of laborers dependent upon the agricultural interests. from unprecedented prosperity to a condition of comparative penury. The transportation lines, too, and their employees would be disastrously affected to an equal degree, for nothing would move from the fields of production except a sufficiency to meet the domestic demand. In fact, every industry in the country would be more or less paralyzed and conditions would follow approximating the business stagnation and bankruptcy that attended the American embargo instituted by Mr. Jefferson a century ago. Prices would, indeed, fall, but much greater would be the reduction in the ability of the great bulk of the consuming public to buy. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people who are now finding it difficult to make income meet an increased and increasing outgo, occasioned by advanced and advancing prices, would then be without employement and so without any income at all and consequently unable to acquire the necessities of life at any price.

"The present situation may be, and unquestionably is, far from satisfactory, so far as concerns the consumers, but to attempt to relieve it by the imposition of an embargo would be only to make a bad matter worse for the consumers, while inflicting a heavy and stupidly useless punishment upon both the producers and the country as a whole."

Playing For Even.

James West, the Egg King of Chicago, is not giving himself any concern about how many suffer for lack of food, if he is correctly quoted in the dispatches, of which this is a sample :

"Seventy million eggs?" he repeated, when told the New York Mercantile exchange reported he had that many. "I have more than that. I have more than 20,000 cases of eggs in Chicago alone. And what are they going to do about it?" "Did any one accuse me of being a manipulator last year when 1 got stung along with the rest? Not -o that you would notice it. Why does the public set up a howl for help this year and not last? "This is the broker's year, and as for me, I am going to sit tight and watch the price climb up and the public can pay. I The public might just as well prepare for the highest prices we ever had. The egg crop is 881,000 cases short of last year and the demand is greater." These are the kind of fellows the government should go after and go after hard. If he lost money in his speculations last year it was his misfortune and he was only one individual, easily taken care of if thrown upon the charitics of an unsympathizing world. In "playing for even" he is depriving children and invalids of the necessities of life and has no moral right to put money in his own coffers by such disregard of the life and welfare of the millions at his mercy.

And today? Well, truly it is true that large oaks from little acorns grow.

Will Urge Sanitorium.

Promoters of a tuberculosis sanitorium for Guilford county are planning to go before the board of county commissioners Monday with definite plans for the construction and maintenance of the proposed institution and attempt to show wherein our people are neglecting their duty in failing to make provision for the class of unfortunates which has created the urgent demand.

The committee appearing before the board will be one of the strongest ever presenting similar petition, the idea being to have two representatives for every voting precinct in the county together with large delegations from Greensboro, High Point, Jamestown, Guilford College, and wherever there is organized effort of any kind for community bet-

tagion and spread of the Great White Plague, into the campaign and the people respond. he doesn't, because there are no business meth-Looks like intelligentemen should be called has. Once at Shadow Lawn Gerard held a Guilford and every other county in North to jury duty; put under oath and let the case ods in his work, is to anticipate the rush and long conference with the President and anoth-Carolina should be prepared to guard itself proceed. But that would not be according to put on extra men and extra cars-like private er conference is booked for the near future. Jack London. against this dangerous enemy, and it should The death of Jack London, war correspondindividuals would do, and take care of the traf-Well, let us hope that what is in the air in the so-called "science of law." be supported by all the taxpayers rather than ent, story writer, and withal a literary genius, may be. fic the day it comes, no matter how much it this regard will materialize into a fact-and let In the first trial of Epstein the jury could by a few public spirited individuals. leaves a hole in the world of letters that will Christmas witness world wide peace. That not agree and a new trial was ordered which be felt around the world. will commence Monday. And another thing the post-master general would be the day to fix things up. And It Didn't Snow. Jack London was a lover of animals, as all suggests which would be a contradiction of hu-Many had hoped for a slight sprinkle of men are who have souls, and his appreciation -Raleigh is ready for the North Carolina man nature is to send the package a couple of A Minister Replies. snow instead of the rain for this blessed of the qualities which make life worth while Teachers Assembly and Raleigh cannot have weeks in advance and write on it "not to be A Hillsboro minister takes issue with the Thanksgiving Day-but the London fog was did not end with the human species. Who anything too good for the North Carolina opened until Christmas." Imagine a woman mayor of that town regarding the effect of on-the day was not what we wanted. And that has read his "Call of The Wild" failed to teachers. getting a package two weeks before Christmas | Mr. Ham's preaching on the citizens of his yet we are thankful that it was no worse. get the one touch of nature that makes "the and telling her not to open it until the glad community. The Record is pleased to print Keep your money at home-a good slogan day. Why if she didn't open it the minute she whole world kin?" the minister's article and let those interested -but if you do look not on the Christmas catareceived it she couldn't sleep a wink. form their own opinions. logue when it comes along about now. ----

Object Lesson in Government.

As an object lesson in the workings of the initiative and referendum the State Journal cites the recent case in this state of the constitutional amendments. The point is well taken when it says:

Those who consider the initiative and referendum of great value as an aid to government would do well to consider the history of the constitutional amendments recently adopted. Here were several very important changes in the law which had to be referred to the people. Two years ago they were submitted and the people voted them down by a substantial majority, not because there was any real objection to them, but because they did not take the trouble to understand their purpose and effect. They have just been submitted a second time and adopted by a good majority but a strikingly light vote. This light vote means that the people do not want to be troubled with such matters, even when they are of very great importance in the government of the state. They do not want to be troubled with such questions because their time and thoughts are taken up with their private affairs. If the people will not take advantage of the referendum in a matter of this kind, how can they be expected to do so if many far less important and complicated subjects are submitted to them?

People insist on considering the elective franchise as a privilege, and they seem to think that the electors are eagerly awaiting that privilege : but such is not the case. as the history of our constitutional amendment shows.

Well, the way to make them appreciate and exercise the "privilege" is to build up two strong parties so evenly matched that both sides will be compelled to put up their best men and the citizen who is really interested in

The Pity Of It.

The other day on the train we saw a man making a melancholy journey to Arizona-going there to get well, he said. He had with him some Doodle Bugs, no doubt of that, and he told us his tale of wee. A fellow feeling always makes us wondrous kind, therefore we were confidential. He carried a thermometor which he was continually putting in his mouth ; he had a half dozen ex-ray photographs of his left lung; he had a jug or two of different kinds of dope--emulsions and cod liver oil and the Lord knows what.

He was well along. The bugs had made deep inroads in his path, and it was plain to be seen that he would come home in a box. He told us the doctor advised him to go. He had left a wife and three children-had mortgaged his home to get enough ready cash for the journey and the sojourn-and thus he went alone to die. And he was told by the doctor that when he arrived he must not worry.

And that is what makes us tired. How can a man who leaves all his friends and goes to a strange country to be separated from all the money he has in the world-with death staring him in the face do anything but worry? Why send him from his loved ones-when the story is that two-thirds of them never come backand none of those in the last stages have a chance?

True many physicians now have awakened to the fact that climate has nothing to do with it; many have found that the right kind of treatment at home is far better than the same treatment away from home. But not all. There is still a melancholy journey going to the southwest for treatment-and that country is nothing in God's world but a clearing house for the cemetery.

Naturally we did not take from our new made friend the hope that seemed to be hiswe gave him what information we had on the subject and the section into which he was going and when we shook his hand and said good bye--we saw the grafters down there plucking him-and saw the box on its homeward journey. The doctors should not send such men into strange lands.

To Avoid The Rush.

The postmaster general sends word to all seeing his side win will see the necessity of doterment. The sanitorium will be urged not good people to do their Christmas mailing in the years before we had telegraphic com-Hymen Epstein is being tried for his life for ing his duty as a voter. The way it is now in as a matter of charity or sentiment, but on the early. It used to be urged to do your shopkilling Leonard Edwards has been postponed. munication great battles would be fought at the solid South there is little incentive to go to more practical grounds of prontable investping, but now Uncle Sam comes in and wants The reason is the old one. Hard to get a jury long distances from certain places and the news ment and self-protection. This not to suggest, any great trouble to express a choice. The all patrons to send their packages as long be-Under our wise laws a man who has read would leak in-somehow. That was wireless, man with democratic leanings but not directly by any means, that our people are lacking in fore Christmas as possible. But it will not do about a murder case or expressed an opinion the same as telepathy. It has "been in the air" interested feels that the party majority is persentiment or sympathy for the afflicted, but much good. The man who receives a Christwithout knowing the facts is not eligible to for several weeks that peace across the seas is fectly safe without him, and the republican merely that it is to be worked out as a business determine the case. What is generally wanted mas package two or three weeks before Christrobable. realizes that there is no chance for him, so proposition in which the whole county will mas doesn't get the thrill that's coming to him. is a man who cannot read and who is so in-Now it is being said that while Ambassador draw large dividends in restored health and what's the use to waste time on a forlorn hope. And the one sending the gift generally tries to Gerard has never admitted, and diplomatically different as to what transpires in his own In the great turbulent and progressive West, industrial activites. neighborhood that he never even heard of a time it in order to get it there the day before denied that he had any message from the where the result is uncertain, they put ginger Wth all the fuss being made over the contragedy that shocked a whole community. kaiser, the belief will not down but what he Christmas. What Uncle Sam should do, but

'calls" the sporting editor of the Richmond Journal who tried to say something mean about the Tar Heel boys but who appears to have been knocked out in a collision with Mr. Syntax. This is the story:

'Says the Richmond Journal-or, rather, some very young man writing on its sporting page:

If they (meaning the University of North Carolina) van do without the money Rich - ... mond has put up for years to see a poor quality of football, Richmond can certainly do without the game. . . Virginia, as far as the football struggles have gone, has more than done its share to make things interesting, but Carolina's miserably weak elevens for years has made the contests too one-sided to be worth seeing.

"There is more in the same strain," says the Times, "although this last is the only sentence in which this eagle-eyed sport expert manages to overwork a singular verb with a plural subject. But, speaking of eyes or perception, we refuse to believe that the author of these immature remarks is familiar with the relation of Richmond to the Carolina-Virginia game.

"In the first place, we have no information which leads us to believe that the universities of the two states are allowed to play in Broad street park without paying rental for the inclosure. Again, we refuse to believe that the University of North Carolina ever brought away any appreciable part of the money which its followers carried to Richmond. Richmond hotels profited by the game, so did Richmond places of amusement-including the bars. In fact, the game meant more money to Richmond than to any other interested party. As for the fans, all admit that they did not always see the class of football which North Carolina would have liked to have exhibited, but the gates opened both ways and nobody held any of the dissatisfied in the park.

"Still, we have no idea that Richmond itself and the people thereof bear the University of North Carolina any ill-will for wanting the game played now and then on home soil. It would seem that the ournal has recently hired a new \$7.50 a week sport expert, who must bluster a bit while his mustache annoys him by its failure to put in its appearance.

In The Air.

When we say that something is in the air, concerning what is to take place we suppose it is a telepathic proposition. It is related that

Some Common Sense.

The young man who ran over and killed a citizen of Salisbury was found guilty of manslaughter. In passing sentence Judge Frank Carter, and a big Judge, too, didn't send the unfortunate man to prison. He simply ordered him to pay a certain sum of money to the widow of the man he killed; pay the court costs; and appear at court each session for ine years to show and prove he had drank no whiskey. It strikes us that there is some common sense in this. The man who is running an automobile certainly has no malice against his victim. It is accidental-and the only reason for punishment is the fact that the man was drunk. So in order to make a good citizen of him Judge Carter gives him a chance. The widow of the dead man gets something out of it: the state has lost no money and the man must cut out his booze or go to the peniten tiary. That is about all that Society could within reason demand. Judge Carter may be peculiar in some things, but it looks to us that he carries a level head and sees things as they should be seen.

The Epstein Trial.

The sensational Epstein trial which was to have been on this week at Goldsboro, where