

Time for This Town to Come to Itself.

"If the affairs of an individual or of a private corporation were in the condition of the town of Monroe they would be in the hands of a receiver in fifteen minutes. The town is in debt perhaps a hundred thousand dollars, a sum far too heavy for a town of this size to carry. Its outgo is every day exceeding its income, with no apparent hope of a change. Yet a settlement day must come sometime. The tax payers must eventually foot the bill. Isn't it the policy of common sense to have a change before things get worse?"

Steady, now. This is no criticism of any officer, past, present or prospective. It is no campaign stuff. We don't care a hill of beans who hold the town offices. We have no candidates. So far as we know there is no "political talk." That is the trouble. We are dying of dry rot. Therefore, it is time for the people of the town to wake up; to take stock, to see where we stand and to decide upon a policy to avoid financial shipwreck.

Nobody knows what the town owes. Nobody knows what the income is. Nobody knows what the outgo is. But we all know that the town is heavily in debt and that its credit is badly shaken. All this is the inheritance of years. So far as we know or believe no particular one is to blame. We are all to blame. It is the result of a lack of business principles in the management of affairs from time immemorial. But it is certain that things cannot go as they are indefinitely. There must be a change or taxes will become unbearable and cripple the town's growth.

It is time for the people to come together and talk the situation over. It is time to forget everything but the one question of keeping our nose above water. Will we do it?

As said above, we have no criticism, for we honestly believe none is deserved. As one set or another of officers have gone in they were perforce sucked into the treadmill effort of keeping things together as best they might, hoping for something to turn up or for better days, when none came. If better days are to come the people must take an interest, get at the root of the matter, and bring about the better things. Whatever officers are elected next understood and appreciated and approved by the people of the town. We are sure that whoever is elected would much prefer to go in this way than to follow the old plan of going in on nothing and coming out in disgust. The situation is not peculiar to Monroe and there is no need to hide it. Other towns are in the same fix, and they are making efforts to get out. Shall we? Surely we can all agree to the following:

That whoever is elected shall go in pledged to find out at once an exact condition of the town's affairs, and that they shall cause to be kept for, say one year, an exact bank like set of books, for the purpose of determining exactly what the town's income and outgo are. Then, if no more revenue is in sight, to cut down the expense to a figure that can be paid.

Would it not be wiser to meet the situation now than to wait till the burden grows heavier? Has any one anything to say?

Resolutions by Cotton Association

At a meeting of the Union county branch of the Southern Cotton Association, held in Monroe Saturday, March 30th, the following resolutions were passed:

"Whereas, The cotton crop of 1906 approximated 13,500,000 bales and fair prices were maintained throughout the entire season.

"Whereas, Present indications point to a large increase in acreage for the present year, and in view of the stringency of the money market there is grave danger of a disastrous decline in prices of production is materially increased; and

"Whereas, The Southern Cotton Association at the Birmingham convention, foreseeing these dangers, recommended a reduction of 10 per cent. in acreage from last year's crop, therefore be it

Resolved, 1st, That we reaffirm our allegiance to the Southern Cotton Association and its leaders, and express our appreciation of the work they have accomplished.

Resolved, 2nd, That we earnestly urge upon farmers to stand loyally by the association in its demand for a 10 per cent. reduction in the cotton acreage for the present year, and a corresponding increase in food and forage crops, and thereby avert the calamity that increased production of cotton will most surely bring.

P. P. W. PLYLER, Sec. Pro. Tem.

Note from Rev. J. A. Bivens.

To the Editor of the Journal: I have received with great pleasure the nice presents that Mr. and Mrs. Stack brought me from the Holy Land as one of the lucky ones in the contest. I very much appreciate the nice souvenirs and desire to thank both Mr. and Mrs. Stack and the friends who so kindly remembered me with their votes. Yours truly, J. A. BIVENS.

Easter Service at Central Church.

The morning services at the Central Methodist Episcopal church on Easter Sunday included an appropriate musical service, all the numbers of which were finely rendered by the regular choir. The opening anthem, "Lo! the Tomb is Empty," was sung by the full choir. Miss Mary Davis sang beautifully the soprano solo, "Easter Morn." Mrs. Frank Laney, soprano, and Mrs. John W. Yates, contraalto, sang the fine sacred duet, "Dawn of Hope."

The church was beautifully decorated with flowers, the entire front of the pulpit platform being banked with lilies.

Rev. W. R. Ware, the pastor, took for the main text of his sermon verses 5-7 of the 28th chapter of St. Matthew, and, as a complementary text, St. John 11:25-27. Mr. Ware said that the resurrection of Christ was the central point of christianity, the fulfillment of the teachings of his life and death. It was the dawn of hope for the soul, leading up to the full noon of faith, in the bright light of which the hearts of mankind can rise to the clear perception of a glorious immortality.

"Take away the belief in the resurrection," said the preacher, "and what have we left? Christ required that belief from Martha when he said, 'I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and he that liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?' and he requires that belief from every one of us."

Awful Death of Young Boy.

A ghastly sight met the gaze of those who witnessed the killing of eleven-year old Jesse Payden by a train last night about 6:15 o'clock in front of the Tomlinson Chair Manufacturing Company, a few feet south of the depot. The boy is a son of Charlie Payden, a hard working, respected man living on Willowbrook street. Young Payden had jumped off a moving freight on to the side track. At the same moment a box car which had been given a shove by the shifting engine was bounding a foot or so behind him. In an instant the body of Payden was knocked down across the track and the wheels of the car passed over his neck, completely severing it from his body. His right arm was also mashed into a pulp, while the left hand was mangled in a horrible manner.

A crowd soon gathered to look upon the ghastly sight. His father was sent for. He came and with a broken heart looked first at the head of his offspring on one side of the rail, with two big bright eyes gazing toward heaven, and then at the body. He stooped as if to caress his dead boy and then he swooned away, moaning and wringing his hands in deepest despair as he lay prostrated. He was spoken to, but listened not, the anguish was tearing his heart strings. Strong hearts melted as they gazed upon the scene.

At the same moment down in the hollow on Willowbrook street the mother heard of the awful death of her first born, and was suffering the pangs of deepest misery. The wheels of the cruel car had cut the head off so completely that it lay not a foot from the rail. The face was as yellow as gold and two large eyes glistened at the onlooker, as if to add to the awfulness of the scene. A pair of corduroy breeches and dust-covered shoes and blouse waist covered the headless body and were not soiled the least by the cruel wheels that crushed out the life of the young boy. Physicians came and looked upon the scene, and later came the dead wagon and conveyed the remains to the undertaking establishment of J. W. Seckrest, where they will be prepared for burial.

Tom Walker Sentenced to Death.

Tom Walker, the negro who at Fayetteville a few weeks ago shot and killed two policemen and dangerously wounded a third while the officers were raiding a blind tiger kept by Walker, was put on trial in Cumberland county Superior Court last week, was convicted Wednesday of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to be hanged April 15.

Walker was taken to Fayetteville Monday from Raleigh, where he had been held for safe keeping. In the Fayetteville jail Tuesday he attempted suicide by beating his head against the iron bars and was severely injured. He was, however, taken into court Wednesday on a cot and his trial concluded. He made a statement in which he alleged that he ordered the officers out of the house and did not shoot until the chief of police attempted to shoot him.

Preacher Loses His Job for Trying to Kiss One of the Sisters.

At a meeting Thursday evening of the deacons and members of the Edgewood Baptist church, Rev. Geo. L. Barnwell, the pastor, was dropped from the church. The technical charge of unchristian conduct veiled the more serious accusation that the minister had caught, held and kissed Mrs. C. A. London, wife of the superintendent of the Sunday school, against her will.

In a statement charged with deep emotion, Mr. Barnwell admitted that the charge was true, and that the church could not do otherwise than withdraw fellowship from him. Superintendent London, who had brought the charges against the minister, was at the meeting. The offense occurred at the London home three weeks ago, and while Superintendent London was out of town. On his return to town, Mrs. London told him about the preacher's conduct—"fed it to him bit by bit," as he expressed it. He went to Chairman J. A. Gill of the board of deacons and told him about it. Rev. George Barnwell is 46 years old, is married and the father of grown children. He came to Edgewood about January 15, and he lives scarcely a block from the London. He formerly had a church at Abil, Mrs. London also has children and is some younger than Mr. Barnwell. According to Mr. London, he took the pastor to his home last Sunday night, and there the pastor and Mrs. London repeated, in dialogue, the conversations they had had during his absence. Superintendent London declares that the minister's penitence is genuine, and that he feels sorry for him. He felt like shooting him at first, he says, but thought better of it.

Immigration Problem to Date.

The vigorous movement inaugurated by the cotton mill men of the Carolinas to turn a tide of European immigration to the South has not been productive of any very satisfactory result. From the beginning, the movement has had no favor, but rather opposition and criticism, from the government. While it is true that government representatives went to Charleston and passed in the ship load of immigrants which arrived there last year, yet these same officials have been explaining that the South is not yet in condition to hold immigrants because wages and other conditions are not as favorable as in some other parts of the United States. The testimony at Greensboro refuted this allegation, but it continues to be made. The statement would seem to be based upon a comparison of wages in New York city or Pittsburgh with those in the rural South, and for kinds of labor not required or employed in the rural South, in rural New England nor in any other rural section.

But even on a farm the conditions in the South are more favorable than in any other part of the United States. The price of the principal staple crop, cotton, is more than twice what it was in the preceding decade. The revival of manufactures has created a population of industrial workers who become purchasers for cash of perishable farm products, such as fruits, vegetables, milk, butter, chickens, eggs, wood, etc., which formerly had little value except for home consumption. Ten years ago the people of the South were in poverty and this section had little inducement for the immigrant, but today times are different and they are in comparative affluence. The opportunity of the immigrant is now undoubtedly here, and the problem is how to have the better class of immigration brought to a knowledge of this new situation.

It transpires that the immigrants brought into the Carolinas are not of the most desirable kind. The payment of passage has been an inducement to an inferior element of an element not tenacious of any difficult purpose, and of those brought only too many are of the undesirable kind.

A City of Caravans.

The first of November is the official beginning of winter in the North, no matter what the temperature be, fires are lit in the schools and public buildings, and the janitor turns on the heat for the sad race of flat dwellers. Then all the smaller shows which cannot pay for a "stand" in the streets or squares go into winter quarters. Where I found a city of them out in the waste lands by the coast state of Missouri. In an empty square scores of caravans, drawn up in a line, the wooden palisades, ranged so as to form veritable streets, named after this showman or that. Dogs, chickens, rabbits, children, swarmed everywhere. Caravans of smoke rose from the chimneys of the wagons. Gandy rags were drying on lines. Will you look in one of the vans? It has two rooms. In one are the beds. The other is for eating. On all sides the walls are lined with closets and drawers. A little stove glows near the door. Here they are born, here they live and die, the entire dynasties of the voyagers—Vance

The Truly Beautiful.

There is, it has been said, no fixed standard of art criticism. What is lauded today is discarded tomorrow, and even connoisseurs disagree bewilderingly; but glowing back over the ages, it will be found that the ideal has been caused by technical divergence and that in every land and among all peoples the truly beautiful has been generally recognized and correctly esteemed. No one questions today the beauty of the Greek temple or the charm of the Babylonian pottery. It does not require trained eyes to recognize the merit of an ideal flower painting or to find delight in one of Whistler's nocturnes. The fundamentals in each instance are the same—rhythmic line, fair proportions and harmonious coloring. We have to be led oftentimes up the ascent of art, and there is much discussion concerning the highways, but once on the height all discussion ends, and we no longer need a guide—Lola Medalla in Century.

HOW MUCH FERTILIZER TO APPLY.

The question, "How much fertilizer should be used per acre?" cannot be answered definitely, but in a general way, it is sometimes put in this form: "What is the most profitable amount that may be applied?" Some of the questions in the amended form may be more accurately answered. The bulk, the character, conditions, etc., may be well known, or controllable factors, and we know not what the answer may be, says John H. How, Director Georgia Experiment Station, Department of Agriculture, in the Virginia-Carolina Fertilizer Almanac. We know that some crops will bear larger amounts of fertilizer than others, and that the amount of fertilizer that may be expected of other soils. A crop that requires the soil from the fall until spring, or early summer, will bear heavier fertilization than one that is planted in the spring and harvested in midsummer. The first case is illustrated by oats, wheat, or other grain, or grass, especially when sown in the fall of the year. Such a crop occupies the soil during the late fall and winter, and early spring—during which periods the rains are usually abundant—on a business basis and manages well, also ripening for harvest in the early summer, before the burning summer heat and the drought of June and July. Oats and wheat therefore are ideal crops for liberal fertilizing.

Hand the Housekeeper, if she be a mother of a large family, if weighted down with worries and cares—her household is beyond her strength, perhaps, yet if she studies her work, puts her household on a business basis and manages well, she can easily take twenty minutes or half an hour in the middle of the day to completely relax.

The Housekeeper's Problem.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

When a woman has the pains she cannot bear—when life seems to be every woman, she should confide her troubles to a physician of standing in the community, or one who has a national reputation. Certainly it would not be the part of wisdom to confide in an ignorant person without medical education, simply because she was a woman. There is every reason why she should write for advice, particularly to one who has made the disease of women a specialty for a third of a century, like Dr. R. V. Pierce, founder of the Invariable Hotel and Surgical Institute, of Buffalo, N. Y. All his correspondence is held strictly confidential, and he gives his advice free and without charge to any woman who writes to him.

"I must tell you what wonderful medicine our 'Golden Medical Discovery' and 'Favorite Prescription' are. My wife, Mrs. Nora Anderson, of Vandergrift, Westmoreland Co., Pa., 'These remedies have done wonders for me. I was a thoroughly run-down and worked-out woman as ever lived; and, in fact, contemplated suicide at different times. It would be impossible for me to describe my sufferings so you could understand all I had to go through—bearing-down pains; for getting up as though my back were almost torn across abdomen and it seemed as though a heavy pressure was there. I suffered untold agony; had severe pains through hips almost as severe as labor pains. Head would ache till it seemed it would burst. Face would be dark spotted and my stomach would bloat dreadfully. Soreness in womb was so severe that I had to lie on my back almost all the time. Our doctor seemed to be full all the time. Our doctor said that I had inflammation of womb and kidneys. He gave me a medicine to kill the pain. Oh! how I did suffer. I can never tell you how I felt. I sent for a bottle of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and one of his 'Favorite Prescriptions,' also some of his 'Pleasant Pellets,' and took these remedies according to directions. Now I am on my second bottle of each and feel a great deal better than for five years previous to trying these medicines. If I can only find money to continue I will become hearty and strong. I have tried other patent medicines but none ever did me any good. I am indeed thankful to God for putting in my mind to try Doctor Pierce's medicines. 'I will gladly answer any lady who may wish to inquire as to the truth of my statement.' May God's richest blessings be with you and yours."

Insurance and Real Estate.

If you want your Property or Life Insured, or if you want to Buy or Sell Real Estate, or Borrow or Lend Money we are ready to serve you.

We can handle your Real Estate to an advantage, and your insurance, well, we can give you the BEST.

We have the strongest Agency in the South and can write your Cotton Gins, Saw Mills, and special hazards, as well as your Dwellings and Mercantile Risks.

So just come on to HEAD-QUARTERS and get the best.

W. M. GORDON, Agt. AT THE PEOPLE'S BANK.

The People's Bank

The Housekeeper's Problem. THE FACTS OF THE CASE. Takes days for them to recover their strength. Of course, such periodic dieting has its bad effect on the nervous system, says Dr. Pierce in his 'Common Sense Medical Adviser.' The withered and drawn faces, the dark circles and 'crow's feet' over the eyes, the straggling figure without those curves which lend so much to feminine beauty, are the unmistakable signs of womanly disorders. The young girl should study how to make herself more attractive; how to overcome those bodily ills that pull her down. A sick woman cannot be a beautiful woman, nor can she do anything but a poor-spirited woman.

CONVULSION IN A MAN.

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HOW TO KEEP YOUTH AND BEAUTY.

Every woman, young or old, should know how to arrive at this knowledge, secure a good body, by using Dr. R. V. Pierce, Buffalo, N. Y. The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser can be procured by sending twenty-one cents in one-cent stamps for paper-bound volume, or thirty-one stamps for a cloth-bound copy.

Girl Shot in a Cemetery.

Standing on the square of a grave in East Hill cemetery tonight, Lillie Davis, age 20, of Johnson City, Tenn., was fatally shot, dying an hour after the tragedy. In company with her sweetheart, Ake Hale of this city, the dead girl had been walking in the moonlight. Hale, who is held on suspicion of murdering Miss Davis, maintains that she took her own life and says that she had been despondent all day. The police are in doubt as to who fired the fatal shot.

Sale of Real Estate Under Deed of Trust.

Under and virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by Mary Sellers and her husband, T. B. Sellers, on the 28th day of February, A. D. 1906, to John C. Sikes, trustee for The Sikes Company, which said deed of trust has been duly recorded in the office of register of deeds of Union county, in Book A2, page 100, etc., to which reference is hereby made; and whereas default has been made in the payment of the bonds therein secured, I will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, at the court house door in Union county, in the city of Monroe, N. C., at 12 o'clock noon, on Monday, April 29th, 1907, the following described tract of land, lying and being in Monroe township, near the G. C. and N. railroad, and being known and designated as lot No. 1 of the division of the estate lands of Thomas Williams, deceased, this lot having descended to Mary Sellers as her interest: Beginning at a p. o. and runs N. 84 W. 15 1/2 chains to a stake nearly in the center of the S. A. L. R. R. tract, R. L. Gordon's corner; thence with Gordon's line N. 5 E. 15 chains to a stake, Emma Kirkley's corner; thence with her line S. 65 W. 18 1/2 chains to a stake; thence S. 7 W. 15 chains, containing 24 1/2 acres more or less. Terms of sale are cash. Application having been made to me by The Sikes Company, the officers of the notes secured by this trust deed. This March 27th, 1907. JOHN C. SIKES, Trustee. Rodwine & Sikes, Attys.

Easter Clothing. Now is the time! Don't delay seeing our superb and complete showing of Men's and Boys' Spring Suits. There is no use denying our supremacy as Bargain Givers. We are clothing the city as well as the country with the right kind of up-to-date stylish hard-to-wear-out clothing. Strouse Bros. High Art Clothing. There is nothing commonplace about Strouse Bros. Suits. All know the great reputation of this firm's make. Correct in cut, Right in fabric, Perfect in fit and finish. They are made right, they stay right, and are the best that you can secure. All the newest styles in Plaids, Light and Dark Grays, Blue Serges, Black Unfinished Worsteds, Granites, etc. Regulars and slims, all sizes. \$15 to \$20.

New Arrivals in our Ladies' Furnishing Dept. New Belts. New Hand Bags. New Combs. Dozens of new styles in Back and Side Combs, Covered Mountings and Sets. Special leaders, 10c., 15c., 25c., 50c. and 98c. All of our New Dress Goods are now in. And a very attractive and large display it is. The newest and most wanted fabrics are here at popular prices.

W. H. BELK & BRO.

THE NEW GOODS

The kinds wanted for early Spring wear are coming in every day. These purchases were bought before the great advances and cannot be duplicated.

Table listing various goods and prices: Forty-inch White Lawn, at the yard, 10c; Linen Finish Waisting, at the yard, 10c and 15c; Very Fine All Linen Waisting, 36 inches wide, smooth quality and a 50c value, at the yd. 35c; Twenty-five cent quality Mercerized White Goods, at the yard, 5c to 15c; Yard-wide Percales, 12 1/2c quality, at the yard, 10c; Yard-wide Madras, at the yard, 8c; Audrey Suiting, at the yard, 10c; Mercerized Gingham in solid colors. This is decidedly the best value in Gingham we have ever seen, at the yard, 10c.

...GROCERIES... In our Grocery Department you will find almost anything in the line of Heavy and Fancy Grocery line. Mr. Thomas P. Smith has charge of this department and will take pleasure in quoting you prices. All kinds country produce wanted at

The Cash Mercantile Company The House That Saves You Money!

Stop at the Sign of PEOPLE'S DRY GOODS CO., and you will find the swellest line of Laces, Embroideries, White Goods, Linens, Shirt Waist Fronts, Lawns and other things to numerous to mention. Remember this is the place where you buy the best goods for the least money. Give us a trial and be convinced. The People's Dry Goods Company, Loan and Trust Building, Monroe North Carolina.