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THE OLD TAR HEEL STATE

Butler Pictures Recent Achievements in Golf, Politics and Agriculture



YEARS ago when good old Joe Harlow was State printer in Nevada and I was foreman of the *Morning Appeal* at Carson, I used to cross the plaza and fool away his time talking about the rattlesnake crop, and the fishing up at Lake Tahoe, and how much money Senator Jones would scatter when he came up to Carson again, and the run of luck at Cap Avery's faro emporium, and all that kind of community current events. Then when I could finally pry myself away from good company, Joe would get up and announce that he wanted to see the wheels go round and come over to the press room. And here Joe expressed the common desire. ¶ We all want to see the wheels go round. ¶ I like to stand by the platform as the train comes in and see the big drivers roll around as they pull the load up the tracks. I like to watch a smooth running Corliss engine poke its hands down into its pockets and pull them out with its queer catchy little flips. I like to see the quiet rubber wheels of the automobile spin, in fact any old thing that is *moving*! There is always a fascination about motion.

That's one of the reasons I am interested in North Carolina. Fact is the old State has recently found out how to make the wheels go round, and like a boy with a new toy, the whole crowd has to have a hand in trying out the new novelty. For years people have been passing the Tar Heel Commonwealth as a sort of a waste spot of sand and rock and swamp put into creation to dam the Atlantic ocean and keep the Florida coast from overflowing Virginia and the country to the North and West. Then in the last few years some of them digging around have found an old masterpiece in the garret and investigation shows it to be worth a tub full of money. Faster than you could keep up with developments North Carolina commenced to climb down out of the attic and make tracks for the best place on the gallery wall.

Woodrow Wilson said to himself, "where can I get an experienced old tar who can run the navy on grape juice and sell the Greeks two secondhand ships at what they cost," and he realized at once that North Carolina is the place to look for tar, tar heel, naval stores which include the tars who do things, and he sat down and wrote a letter to the head of the Neuse River, and when the answer came back from "J." Daniels, the navy was saved. Watt Page was making a speech to the farmers down at Aberdeen one night and Wilson landed this bush leaguer at London to George Frederick and the suffragettes, and then he made a play for a place out West where Dave Houston, from Monroe, was teaching school, and Houston went up to Washington and shoved Tama Jim Wilson back on to the map of Iowa. By the time he had the third dose Woodrow rather

liked the North Carolina flavor and he commenced to sprinkle North Carolina fellows around here and there where anything needed the right material, and Congress saw what a hit North Carolina seemed to be making, and presently the North Carolina crowd over at the Capitol took their respective stations at the heads of important committees in time for lodge to open in proper form. All this time Duke of Durham had been showing them how to smoke up, and having his picture on the billboards all over the United States, folks recalled that down in the bright tobacco belt had been for some years the fountain head of a boundless flow of pipe smoking and the makings for a cigaret. ¶ Politically and narcotically, North Carolina has reached the wire.

When Andrew Carnegie succeeded in having the duty on golf removed and permitted the importation of the Scotch game into the land of well paid labor, it was soon found that a great golf industry could be built up in this country, and today North Carolina has more high priced caddies growing wealthy from selling golf balls than any other State in the Union. Brother Carnegie has out-footed John Rockefeller as a benefactor of the colored race, for Rockefeller only hands out education while Carnegie is an all-round performer, handing up education and golf both from the same pocket; and the caddie can live on golf, which is of some importance the way meat has gone up in the last few years. ¶ If Mr. Rockefeller happens to be on the links at the present time he should not look on this as a personal matter, but purely as an impersonal statement of a harmless fact. As between John and Andy, I like them both. However, they are not of North Carolina, although Carnegie is the grandfather of everything that comes from Scotland by way of New York and John D. is a great man to back up the school house.

North Carolina, with Pinehurst as its leader, will probably continue to lead in the golf tournaments and in the political tournaments for a while, and also to provide the winter hotels for the Northern man who is loyal to everything at home but the winter weather. Really when it comes to outings, North Carolina holds about all the good cards in the deck. ¶ North Carolina is getting acquainted. People are finding out something about the State and what they are learning is not altogether about the prominent men, nor of the places to let go of your excursion money. The farmer is learning things. He has discovered that it is more profitable to make a big yield of cotton on an acre than to make a little yield. He has found that a hundred and fifty dollars' worth of tobacco on an acre of ground pays better than half that amount. The cotton farmer the country over raises a little over two hundred pounds of cotton to the acre.

The North Carolina farmer raises over three hundred pounds on an average of all the farms of the State, and that is not as big as the average should be. Yet