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MRS. PRESSON'S PLEA FOR A DESTITUTE FAMILY WAS START OF AN INSTITUTION

IS FIRST OF ITS KIND Story of Foundation of Union County Children's Home Is Graphically Related ITS SUCCESS IS ASSURED

"Something Must Be Done" Was Cry That Promoted Rev. and Mrs. Snyder in Undertaking

By Henry Belk
The telephone jangled loudly. The Rev. E. C. Snyder, superintendent of public welfare of Union county, took the receiver from the hook.

"Is this Mr. Snyder?" inquired the voice of Mrs. L. N. Presson at the other end of the wire. "Well, Mr. Snyder, I just wanted to tell you about the Blank family in North Monroe. The mother is sick. The father ran away long ago. There are four children all under twelve—and they haven't a bite to eat. Something just has to be done. I called to ask if you as county welfare officer can see to it."

"I knew about the case," replied the minister, "and will see what can be done."
This conversation took place in Monroe in June of 1921. A few days before the Rev. Mr. Snyder had visited the home mentioned while attending to the duties of his office. He found the mother and four children living in a little hovel in North Monroe amid most repulsive surroundings. Women of ill fame occupied rooms in the hut. The wind whipped through the cracks in the wall, bearing the smell of hog pens which lined up close to the shack which the children called home. Their clothing was scant, dirty, and ragged. Their eyes were not the bright eyes of happy children, but the sad eyes of a body that is hurt and does not understand why it is hurt.

Children Were Saved
Today they are different children. They are happy as all children should be. They wear clean clothes. They romp and play, and go to school. They have plenty to eat. The sad, pained look has disappeared from their eyes. The light of the love of life has taken its place. The miracle that has been wrought in the lives of these four children has been wrought in the lives of twenty-seven others and will be wrought in the lives of many more. The story of the miracle is the story of the birth of an idea in the soul of a big-hearted man, its realization through faith in his fellow-men.

"Something must be done," the words that Mrs. Presson had spoken over the telephone rang in the ears of Mr. Snyder. All afternoon the phrase kept repeating itself in his brain. He carried it to bed with him that night. Something must be done for the fatherless children of North Monroe who had nothing to eat were not the only ones in Union county. He knew that there must be a score of others scattered over the county. Mentally he reviewed, from knowledge gained in his work as a minister, homes over the county where children were being brought up under most intolerable moral surroundings, where the gaunt face of poverty was the most familiar personage where a father had never been known. The picture of those children going through the world without a chance would not let him sleep.

"The Lord gave me the idea that night," said Mr. Snyder in telling the story. His idea was to start a Union County Children's Home. And he did it.
The home is the first project in the reclamation of child lives under county government in North Carolina, if not in the South. Every county has its home for the poor, where the aged and indigent may be cared for, but Mr. Snyder's action to secure a county home for orphans and children who are not receiving the proper care or moral training in the home of their parents marks a new departure in the state. He had never heard of the county system of orphanages maintained in Ohio.

Mr. Snyder did not let any grass grow under his feet after the idea had been conceived. So firm was his belief in his ability to carry it out, so firm his faith in the citizenship of Union county to aid a worthy undertaking, that the morning after the telephone conversation he went to the hovel in North Monroe, secured the four hungry children and carried them to his own home until such a time as his scheme could be worked out.

When he had carried the four children to his home and given them food, Mr. Snyder went back to the business district of Monroe to talk his plans with some of the influential citizens. A native of the county, he knew the man to approach with his idea. R. A. Morrow, president of the Heath-Morrow Company and Union county's leading philanthropist, was talked to concerning the proposed home. He was hearty in his endorsement of the proposed home. Mr. T. P. Dillon, head of the Dillon & Sons furniture store, was approached. Dr. J. M. Belk, head of the Belk chain of stores, Mr. W. S. Blakeney, president of the Bank of Union and formerly president of the

Moon, Colored Porter, Adds 'Shine' to Name

Seaboard Employee Accused of Furnishing Booze to Undertaker is Out Under Bond

Monroe policemen have uncovered a blind tiger right in the city that has perhaps been doing business for some time in a manner that would indicate shrewdness of the first type. The business has been operated on the following plan:

A colored train porter named Moon has added the shine to his name by securing mean Georgia liquor on his run into Atlanta and bringing it back to T. S. Springs, a colored undertaker in Monroe. Walter Moseley roomed in the undertaking establishment with Springs and it seems that they were fifty-fifty in handling the moonshine that Moon brought in from Georgia in Georgia cane syrup cans.

The officers got wind of the business and went around to the undertaker's place Saturday and arrested Springs and Moseley. They then kept on the lookout for Moon and when his train arrived this morning they took charge of him and the three were placed under a \$500 bond each for their appearance in the Recorder's court on February 16th.

When the arrests were made, two gallons of liquor were obtained and about fifteen empty cans were found around the undertaking establishment, the whole situation suggesting the idea that perhaps Springs has been using this mean liquor as a business stimulator for his undertaking business.

Bankers' Association of the State, were seen. "It is the very thing," they assured the minister and assured him that they could be relied upon for support.

A meeting was called for the purpose of perfecting an organization to put the movement across. Mr. Snyder outlined to those present the plight of the children in North Monroe. "There are other cases just as bad over the county," he said. He told how it was impossible to find places for such children in the orphanages of the state due to overcrowded conditions. Then he outlined his plan to start a Union County Children's Home. Members of the board of commissioners of the county had been talked to and Mr. Snyder thought from their conversation that they could be relied upon for the rent of the home for the first year. Action was taken at once. An organization was perfected. Mr. R. A. Morrow was elected chairman, Mr. T. P. Dillon, treasurer, and Mr. W. C. Crowell, secretary.

To make the home truly a county affair, a board of trustees was decided upon that should represent the nine townships of the county. Each township was allowed one trustee. As Monroe and Monroe township represented about one-third of the population of the county, three members of the board were elected from this district. An executive committee was appointed to have charge of the admission of children to the proposed home. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder were elected managers of the home. A committee was appointed to secure a suitable home for the orphanage.

Disappointment
The meeting gave the home a full grown working organization, but the organization could not work unless it had capital. Clothes and food could not be secured without money. An appeal to the county was decided upon. Mr. Snyder had proceeded with his idea on the assumption that the rent of the home for the first year would be paid by the county. At the next first Monday meeting of the commissioners a delegation of the citizens appeared to urge that the county grant money for the establishment of the home. The county commissioners were sympathetic. They endorsed the idea as being the best thing conceived in the county in a score of years, but they said they had no money which they could allow for the purpose. They showed that the county was called upon in so many instances that it was necessary to draw the line somewhere. They were sorry, but they could not set aside a sum of money to take care of the proposition.

What should be done? Mr. Snyder asked himself as he left the board room. The organization had been perfected. The people had shown that they were back of the movement. But money had to be secured. The spirit was willing, but the pocketbook was weak. At this point Mr. Snyder's long period of experience in financial matters with country churches came to his rescue. He had long ago found out that the way to build a new church was to go directly to the brethren and ask for subscriptions. Now he fell back to this plan.

Stright from the meeting of the board of commissioners he secured his pad and went after the citizens of Monroe. The men whom he knew

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SPECIAL SERVICE FOR "UNCLE" BILLY PHIFER

Made Life-Member and Honorary President Men's Bible Class of Central Methodist Church

The Men's Bible Class of Central Methodist church held special services Sunday morning in honor of "Uncle" Billy Phifer, the oldest member of the church. This service was held because of Mr. Phifer's long and continuous loyal service to the church.

Mr. Phifer has been a member of this church for 47 years and has served in all the various official capacities. He was superintendent of the Sunday school for 33 years and has always been faithful to every trust.

The service Sunday consisted of special music and addresses by Dr. Weaver and Messrs. W. B. Love and W. S. Blakeney in their addresses the speakers assured Mr. Phifer of the class's appreciation of his services and of the warm feeling they have for him. "Uncle Billy" was then voted a life member of the class and made honorary president.

This special service had been previously announced and, notwithstanding the inclement weather, a large gathering of representative business men were present to join in this signal honor to the faithful old brother whom everybody loves. Practically every member of Mr. Phifer's family were also present at the meeting.

W. M. Gordon is president, Mr. W. Z. Faulkner secretary, W. B. Love teacher and Mr. W. S. Blakeney assistant teacher of the Bible class. There is some interesting history in connection with the progress of this class. It was first organized in September, 1915, but was reorganized in January 1921, with an enrollment of 108 and an average attendance of 31. During the past year the officers and members of this class have been busily engaged in an aggressive campaign for more members, and better work and their efforts have been fruitful, for in January, 1922, the enrollment reached 206, with an average attendance of about 100.

PEOPLE MAY HEAR PREACHER IN RALEIGH

Wireless Station Being Fitted Up to Distribute Sermon of Big Texas Preacher Over This Section

Many Monroe people will hear Dr. George W. Truett of Dallas, Texas, who is to begin a greco meeting in the City Auditorium of Raleigh on March first. A wireless transmitter will be fitted up at the A & E College, which will send out his sermons for hundreds of miles in all directions. There are several wireless instruments in Monroe and these will no doubt be switched in on the sermon circuit.

In view of the fact that Dr. Truett is one of the world's outstanding preachers, it is expected that multiplied thousands of people throughout the Atlantic States will avail themselves of this rare opportunity of hearing him. This will be an entirely new feature in evangelistic efforts in North Carolina. Though it is not altogether new to Dr. Truett, who has a wireless outfit in his church in Dallas. Recently he received a letter from an invalid old lady 500 miles away from Dallas, who had not been out of her room for months, expressing her great appreciation of his messages on Sunday which she heard with distinctness in her room. A few days before this, her son had asked her if she would not like to hear Dr. Truett preach. She expressed her great desire to do so, said it was impossible, seeing that she could not leave her room. By Sunday morning the wireless outfit had been installed in her room. Is it any wonder that she gave expression to her ecstasies by shouting during the sermon, and the minister was not in the least disturbed by it.

In another instance Dr. Truett's sermon was heard on board a ship a thousand miles at sea, and this fact was communicated back to the wireless station in Dallas.

Rotary Club Permanently Organized

The Journal of last Friday carried a story of a proposed Rotary Club for Monroe. Mr. John Fox of Charlotte came down today and perfected the organization, with the following officers: President, Dr. C. C. Weaver; vice-president, F. G. Rensderson; secretary, F. H. Dillon; treasurer, J. Allen Lee.

The regular officers, together with the following men, constitute the board of directors: R. M. Redmon, R. A. Morrow, and Kemp Funderbunk. The club starts off with twenty-two charter members and more are expected to join within a short time.

Mr. W. P. Kendall an Optimist

Mr. W. P. Kendall of Indian Trail is an optimist of the first type. He deals in horses and mules and sells overalls at times. Mr. Kendall does not believe the country is going "hang." He is consciously aware of the fact that we are no longer running in high gear, but he says merchants are buying all they need and that's enough. He has observed that for the past month there has been a steady feeling in the business world that things are getting better and Mr. Kendall uses this as an inspiration for his optimism to assert itself.

SOUTH RESERVOIR OF AMERICANISM

Dr. Eaton Says That Nowhere Else in This Country Are Pure Ideas of the Fathers Found

AMERICA'S GREATEST NEED

It Is Intelligence and Character Among Its People and Only These Can Prevent Disaster in the Future.

More information is not education, declared Dr. Charles A. Eaton of New York, speaking last night in the First Baptist church as a guest of the Chamber of Commerce, to a small but intensely appreciative audience. Education, he said, is the ability to co-ordinate and use one's whole powers as a unit, and the spread of intelligence and character through educational agencies is the supreme need of America today. The homogeneous people of North Carolina, where only one per cent of the population is of foreign birth, cannot realize the terrific significance of the overwhelming foreign populations north of the Mason and Dixon line, and Dr. Eaton called upon the South to come to the aid of the North in solving the problems growing out of these facts.

Dr. Eaton is a Canadian, an old friend and associate of Dr. Burrell, who introduced him to the audience last night. He said that the reason why the people of this section had at once become so fond of Dr. Burrell is that he as a Canadian is just like the people of this section who are the composite product of Anglo-Saxon ideals. He further stated that it was refreshing for him to come to North Carolina where everybody spoke English and where they were still dominated by the purest ideas of original Americanism to be found on the continent. The South, he said, must be a reservoir of such ideals from which the remainder of the country must draw help and inspiration.

Every people who had contributed much to the world's progress, Dr. Eaton explained, had been dominated by a genius for some great intellectual or spiritual idea. Thus the Jews had a genius for religion and first gave the world the idea of one god and the moral unity of the universe; the Greeks had a genius for art and taught the world the love of beauty; the talent of the Romans was for jurisprudence and the lawyer of today always finds himself digging down into Roman origins in the practice of law. The Anglo-Saxons, a composite people built upon the union of two small tribes of Northern Europe, has always had a genius for self government and have given democracy to the world.

The spread of democracy has resulted in all power being finally lodged in the masses of the people and the preservation of civilization depends upon the building up through education, the intelligence, character, and stability of the masses. Statistics showed, Dr. Eaton said, that only four and one-half per cent of the entire population of the country were educated in the sense of being fully able to co-ordinate and direct their own powers, and to these he appealed to accept the responsibility of leadership in restoring that sense of self discipline and responsibility for self government which is the keystone of Anglo-Saxon Americanism.

Go to any big news stand in a large Northern city, he said, and you would find twenty foreign language newspapers and one English one on sale. Four out of five newspapers in the hands of people on street cars in New York will be foreign language papers. There are more Italians in New York than in Rome, more Irish than in Dublin, more Jews than ever assembled together at any one time or place in the world's history. And now the Northern sections are confronted with negro settlements and there is more hostility to the negro up there where such settlements have been made than there is in the South. All this means, he said, that we are soon to be governed by classes and warring factions who know nothing of orderly self government, by the consent of the governed, legally and orderly expressed through parliamentary procedure, which is the essence of Americanism.

Dr. Eaton speaks in Charlotte tonight. He came here under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, and is devoting his whole time to the promulgation of ideas so forcibly and interestingly expressed here.

Price of International Tractors Cut

Last week The Journal carried a big advertisement announcing the reduction of price of Ford tractors. Today we are carrying a souging big one announcing a big cut by the International, represented in Monroe by the Williams-Griffin Company, near neighbors of The Journal.

Chas. B. Aycock used to have a campaign story that made his big crowds break their sides with laughter. The moral of the story was that every time Democrats fell out and fought it made more Democrats.

On the same principle price-cutting in tractors ought to be pleasing to the farmers, for every time the price is cut it means more tractors. More tractors mean more, deeper, and better plowing. When Mr. Ford comes down they should say, "Good for you, Mr. Ford, we need more of you in our business." And then when Mr. International comes down, they should say, "Fine, fine, Mr. International, we need more of you in our business."

MR. W. H. PHIFER



Leading citizen of Monroe for forty-seven years; Superintendent of Central Methodist Sunday school for thirty-three years; honorary president of Men's Bible Class; honored citizen of Monroe; will reach his seventy-ninth birthday next Monday.

DR. BURRELL PREACHES ON SHADY AMUSEMENTS

Says That an Enlightened Conscience Should Be the Guide for One to Follow on the Question

In his Sunday evening sermon Dr. W. R. Burrell, pastor of the First Baptist church, preached on the subject of questionable amusements. His discourse has been much commended as a fair and sensible presentation of a most difficult subject. He largely left it to the conscience and good sense of each individual.

The minister referred to the consecration of Aaron and his sons to the priesthood, and declared that, according to the New Testament, all believers in Christ are consecrated through his blood. In the consecration of priests, the minister explained that the blood was placed on the big toe of the right foot, the thumb of the right hand and the tip of the right ear, signifying that the right side is where the major powers lie and that the right foot should be used to carry the body in the service of God and humanity, the hand to perform deeds of sacrifice and mercy and that the faculties of the mind should be consecrated to service.

Then, if believers are also consecrated with the blood of Christ, Dr. Burrell took the position that they, too, should be set apart to special service and worship. This being the case, the question arises, he said, as to how far a Christian can afford to surrender the services of the foot, the hand and the senses to questionable amusements. He used the modern dance, the card table and promiscuous theatre-going as examples, but explained that these were only intended to serve as examples, since there are hundred other things that we do that are just as wrong. He also explained we are social beings and must have wholesome recreation—that we have a right to the pursuit of happiness—but in view of the fact that Christianity in particular and life in general offers countless ways in which one can be extremely happy without engaging in questionable amusements, believes that we ought to follow our conscience and engage in nothing about which we have a doubt as to its being right.

He also suggested that if doubt exists in our mind as to whether we should do a thing we should give our Maker the benefit of the doubt, inasmuch as the Scriptures emphatically teach that "whatsoever is not of faith"—meaning of a clear conscience—"is sin." He called attention to the fact that anything about which we have a doubt is questionable and should be left undone. He believes that even if the conscience should be enlightened and mistaken certain things are sin anyway.

The speaker gave instance as to how consciences may differ in people and at different ages in the world's history. He cited an instance in particular of a church in New Jersey that he once served as pastor, upon whose account books there is to be found an item of a certain amount of money that was expended in 1787 for the purchase of toddy and snuff for the pastor and deacons in business meetings, which could be done with perfect propriety at that time but certainly not in this age.

In speaking of questionable amusements, the speaker also referred to Paul's statement that if eating meat caused his brother to offend he would eat no more meat while the world stood, although the eating of meat within itself Paul considered no harm, and warned his hearers to be careful about doing things that might cause a weak brother to go astray.

Dr. Burrell has no objection to high-toned theatre attractions and moving pictures, but he stated that while decent, elevating attractions take in thousands of dollars, the receipts from low, degrading ones run into the millions and he thinks people ought to be careful as to what attractions they patronize.

Next Sunday evening Dr. Burrell will preach from the subject, "Duty of the Church to Meet the Needs for definite arrangements."

SOME COMMENTS ON RODDY ARTICLE

Mr. Little Does Not Think That Town Cousins Are Trying to Do the Farmers

HE NEEDS ORGANIZATION

Agrees With McCall Article on Punishment and Gives Some Good Local News and Comment

By Zeb M. Little

We have read the article by Mr. John T. Roddy of Rock Hill, S. C., and the editorial comment on it in The Journal. We agree with the editor of The Journal that the farmer is not singled out as an easy mark for profit simply because he is a farmer. In the price setting, mad profit getting chase after the dollar the farmer happened to be the hardest hit of any class of our citizens, not because he had "hay seed" in his hair, but because the business of farming and selling the products of the farm are conducted in the least businesslike way of any other calling.

Mr. Roddy says if a farmer sells a cow he gets 3 to 5 cents per pound but if he buys beef he has to pay 25 to 40 cents per pound, and that while a cow hide will bring but 75 cents to a dollar, a pair of shoes cost from \$3 to \$15. This sizes the situation up pretty well, but the dry goods merchant will sell a farmer a pair of shoes as cheap as he will his city neighbors and the dealer who sells beef sell to all classes and conditions alike so far as prices are concerned.

This does not prove that farmers are singled out for profit-getting by their city cousins. On the other hand it does prove that great profit and fortunes are made on the products of the farm after it leaves the farmer's hands. This is largely the result of a system, or rather the lack of a system, of selling the products of the farm. After any given product of the farm leaves the farmer's hand it is handled at every turn of the way to the consumers by interests that are more or less organized and "supply and demand" is manipulated so that every one who handles it takes his profit. But when a farmer sells he goes on the market single-handed and alone and bids depressingly low against every other farmer who has the same product to sell.

The way out of this situation is organization. By co-operative marketing and the limitation of the supply and demand, thereby creating a demand, the farmer will take his profit instead of taking his loss. Mr. Farmer, join all co-operative marketing associations.

A special complaint is made against the practice of gambling in cotton. I have never believed that cotton exchanges are a necessary part of the world's business and commercial machinery, and it operates to the detriment of the cotton producers. There being more consumers of cotton (cotton goods) in every country and climate than there are cotton producers, it naturally follows that there are more people interested in cheap cotton than there are in high priced cotton. A law compelling the actual delivery of cotton on all cotton contracts would compel the speculators in cotton (the cotton gamblers) to go into the market and buy actual cotton to fill his contract, which would create a demand for cotton and make the price conform to supply and demand. As the cotton exchanges are conducted, an artificial supply is created which depresses or annuls the demand and often keeps cotton far below cost of production. Every Southern business interest demands that the cotton farmer get a profit on his cotton, the real enemies of the cotton farmer are buying out the bounds of the Southland.

We have been an interested reader of the discussions on Sunday services by garages, and if the garages are opened on Sunday with the idea of being of real service to the public, it is all right to do a real service even if it is on Sunday, but if the idea and purpose is only to get possession of nickles, quarters, and dollars, we don't know anything good to say.

The unusual and prolonged drought last fall taught farmers the importance of having an abundant water supply for stock and for other purposes. A few farmers had constructed earthen dams across hollows or depressions in their lands thereby forming immense reservoirs full of water, then the drainage is turned around one side of the pond to keep out surface drainage, which leaves the pond full of beautiful clear water. The pond is then stocked with some fish suited to such pond, which the U. S. Department of Agriculture furnishes free. Messrs. Charlie Moore, J. M. Little, J. B. Medlin, Wriston Hamilton, J. S. Williams, J. E. Austin, L. C. Gardner, C. Ellis Griffin, Fred Griffin, and T. F. Tadlock are among the Marshville township farmers who have constructed ponds during the past year.

Mr. J. D. McCall's discussion of capital punishment was along the right line; the laws should be enforced with the idea of correcting offenders, and helping them to get on a higher plane of thinking and acting and quit taking toll of human life for vengeance's sake. His is the best argument against capital punishment we have yet seen and we assent with a good big Amen! We believe Goose Creek township will yet produce a governor.

We have not heard how well Mr. ...

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