

The Jackson County Journal

ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE IN THE COUNTY

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA

DECEMBER 26 1935

\$2.00 A YEAR IN ADVANCE OUTSIDE THE COUNTY

Third Party Threat Looms In Washington Circles

Washington, December 25—There's a new "Third Party" movement looming up to complicate the political situation in the Presidential election year of 1936. It is big enough and has enough votes behind it, distributed all over the United States, to make the seasonal politicians of both major parties sit up and take notice.

This is the "Townsend Plan" Party. Washington regards the announcement by Dr. Townsend that he will put a third party ticket in the field unless the Democrats or Republicans satisfy his demands as the biggest political news since the death of Huey Long and the consequent collapse of the Louisiana Senator's third party threat. It is big news, and some thing to be taken seriously, for two major reasons.

1. Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans can satisfy Dr. Townsend and his followers.

2. As every fresh arrival in Washington testifies, if he has been keeping his ear to the ground while back home, the Townsend Old Age Pension plan has enrolled literally millions of voters in its thousands of Townsend Clubs, all pledged to work and vote for \$200 a month pension for every man and woman over 60 years old.

Politicians know the power of organization. Those with long memories recall the way in which the Anti-Saloon League put over Prohibition, by organizing the church people in every community and using the "pressure group" method to defeat "wet" candidates and elect "dry" ones. They were laughed at as fanatics; but they got prohibition. The Townsendites are looked upon by the politicians on Capitol Hill as equally fanatical—but they are beginning to feel the pressure.

It is believed here that there are more potential votes behind the Townsend movement than there ever were behind Prohibition. To most folks, the Prohibition movement was somewhat abstract, based upon moral principles. The Townsend movement is decidedly concrete, and is based upon the fundamental human itch to get something for nothing.

One inevitable effect of the Townsend threat, observers here believe will be a desperate effort to put through at the coming session of Congress some amendment to the Social Security Act, to make Old-Age Benefits provided for by that measure payable immediately and in full to every qualified person, instead of at some time in the distant future. Also to "raise the ante" from the present sliding scale, which runs from \$10 to \$85 a month, to come nearer to meeting the demands of the Townsendites.

There is little belief, however, that such a program can be put into effect. It is fairly certain that President Roosevelt would veto it if it were passed. The Social Security Act only received his approval after the parts which would have required direct appropriations by the Federal Government were stricken out, and the plan put on an actuarial self-perpetuating basis.

The political implications of the Townsend threat as it may affect the choice of the Republican candidate, and the election next November, are being carefully appraised. It is a quite general understanding that Senator Borah would be a satisfactory candidate to Dr. Townsend and his followers. But that fact on the face of it is another reason why the Republicans are not likely to nominate him.

Republican strategists would welcome a strong third party movement of this kind, for the general assumption is that it would draw many more votes away from Mr. Roosevelt and the Democratic Party than from the Republicans. That assumption, however, is somewhat debatable. There is no evidence that Republicans are any less desirous than Democrats of getting Old Age Pensions.

The Republican hope is that around the Townsend movement there will rally the diverse groups of malcontents, who are dissatisfied with the New Deal and distrust the Old Guard. While all the polls that have been taken, public and private indicate a decided trend away from the New Deal, the Republican leaders who met here for their National Committee's annual meeting, last week were warning each other and everybody else against over-confidence.

TODAY and TOMORROW

By Frank Parker Stockbridge

STANDARDS elevated
My venerable friend, Elihu Root, now past 80, is still an optimist. He said the other day that in his own long lifetime he had seen such a progressive elevation of moral standards, especially in international relations, as to furnish proof that the world is growing better. He pointed particularly to the world-wide indignation over Italy's attempt to seize Ethiopia. I think that is broadly true in all human relations. I am not as old as Mr. Root, but I am old enough to remember when no voices were raised in protest against any of the injustices perpetrated by the strong against the weak in almost every field of human action. We have come a long way out of the age of brutality in my time.

Sometimes I think, however, that we have come into an age of sentimentality. What the world needs is neither brutality nor overtenderness, but evenhanded justice.

FISH and war
One of the things we are learning is that nothing can happen anywhere in the world without in some measure affecting everybody else in the world. Who would have thought that Italy's military expedition against Ethiopia would have brought distress to the fishermen of Labrador? Yet that is just what has happened, according to Dr. Grenfell, the famous Labrador medical missionary.

The other nations of the world have shut off Italy's credit. Italy has been the chief market for the fish caught off the Labrador Coast. Fishing boats from the Mediterranean were catching fish off Labrador for the Italian markets before Columbus discovered America. Now that market is closed to them because Italy can't pay for the fish.

One of the reasons why people are more concerned now than ever before over wars and other dislocations of international relations is that we understand more clearly how interdependent we all are.

NEWS Liberty
If I had to express in one word the most powerful influence working toward world understanding and human justice, I would say "news". In my newspaper work in the past 45 years, I have watched the growth of knowledge and understanding through the wider and speedier distribution of news from all the world to all the world. Nothing approaching the great network of newsgathering and news-distribution machinery which exists today was even imagined in my journalistic apprentice days.

America is away ahead of all the rest of the world in the freedom of its news channels. Most of the politicians and governments who seek to impose their wills upon their peoples begin by trying to suppress or distort the news. I often wonder if Americans realize that we owe our individual liberties, which are greater than those of any other people, to the freedom which our Constitution guarantees to the press.

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Mr. Roosevelt's personal charm and popularity, wise ones in the Opposition recognize, can overcome a huge amount of dissatisfaction with the acts and policies of the Administration to date. Nothing would be easier than to lay the blame for failures on underlings who "betrayed the President's confidence", while claiming personal credit for the successes.

One of the underlings on whose shoulders much of the load of criticism is being heaped, particularly by farmers and lately by business elements is Professor Tugwell. The President's closest advisers are unceasingly urgent that Mr. Roosevelt get rid of Dr. Tugwell for strategic reasons. What the outcome will be is still doubtful.

Among Republican Presidential possibilities who are out in the open, Governor Landon of Kansas is away in the lead now, and is gaining. That he will take the largest block of delegates to the convention now seems probable. That he or anyone else will have a majority in the first ballot is doubtful.



(By Dan Tompkins)

It is true that we are the children of the past—that we are a part of all that has gone before, of our ancestry, of all that we have been, that we have done, that we have seen, that we have read.

It is true that the limitations of the past hold us inexorably in their grip, and that we must be bound by them.

It is also true that all the good elements of the past work within us and about us to help us on to victory, just as the bad things and the limitations of the past seek to hold us back. Mighty occurrences and trivial happenings of years, aye, centuries, before we were born affect our daily lives for weal or for woe.

It is also true that each new day presents to us new opportunities, and that our task is to make the best of each of them as it presents itself.

1935 and all the years that have gone before are dead. The books are closed. The record is written and will remain unchanged and unchangeable through all the years that are to come.

But 1936 presents itself to us with 366 clean, new pages upon which we are to write the record for ourselves.

Let us hail the coming of a new year as the dawning of a new opportunity to serve and to be of service.

Let us take stock, not only of our merchandise and of our material possessions; but also of ourselves.

Let us face ourselves as we really are. Let us make a mental record of the bad as well as of the good. Let us make this appraisal, not of our neighbors, not of our friends, not of those we fancy we dislike, but of our own selves. It will do our souls good. Then let us resolve to weed out the bad—to cultivate the good.

Let us profit by the mistakes of the past, and avoid them in the future.

Let us carry into the new year the Christmas spirit of good will to all mankind.

Let us, as the new year dawns, awaken anew the hopes that are within us and strive anew to bring them to glad fruition.

The clean pages of 1936 are before us. How we write up on them will determine our condition a year from now.

If we enter into the new year with gladness, work and strive, and hope, and seek to do and be the best of which we are capable, 1936 will indeed be a Happy New Year.

J. ULRICH GIBBS DIES AT WHITTIER HOME

J. Ulrich Gibbs, for many years a prominent figure in this part of North Carolina, died Tuesday at his home in Whittier, after having been in poor health for the past two years. Mr. Gibbs, 70 years of age, was a licensed preacher of the Southern Methodist Church in the county of Swain in the General Assembly for three terms, and was also an educator of wide repute, having been superintendent of schools in Swain county, and having taught at various places in Western North Carolina, for nearly half a century. For several years he was principal of the school in Sylva.

Funeral and interment were held at Whittier on the afternoon of Christmas day with Rev. E. E. Hartland, the presiding officer in charge of the Whittier Methodist church conducting the services.

Mr. Gibbs is survived by his widow, Mrs. Lula Marney Gibbs, two daughters, Mrs. George Young, Swain county, and Mrs. J. E. Whitson, Hazlewood, two sons, Ulrich, Jr., a student at Brevard College, and Eugene, a Whittier, one brother, A. H. Gibbs, Whittier, three sisters, Mrs. W. T. Lewis and Mrs. Addie Parris, Whittier, and Mrs. Maggie Shaw, Boston, Tex., and by six grandchildren.

Mr. Gibbs' mother preceded him in death by two weeks.

HUBERT STANLEY IS STABBED TO DEATH

Hubert Stanley, who lived in the Love Cove section of Sylva, and was a peddler of shrubbery, died on the afternoon of last Saturday at Haywood county hospital, from a knife wound inflicted a short time before at Bellemead Service Station, in Hazlewood.

Clifford Moore and his brother, Clarence Moore, were taken into custody by Haywood county officers, and are being held in connection with the case. Stanley, who was about 35 years of age, lived in and near Sylva practically all his life.

His body was brought to Sylva, and funeral and interment were held at Wesley's Chapel, Rev. R. F. Mayberry and Rev. Ernest Jamison conducting the services.

He is survived by his widow, his father, Caney Stanley and by other relatives.

MRS. MILLER DIED SATURDAY

Mrs. Mary Ellen Miller, 85 died at the home of her son, C. A. Miller in Sylva early Saturday morning.

Funeral services were conducted at the home, Sunday afternoon by her pastor, Rev. T. R. Wolfe of the Sylva Methodist church. Interment was in the Keener cemetery.

Mrs. Miller was a native of Pennsylvania. She came to Sylva several years ago. She is survived by her son, four grandchildren, and six great grandchildren.

BROWN HEADS EAST LA PORTE MASONIC BODY

The officers for 1936 of East La Porte Masonic lodge will be J. E. Brown, Worshipful Master; T. D. S. Waters, senior warden; M. H. Nielsen, junior warden; E. P. Wike, secretary; T. C. Ledbetter, treasurer; James Robbins, senior deacon; C. A. Hoyle, junior deacon; J. H. Middleton and Jack Johnson, stewards; W. D. Wike, chaplain; John S. Seymour, educational secretary.

MRS. EVANS HEADS STATE DEMONSTRATORS

Mrs. Harry Evans of Sylva was last week elected president of the North Carolina State Association of Home Demonstration Agents, at the annual conference of State College extension workers, in Raleigh.

CROWELL HEADS SCOUTS

Mr. H. P. Crowell of Sylva was elected chairman of the Smoky Mountains district, Boy Scouts of America at a meeting of the district committee last week in Bryson City.