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### NEWS & INTERVIEWS

#### Sidelights on Monroe and Union County Life.

Mr. Frank Williams has a grievance against some Monroe merchant, who either intentionally or accidentally sold him salt for sugar. For the past few months, when a little sugar would arrive in Monroe, Mr. Williams would chase to one of the grocery stores and get a dollar package of the sweetening. In the course of time, he accumulated several packages. Saturday morning, he was forced to draw on his reserve supply, but on sipping his coffee, he discovered that some groceryman sold him salt.

#### Mr. Blair on the Baptists.

"The Baptists of the South sent a fine body of men to their convention, which was held in Washington last week," declared Mr. S. O. Blair, who returned the other day from a trip north. "I observed while in Washington," he continued, "that the delegates were perfectly at ease, conducting themselves as if they were in their home churches. The address of Dr. George W. Truett, of Dallas, Texas, was one of the most sensational features of the gathering. Standing under the shadow of the United States Senate, he said: 'I dare to say as a citizen and has a Christian and moral teacher that the moral force of the United States of America without any regard to political party, will never rest until we have a league of nations. I dare to say also that the unquestioned majorities of both great political parties in this country regard the delay in the ratification of the league of nations as a national and world-wide tragedy. I can certify to the men of all political parties that the moral forces of this country will not be silent until there is put forth a Great League of Nations that shall strive with all its might to put an end to the diabolism and the horror of war. I thank God that while the stricken man yonder in the White House pleaded and pleads yet that the nation will take its part with the others in bringing in a new era wherein shall dwell righteousness and peace.'"

#### The Magnitude of the Ford Plant.

From seven to eight hundred cars are being driven away from the Ford factory every day on account of transportation tie-ups, says Mr. F. G. Henderson, who is back from Detroit, where he inspected the Ford plant along with forty-seven other Ford dealers in North and South Carolina. "The Ford plant," said Mr. Henderson Saturday, "is a magnitude itself. It is five and one-half miles around the factory and sixty thousand men are employed. The maximum production is 4250 cars a day. The tractor plant is located about fifteen miles from Detroit, and is a separate business from the automobile factory. I saw 909 tractors bunched together in one field."

#### Morrison and Parker.

Mr. Morrison, in his speech here Saturday afternoon, took several good-natured shots at Mr. Parker, the Republican nominee, much to the amusement of the audience. His attitude towards Mr. Parker was one of benevolence. He likes him, and wishes him well, but at the same time he didn't hesitate to say that the Monroe candidate was in the wrong. His conception of a joint debate between Mr. and Mr. Gardner caused the audience to rock with laughter. "John Parker," he said, "is going to insist on a joint discussion. He likes to talk, and he'll hound the Democratic nominee until he agrees to meet him on the stump. Therefore, in case my young friend, Mr. Gardner, is the nominee, what are the Democrats going to do? The Shelby man refuses to tell his position on the issues of the day, requesting, in response to questions from folks who have a right to know how he stands, that they wait until he is elected. What if John Parker asks him how he stands on revaluation. What will he say? Will he say, 'now look here, John, don't push me too hard! You just wait until I am elected Governor. Then I'll tell you how I stand!' What would an intelligent audience think of a statement like this?"

#### Deserted to Get into Active War Service Quicker.

A Washington correspondent says that the navy has ceased its efforts to apprehend John M. Sullivan, of Newport, Kentucky, deserter in time of war.

Instead of dishonor, which always goes with desertion, a mark of honor has been placed after his record in the navy books, for it has now become known that John M. Sullivan, of Newport, Kentucky, died on a battlefield of France and died under circumstances that earned for him a Distinguished Service Cross. He died as John Shannon, member of a machine gun company.

It was no cowardice, nor a desire to avoid service that caused Sullivan's or Shannon's desertion. He enlisted in the navy at the outbreak of the war, and in the hope of seeing active service. And when he did not get to see active service, he took French leave from the navy and joined a machine gun company under the name of John Shannon. In that job he saw service immediately, and it was distinguished service, so recognized. It was while seeing this service that he gave up his life for his country.

Sullivan had told his story to his "buddy" and the "buddy" later related the story to Sullivan's father, so that identification has been complete.

### Local Happenings.

Monroe friends of Dr. and Mrs. J. E. Abernethy are receiving invitations to the marriage of their daughter, Miss Olive, to Dr. Frederick Brunell Spencer, Wednesday evening, June 9, in the First Methodist church in Salisbury. A number of Monroe people will attend the wedding.

Mrs. Z. V. Purser of New Salem township died Saturday and was buried in the family cemetery in Stanley county. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Columbus Hill of New Salem township and was only twenty-eight years old. Her husband and several small children survive.

Miss Maggie Ross, aged 80 years, died Sunday at her home at Marvin in Sandy Ridge township. The funeral service was held at Banks yesterday afternoon. Miss Ross is the last of her family, her nearest living relative being a second cousin. Since the death of her brother, Mr. Dennis Ross, Miss Maggie has lived entirely alone and managed her extensive farming and business interests. She was the wealthiest woman in the county. She was energetic and possessed an alert and capable mind. Miss Ross was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Rev. R. F. Kirkpatrick of Atlanta, who attended the General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian church in Charlotte, preached a most eloquent and inspiring sermon in the Monroe Presbyterian church Sunday morning. He was at one time pastor of this church, immediately preceding Dr. Gurney, and his many friends were glad to welcome him. Another feature of the morning services at the Presbyterian church was the presentation of a pulpit Bible by Rev. G. H. Atkinson in memory of his wife, Mrs. Frances Bridges Atkinson, who died while Mr. Atkinson was pastor here. The Bible is handsomely bound and appropriately inscribed. The presentation speech was made by Dr. Gurney and the book was accepted by the deacons and elders of the church.

### The Country Editor.

(From The Public.)

While we are waking up to the significance of the country school, not only as a means of making good scholars and citizens out of boys and girls, but as a factor in forming the new civilization that is overspreading rural life, we are still liable to overlook the importance of the country newspaper as an organ of education.

The country editor lives in his community and is visible to his readers. They are his neighbors and friends. He cannot write for his paper sentiments that his community repudiates, and cover his traces with the impersonal and undecipherable smoke screen of the unsigned contribution. In the conduct of his paper he has the same restraint and stimulants that other men have in their private and public relations with their fellow citizens.

Hence it is to the interest of the country editor to keep his paper up to the standard of the community's moral life. And as a matter of fact, every State in the Union has a number of papers edited by men whose thoughtful expressions really carry weight and help to mold opinion in wide areas of population. The nation needs many more.

Every editor should qualify himself for his work by careful consideration of social and economic truths. Our higher schools and our colleges should never forget, in their direction of students to their work in the world, that the profession of the country editor opens signal opportunities to the laudible ambition of men and women writers.

### French War Losses.

What is perhaps the first concise and comprehensive statement of France's war losses has just been made by Captain Andre Tardieu, former French high commissioner in the United States. In describing what he calls the "balance sheet" of France, Captain Tardieu states that during the first years of war, 8,000,000 men were mobilized. Of whom 1,400,000 were killed, 800,000 maimed and 300,000 wounded. France thus lost 57 per cent of her men under 42 years of age.

Concerning material losses, Captain Tardieu states that 600,000 houses were destroyed, 75,000,000 acres of arable land laid waste and 3,000 miles of railroad and 25,000 miles of highways destroyed. Mines which produced 55 per cent of France's total coal output were damaged or destroyed; 11,500 factories, which before the war produced 95 per cent of the woven goods, 99 per cent of the linen material, 70 per cent of the sugar and 60 per cent of the cotton goods were crippled. One-third of France's ships were sunk by German submarines.

There is a shocking shortage of paper, no doubt, but the shortage of ideas is even worse. Our notion of good reporting is good the old-fashioned Grigsby Junction style, thus:

"April the middle  
Fine as a fiddle.  
"Ray Lounsbury lost a horse."  
"Constable Sheeby is hunting dogs."  
"The meat market will be open next Tuesday. The other one burned."

"Percy Montague is going to work."  
"What's the use of a lot of introduction and headlines when you can say it all in one line?"—Albany (N. Y.) Knickerbocker Press.

Passenger—"It is raining, porter?"  
Porter (with a frown)—"No, it's raining water."

### BAD CHECK FLASHERS ARE BECOMING TOO NUMEROUS

A Journal Reader Laments the Increase in Number of the Crooked and Careless Check Passers.

To the Editor of The Journal:—Of course the world contains a whole lot of such Birds-as I am going to talk about, only they are fortunately so much in the minority, in our various home towns that they are conspicuous chiefly because of their difference from the average respectable Bird. But in Union county we are beginning to see them en masse. The Birds of a feather have flocked together, and believe me, they make quite some flock. And these Birds are heading for a fall. The salient fact concerning these Birds, is that, the species are in a fair way to join the extinct Dodoes, and this prediction is strongly backed by some of the best business men and tradesmen of the country and this is no ladylike sentimental wail either. There exists a strong element of opposition among the business men and merchants to being made the goat and there is a growing desire to clean up these Birds.

This species of Bird was once practically unknown in Union county; he or it, was a rarity, but it has become so numerous in Union county that there is an overplus of the Birds, and their eggs are beginning to effect the olfactory nerves of the business goats. Do you get me? This Bird is the check kiting, no account, insufficient funds Bird. It writes checks on the various banks and it has no funds to meet the obligation. That's the Bird we wish to see belong extinct along with jazz music, Shimmy dances, over-dressed ankles and underdressed busts. We wish to send the no funds check writer jazzing into oblivion.

A few years ago this Bird was extremely rare, and the occasional one we saw was usually a migrating one. Today they come in flocks. What is the cause of this overplus age? The H. C. L. Get Rich Quick desire, that has begun to be hampered often by the Proletariat and Bourgeois. Formerly it was the unwritten prerogative of the Hi Falutin Better Than Thou insect who banked on his standing with bank officials to honor his overdrafts, and got by with it. Now, most any Old Bird, dunghill or peddler takes a chance on a bun check and slips one over on the unsuspecting business public.

Surely the Bird does not kid itself into the belief that it has money in the bank, nor does it belong to some nutty cult like spiritualism, science, etc., and imagine money to its credit, trusting that its mental vibrations will be in accord with the mental wires of the hard boiled gent behind the wicket marked Cashier, and thus establish an imaginary balance that will cause same hard boiled gent to hand out real round dollars for real bun checks.

However, and notwithstanding the over plus age of check kitters and insufficient funds. Birds are becoming quite a nuisance to the tradesmen of Monroe who are beginning to get exceedingly weary of having a great number of worthless checks returned everyday, marked insufficient funds, no account etc. It not only entails much needless and tiresome bookkeeping but lowers the check drawers, business standing credit and integrity and makes the tradesman swear. It is an evil that should be promptly squelched.

The state laws are very explicit on this question, and those who practice check kiting and check flashing are committing an act in direct violation to the laws of North Carolina making themselves liable to prosecution and imprisonment for fraudulent practices.

Grimy Brother, if you are one of these Birds, "cut it out." People are beginning to talk about you. The banks are leary of you. The tradesmen are weary of you.

This is not a slight matter and you Birds who are guilty of a violation of state laws and business integrity are liable to come a cropper when least expecting it. The old Bromide "a stitch in time saves a pair of pants," and "a word to a Jaekass should be sufficient" might well be considered. Because, dear check Bird, people who take your checks are getting mighty tired of being "a goat."—Reader.

### In Memory of Mr. Brown Haigler.

Mr. Brown Haigler, who was born near Unionville nearly seventy-five years ago, died at his home in Macon, Ga., May 11th. Early that morning he went to the home of his daughter and after talking to her a short time stepped out on the porch and fell. Before help could reach him he had passed through the "Valley of the Shadow of Death." Mr. Haigler was a Confederate veteran and a man who lived close to God. He was twice married and is survived by ten children, four of whom live in Union county. A few days before his death Mr. Haigler wrote to his children that he was coming to North Carolina for a visit this summer, and all his relatives were looking forward to seeing him with much pleasure. He was a man ever ready to lighten the burden on weaker shoulders and all who came in contact with him realized that God dwelt in his soul.—A Friend.

### Literary, But Not Dry.

"What did you discuss at the Literary Club last night?" asked Smith.  
"Oh, we discussed Shakespeare and Prohibition, Browning and Prohibition, and Emerson and Prohibition," replied Jones.

### COTTON PRODUCTION TO BE BE PLACED ON BUSINESS BASIS

Plans Being Made to Do Away With Antiquated Marketing Methods and the Great Waste.

BY J. S. WANNAMAKER.  
In diagnosing the disease with which the world is suffering to-day it seems impossible for our experts to agree as to its nature. Some pronounce it the high cost of living, others the expansion of our currency and credits, others idleness, others extravagance. Various treatments in like manner are suggested: Economy in buying; longer hours of work; more production. A common sense layman's diagnosis of the trouble would seem to point clearly to the fact that the producer fails to receive a proper remuneration; that both the producer and the consumer are penalized by wasteful, uneconomic conditions, being throttled by a multitude of unnecessary middlemen. Common sense plainly shows the necessity of removing the uneconomic, wasteful method in the handling of the American cotton crop, which causes an annual loss of around two hundred million dollars, or an entire cotton crop out of every ten. This treatment, however, will only tend to reduce the fever and fail to effect the cure. We must have economy and efficiency in all lines of production. The day, however, has arrived when the army of unnecessary middlemen standing between the producer and the consumer in all lines of production must be removed.

In justice to both the producer and the consumer we must have direct dealing so as to reduce the cost of marketing to the lowest possible ebb. Unless these reforms are instituted it will be impossible to effect a cure.

The American Cotton Association has determined to put the production of the American cotton crop upon a safe, sound business basis. Plans have been put into effect and force which will result in the saving of a fearful, sinful waste referred to above. Warehouses will be erected in every county or parish in every section of America where cotton is grown, and other necessary reforms instituted, so as to obviate this loss of around two hundred million dollars per year. The bale of cotton will be removed direct from the gin to the warehouse; the sale of same will be stretched over a period of twelve full months and only sold to the manufacturer when a profitable price is offered for same, instead of selling seventy per cent, of some into the hands of the gamblers and speculators during the three short harvesting months as heretofore. This cotton will be graded by a licensed grader. The marketing end is now receiving the most serious consideration of experts. The antiquated methods of marketing must be reformed in justice to both the producer and the consumer of cotton goods.

The English spinner sends his mill manager to Liverpool and asks a buying broker to get him what cotton he wants. The buying broker obtains the cotton from an American exporter and every one of them make handsome profits out of it. Why does not the English spinner go straight to the American grower? Why does he not buy his cotton the way he buys his coal, his machinery and other products from the producer? The English spinner has been taught by those interested in the present methods not to trust the American producer or merchant. The reason is obvious; direct trading between the American grower and the English spinner would mean a profit to the grower and spinner but a loss to the middlemen of millions and millions of dollars annually.

The Liverpool Cotton Exchange and the English spinners are the most autocratic and powerful organization in the world to-day. By what divine right should England set the price of our cotton in combination with certain other powerful influences in this country? Why should England buy our cotton subject to acceptance in England, settlement to be based upon English rules and regulations? I quote the following from one of the most prominent exporters in this country.

"English importers are through their peculiar methods of arbitration, penalizing shippers fifty dollars per bale for staple claimed to be slightly off. This amount is penalized on cotton on which only five to ten dollars premium was paid for that of arbitration, supposing we were to sell a hundred middling 1-4 at the low price of forty-five cents, which would allow perhaps a small premium for that staple. The present value of that cotton in Liverpool is better than \$1.30; I think \$1.50 would be nearer. Suppose now, in filling this order, only 1-8 cotton was shipped. The allowance would be nearer \$1 off than otherwise, and the man who had sold at a premium of \$5 to \$20, inch and quarter cotton, would be penalized on the presumption he had sold for the full market price, and the claim against him would be approximately \$500, where he had only received \$225 for the bale in the first place, and he would be lucky to get off by losing the bale and \$275 additional.

"This thing has gotten to be point where the shipper is, so to speak, forced to the point that he will not ship unless he has secured a price which would protect him against a claim of fifty dollars per bale. If the claim does not materialize, he will have a large profit, but rather than pay that advance, the im-

porter will come over and buy direct, and it is believed spinners will organize and do a great deal of direct buying. I am expressing opinion of Liverpool merchants in this."  
"The claim mentioned in the enclosed letter was an original claim of ten thousand dollars on two hundred bales of cotton, or fifty dollars per bale. Of this lot, the buyer saw fifty bales and accepted from me in Liverpool, but when the cotton arrived, re-purchased previous agreement, but finally reduced their claim to six thousand dollars which was accepted although it was about five thousand too much. The difference in staple was between good 1-8 and full 1-8. They paid us a premium of \$3.50 per bale, but claimed the difference on arbitration of fifty dollars, and we do not doubt arbitration would have given him seventy-five dollars, and appeal possibly a hundred, had he been able to continue the process, and he would eventually have gotten the cotton gratis. And this from one of the better class of Liverpool men too.

"All of these burdens fall on the producer and the man benefiting by this method, to the tune of approximately fifty dollars per bale this season, is a man who under all laws of economics and justice does not belong. The English imported must pay sixty-five per cent. to the British government, so they increase their profits tenfold, in order to pay this tax and yet reap immense profits."

### LATEST HAPPENINGS

#### News Events of the Day in the State and Nation.

Kansas City merchants are quoting a reduction of from ten to sixty per cent. in their clothing stock.

A band of cavalry from Fort Myers, Va., arrived at Alexandria Court-house, twelve miles from the District of Columbia line, in time to disperse a mob attempting to gain possession of a negro, William Turner. Turner is charged with shooting T. M. Moore and attempting to attack a young white woman.

Lieutenant Rorison of Wilmington, in the Kosciusko Aerial Squadron has been missing for several days, since he began a flight to obtain a report concerning the bolshevik on the southern front in the Ukraine. Authorities think that he was either shot down by the enemy or forced to land inside the bolshevik line.

Mrs. W. H. Ward of Cuthbert, Ga., slashed the throats of herself and four children early Sunday morning while her husband lay asleep in an adjoining room. One child died, two others are in a serious condition, while the mother and the fourth child will recover. Mental derangement from long illness is said to have caused the deed.

The State of Montana has the best all-round public school system in the United States, according to a comparative study made by the Russell Sage Foundation. North Carolina stands 48th with only 4 states lower, South Carolina being at the bottom of the list. In the matter of teacher's salaries the lowest average salary is twenty-five dollars per month for North Carolina and the highest is \$5 for California. This is based on a year of twelve months.

Grover Bergdall, notorious draft dodger who has been serving a five-year sentence at the military prison at Fort Jay, N. Y., escaped from his mother's home in Philadelphia last Friday in a high powered motor car. He was given a three-day furlough to attend to important business matters, and was accompanied by non-commissioned army officers. Secretary Baker states that the wealthy prisoner was allowed to return home to look after a large sum of money he had secreted in a place known only to himself.

A race riot in Fayetteville Thursday resulted in the death of Deputy Sheriff Butler and Moore and the burning of three negro dwellings, George Hobbs, who is charged with shooting the officers when they approached a house in which he and several other negroes were hidden is being pursued. The trouble started when Hobbs' daughter had an altercation with a white girl at a mill and was arrested. The father became enraged and created a disturbance throughout the day. The situation is reported to be well in hand and officers do not fear more trouble.

President Carranza, who fled from Mexico City May sixth, and who took flight into the mountains of Puebla, was killed at one o'clock Thursday morning according to official announcement. His companions, the names of whom are unknown were also killed. General Rodolfo Herrera directed the attack which resulted in the death of the fugitive president and his followers. The Mexican congress has been called into extra session for May 24 to appoint a successor for Carranza. It is not known what effect this will have on the revolution now in progress.

### In Disproof of Admiral Sims' Charges.

(From The New York World.)

Aside from questions of propriety affecting an officer in the service, Admiral Sims, in his attack upon the conduct of the American navy in the great war, has failed to sustain his case.

On the handling and condition of the fleets, the testimony of men in command, like Admirals Mayo and Rodman, is conclusive. On the wider issues of war strategy, Admiral Benson's word is weightier than that of any man whose duties confined him to the partial view of a limited field. From the testimony of such unimpeachable witnesses, impartial history must decide that, within the limits set by Congress in its appropriations, the navy was ready for the war.

The proof is what it did in the war. As Secretary Daniels says in just indignation, no British Admiral would "admit that the American navy was responsible for the prolongation of the war for four months and the unnecessary loss of five hundred thousand lives." Its conveying of nearly two million soldiers to France without the loss of one life was a magnificent feat of vigilance and dash. The North Sea barrage, a conception purely American, largely American also in its execution, was a conspicuous triumph of organized skill.

The climax of Admiral Sims' indirection was his quotation of Admiral Benson's cautionary words, spoken in confidence, on the eve of his departure for London. This admits of no excuse or palliation. Only in less degree is his entire broadside aimed at his fellow-officers in the navy, who directed its activities with zeal and skill and adroitness. He has not shown proofs. Criticisms that might have been constructive are discredited by the tone and temper of a sweeping indictment that is not sustained by the evidence.

### Taming Them Down.

A great many interesting and quarrelsome men are made dull and stupid by a happy marriage.—Life.

"I don't care" is a deadly snare.