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MR. MARSHALL'S DILEMMA

Playing to the Galleries he Gets Humpty-Dumpty Fall.

The following taken from The Raleigh News and Observer, of the 28th inst., will make interesting reading for the voters and tax-payers of Surry County:

"During the last campaign the Republicans made a promise to the people that, if elected, they would require the State to buy all text-books and furnish them free of charge to all the children who attended the public schools. The Democrats told the people frankly that this would increase their taxes two million dollars and that, as at present the school fund afforded only four months school in most of the districts in the State, it was wiser to use all the taxes the people would vote on themselves to extend the school term rather than buy school books. The people seemed to think the Democratic proposition more sensible.

"Early in the session, Mr. Marshall, of Surry, introduced a bill for the State to buy all school books. Of it and the subsequent procedure The Mount Airy News published in Marshall's county, said:

"Hon. S. E. Marshall has introduced a bill in the Legislature to furnish the books to all children in the free schools without cost to the children. So earnest was he in presenting the matter before the committee that they reported favorably on the bill, but it is to apply only to Surry county. And the cost is to come from the general county fund and not from the school fund. Unless Mr. Marshall back tracks and has the bill killed this may mean a special tax levy for Surry county that will make the people open their eyes. When a fellow 'plays to the galleries' it don't always bring the applause. There are those who are so uncharitable as to charge that introducing that bill was only a move to get something to talk about and abuse a Democratic Legislature in after days. The tables turned and unless Senator Haymore kills the bill when it goes to the Senate, Surry will have free school books in the future."

"The sequel came yesterday in the House when the most interesting and amusing session was held over Mr. Marshall's bill. He wanted the free school books if the State Treasury would pay the bill, but didn't want it if the Surry tax-payers had to pay the bill. Surry county gets over \$2,000 now out of the State Treasury to keep its public schools going four months in the year. This over \$2,000 used in Surry is paid by Wake, Guilford, Mecklenburg, Durham and other big counties. They do not protest against helping to carry out the constitutional requirement of Surry, but their tax-payers would draw the line at being taxed further to buy books for the school children in Surry.

"It was apparent that Mr. Marshall didn't want free books for the children of Surry if the cost was to be met by Surry tax-payers and yet he did not wish to be guilty of saying that his bill was one introduced for making political capital. He was in a close place and he squirmed and wired in and out until the House was in an uproar. First, he wanted the text-books bought and paid for out of the State educational funds. That was voted down, for that fund is for all the counties alike and not for one. Next he wished to escape the dilemma of either voting for or killing his bill by the motion to refer it back to the Educational Committee so it could die without being strangled to death by his own hand. But that method of dodging the issue was denied him. He begged and entreated the House to do something so he could escape direct responsibility for either killing his bill or voting for it. The House was obdurate and he was plainly told that he must assume the responsibility. Finally, with a wry face, the Honorable Samuel had to march up to rack and "tote his own load" and so, when he could not find even a

little hole out of which to crawl, he made the motion to apply the deadly dose to his bill by moving "to indefinitely postpone," and his motion prevailed.

The Honorable Samuel, thus, after declaring his belief in free text-books for the public schools, denied free school-books to the people of Surry county by his own motion and vote. He was anxious to get free school books for Surry if he could force other counties to pay for them, but when he was offered them by letting Surry tax-payers for the school books for the children of Surry he killed the first and only free text-book bill of the session.

"Playing to the galleries and trying to put Democrats in a hole didn't succeed."

TOWNSHIP IS LEFT WITHOUT A VOTER.

For Five Years No Election Can Be Had, Because of Fraud.

West Union, Ohio, Dec. 30.—For the next five years Jefferson township, one of the most populous of Adams county, will be without a voter, every voting citizen in the township having been indicted on charges of selling his vote and Judge Blair already having begun the task of disfranchising them.

As a result residents of Jefferson today took up with attorneys the question of how they will provide for their township affairs until it will again be possible for them to vote. The situation, the attorneys say, has never had a parallel anywhere in the United States.

Although the canvass of the 1,151 indictments returned up to date, shows that this is the only township in which a voter has been indicted, it is believed that several other townships will be left in the same predicament.

Ministers Among Indicted.

Others, at least, will be left with so few voters that it will be impossible to conduct township affairs or find enough eligible voters to serve as township trustees. Judge Blair is expected later to arrange some form of government for such townships until the periods of disfranchisement he is imposing have expired.

Two more ministers today were added to list of members of their profession who have been indicted for selling their votes. Evidence showed that they received \$5 each for their votes. Judge Blair, however, has announced that he will permit them to confess in private and their names will not be divulged. The main purpose of his investigation, he declares, was to make possible a betterment of the moral conditions of the county, and to make public the names of the ministers who are implicated would only lessen, he declares, their power for doing good where they are most needed.

Among the others brought before Judge Blair today was a son who sold his vote to his father for \$10. He said he had no other interest in the election and otherwise would not have voted.

Great Lake of Oil Now Sea of Flame.

Mexico City, Jan. 20.—An oil gusher recently brought in by the Pearson interest at Potreritos Del Liana in the Tuxpall district, State of Vera Cruz, is in danger of meeting the same fate as befell the famous Dos Bocas well, which was consumed by fire in July, 1909, according to a report from Tampico today. The well, which has a flow variously estimated from 75,000 to 100,000 barrels a day, has never been under control. Oil has overflowed the earthen reservoirs that were hastily constructed and has emptied into a small river. This overflow is said to have become ignited a mile from the mouth of the well. Oil experts say that if the report is true there is imminent danger of the fire being communicated to the gusher. The product of the well is said to have formed a lake nearly five miles wide.

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE CLOSING YEAR.

12,603 Suicide Victims.

The suicide record for 1910 in America shows 12,608 victims as compared with 10,230 in 1909 of these 8,252 were males and 4,356 females. Physicians head the list of professional men, there being 51 as compared to 27 in 1909.

Public Gifts Reach \$142,854,538.

In the year 1910 Americans made public gifts of \$142,854,538. Andrew Carnegie, with gifts of \$20,894,325 for D. Rockefeller, with \$16,039,000 comes next; Mrs. Russel Sage with \$3,888,150 is third and J. Pierpont Morgan with \$1,140,000 is fourth and last in the million dollar class.

Loss of Life in Disasters.

The loss of life in general disasters in America this year is given as follows: Drownings, 5,112; fires, 3,562; mines, 1,004; storms, 265; explosions, 951; lightning, 199; asphyxiation, 159; elevators, 118; electrical, 189.

Losses by Fire Heavy.

Fire losses in 1910 in this country and Canada the compilation says, will approximate \$222,000,000 as compared with \$191,000,000 in 1909. The total nearly \$20,000,000 is credited to forest fires in Wisconsin, Idaho, Montana and Washington.

3,520 Rail Fatalities.

Railroad fatalities during the year are credited with having killed 3,520 and injured 21,856 persons. The most serious single disaster of the list was that of February 28, 1910, in which 118 persons perished when trains were wrecked by a snow slide on Montana.

Embezzlements Total \$25,000,000.

Embezzlements during the year totaled about \$25,000,000 as compared with \$8,000,000 in 1909, with banks the sufferers to the extent of about \$15,000,000.

104 Persons Legally Executed.

Other data in the compilation shows that 104 persons were legally executed during the year of whom fifty were white, fifty-three negroes and one Indian. Thirty-nine of these executions were in northern and sixty-seven in southern states.

Seventy-four Lynchings.

Seventy-four lynchings occurred during the year as against eighty-seven last year. Of the total there were nine white and 65 negroes, three of the latter being women. There was but one lynching north of the Ohio river. That was in Ohio.

The South's Wonderful Growth.

Leslie's. The South no longer carries all its eggs in one basket. Corn, rice and fruits of the various sorts are being raised there to an extent undreamed of half a dozen years ago. Beside the cotton plantation the cotton mill is being erected. Although Massachusetts still excels in making finer grades of cotton fabrics, the entire mill consumption of cotton now is as great in the South as it is in the North. Immigrants from Europe are at last beginning to turn toward the South. Northern settlers and capital are, more and more every year, drifting toward the States below the Potomac and the Ohio. The current of farmers seeking cheap lands, which has been crossing into Canada in large volume in the past few years, is moving toward Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana and more easterly States along the Gulf Coast now. De Bew, the South's statistician and publicist of long ago, who predicted an immense expansion of his region as a result of the removal of the slavery incubus, ought to have lived half a century later. Some choice prizes—industrial, social and political—are to be won in the South in the coming time.

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MEETING OF THE FARMERS MUTUAL.

Reports of Officers at the Annual Meeting of the Directors of the Farmers' Mutual.

The annual meeting of the directors of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Association met in their offices, Holleman Building in Raleigh January 12 p. m., with the following gentlemen present, representing their different branches:

- Alamance branch, by C. C. Thompson and J. E. King.
- Catawba and Burke branch, by M. A. Abernethy.
- Cleveland branch, not represented.
- Forsyth and Stokes branch, not represented.
- Granville county branch by G. L. Allen.
- Guilford branch, by Jno. W. Wharton.
- Greene county branch, by L. J. H. Mewborn.
- Iredell and Alexander branch, by M. I. Moose.
- Johnston county branch, by C. F. Kirby.
- Lenoir county branch, by Oscar Hardy.
- Lincoln county branch, not represented.
- Martin county branch, not represented.
- Northampton, Hertford and Bertie branch, by Albert Vann.
- Orange county branch, by S. W. Andrews.
- Rocky Mount county branch, not represented.
- Richmond and Scotland branch, by L. E. McKennon.
- Random county branch, by S. S. Cox and U. S. Hayes.
- Sampson and Duplin branch, by A. J. Johnson.
- Surry county branch, by I. W. Reece.
- Vance county branch, by Jas. Amos.
- Wayne county branch, by D. A. Sasser.
- Wake county branch, by A. C. Green.

All the representatives presented good reports from and especially good was that of the Central branch, which had placed on the books over \$800,000 insurance and paid all losses that were due.

Total number of policy-holders in North Carolina 14,409. Insurance in force \$12,271,838. Losses out of this vast amount of business only amounting to \$19,743. Total Sinking Fund \$17,303.76, distributed among the different branches to meet losses promptly as they occur.

President Broughton made a splendid address, offering several suggestions for the improvement of the different branches also for creating a Sinking Fund that would eventually meet all losses, without calling for further payments from the policy-holders. This feature, he showed, had been worked successfully in other States by similar mutual companies.

A. E. Lindsey's report with reference to the condition of the State association also made a good showing.

The date of annual meeting was changed from two o'clock to seven o'clock, the day remaining as at present, the second day in January.

This, the eleventh annual meeting, seemed to be the most successful of the association.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

- N. B. Broughton, president;
- T. B. Parker, vice-president;
- A. E. S. Lindsay, secretary and treasurer.
- Executive Committee: N. B. Broughton, chairman, Raleigh;
- T. B. Parker, Wake county;
- D. A. Sasser, Wayne county;
- Albert Vann, Northampton county;
- James Anos, Vance county;
- Oscar Hardy, Lenoir county.
- Finance Committee: G. L. Allen, Granville county;
- C. C. Thompson, Alamance county;
- Jno. W. Wharton, Guilford county.

After some discussion as to the kind of property that should be insured or rejected in the different branches, a resolution was passed recommending that each branch collect 75c per hundred with each application, instead of 50c as heretofore. Every branch was urged to see that their Sink-

ing Fund was increased so that each policyholder would feel that his loss would be met promptly when due. No other business occurring the meeting adjourned to meet on the second Tuesday in January.

Lost Money Replaced.

Greenville, S. C., Jan. 29.—During the early cotton season last fall Mr. J. F. Leopard, a Greenville county farmer, brought a load of seed cotton to the plant of the South Carolina Cotton Oil Company to be ginned. In the load of cotton Mr. Leopard had placed the sum of one hundred and thirty-odd dollars in bank notes and one \$10 gold piece. The cotton was unloaded, and not until the staple had been run through the gin did Mr. Leopard think of where he had placed his money; and upon examination of the waste there was found here and there a shred of bank note paper, but of course no trace of the gold.

The loss fell heavily upon Mr. Leopard, and when someone suggested that he gather what he could of the remnants to be found in the waste, he followed the advice and forwarded the package by express to the Treasury Department at Washington with affidavits and properly certified account of the circumstance.

After waiting several months the farmer was yesterday overjoyed to get a government check for \$114, with the explanation that the shreds had been pieced together to an extent representing this amount.

Stick to the Newspaper.

Raleigh Times. Last week 150 business men of Kansas City held a banquet and the subject of advertising among the speakers Robinson, a well-known business man of Topeka Kansas, who gave them this kind of advice about advertising, and it is so good that it will bear repeating here:

"If you merchants want advertising go the plants that have built your city—the newspapers. They advertise you more than the little 6x6 ad. you place in one corner of them can pay for. They sometimes say nice things about you, and often they say things about you which are not nice. The newspapers are the best advertisement a city or a group of business men possesses. The business world is coming to realize the truth of these statements more each day. A city is known by its newspapers because they reflect the business, social, and intellectual life of community. The business men today who are succeeding are the ones using the newspapers, not once a month or once a week, but every day in the year. It is the constant lick that makes business and the man who strikes a lick and then waits until the iron cools will never accomplish much in the world of business. You cannot do business and you cannot reach the people in any way as effectively and as cheaply as in the newspapers."

One Way to Catch Fish.

L. S. Montgomery, of the Montgomery (West Va.) News, is somewhat of a fisherman, according to Associated Press reports printed during the past summer. Here is a new fish story and he accompanies its telling with an affidavit, and exhibits the skin of a huge water moccasin as part of the proof. Montgomery went fishing in Greenbriar River recently and one of his flies was nabbed by a water moccasin. The snake, says the editor, broke the line in his struggles and started across the river with the line, twoflies and leaders. Another of the flies in turn was seized by a five-pound bass, which the snake succeeded in bringing to land after an exciting struggle. When Montgomery crossed the river the snake, one end of the line in his mouth and his tail wrapped securely around a tree root, was holding his fish well and succeeded in hauling it ashore. Montgomery shot the snake and secured his fish, he says.

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BUILD 70 DREADNOUGHTS

Nations of World Will Nearly Double Number Afloat in 1911

London, Jan. 16.—While the press of the world is shouting for peace and Senator Root and his colleagues are working out a plan to spend Andrew Carnegie's \$10,000,000 peace fund, figures obtained from the British naval authorities today show that 1911 will break all records for battleship launching and naval activity.

These figures show that every nine days from Feb. to Dec. 1, a new dreadnought will take the water in some part of the globe. In other words, thirty-six dreadnoughts will be launched this year, or only two less than the total number already afloat. In addition to this, innumerable cruisers, torpedo boats, destroyers, submarines, etc., will be launched by all the big powers. Great Britain alone will send sixty-one small craft into the water.

Of the dreadnoughts, Great Britain leads with eleven to be launched this year. Feb. 1, the 32,500 ton Thunderer will leave the slips at Blackwall and from then on there will be a regular succession of big splashes.

Germany comes second in naval activity and will launch seven dreadnoughts during the year. The United States will launch three, in addition to the Arkansas, which slipped down the ways Saturday; Russia four, France two, Argentina two, Chile two, Japan two, and Italy, Austria and Spain one.

Altogether, it is stated, seventy dreadnoughts and cruisers with a tonnage of over 1,500,000 and valued at more than \$700,000,000, are now under construction throughout the world. Great Britain has 100,000 tons of armor plate under construction.

Germany has 150,000 tonnage building and 125,000 fitting out. France is building 46,000 tons and fitting out 110,000 and the United States is building 80,000 tons and fitting out 70,000 tons.

Such is Life.

Terill Love Holiday in February Smart Set.

Life is what enables the baby to kick his feet about in infancy, and what he kicks more about during his adult days.

Generally life begins with a spull, and it often continues spually to the end.

There are four modes of life: bachelor, a fast life; spinsterhood, a slow life; matrimonial life, which is suspended animation; and the Reno electric life, a spicy variety composed of alternating currents of the married and single kinds.

The butterfly life is the gay one, but it is too short, the tortoise life is longer, but is too slow; and if you try to strike a safe and sane gait in the middle of the road, you get run over by some joy rider going the pace that kills—such as you.

Life is the most necessary thing in the world—you simply cannot live without it. It is as uncertain and difficult to control as dynamite or a woman. Too much life will land you in jail, and too little in a coffin.

High life is dangerous, as one's aeroplane may have a "brainstorm" at any minute or altitude, and there is no longer much enjoyment in low life on account of the settlement workers and slumming parties. Apparently the only escape from bourgeois dullness is to marry as often as possible; and there is always danger of falling in love with your wife and settling down to a duck-pond placidity.

If you are lacking in life you are termed a "dead one;" if endowed with real life and ginger, you are dubbed "too fresh."

Verily, life is a picture puzzle, and there are always too many pieces or not quite enough.

This is An Easy Test.

Shake Allen's Foot-Ease in one shoe and not in the other, and notice the difference. Just the thing to use when rubbers or overshoes become necessary, and your shoes seem to pinch. Sold Everywhere, 25 cents. Don't accept any substitute. Sample FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.