

The Evening Times

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HARD ON UNIVERSITIES.

However one may disagree with Richard T. Crane, the Chicago millionaire, on the subject of higher education, his views are interesting. He says that the higher institutions of learning are a fraud and are doing harm by demoralizing youth instead of making capable, self-reliant citizens out of them.

"I have given a great deal of thought and study to the subject of higher education and have conducted several systematic investigations with regard to this and many other institutions engaged in advanced lines of education, and the conclusion I have reached is that practically every one of these institutions is a fraud and an imposition on the public. I maintain that instead of being a benefit, such institutions as this are a positive curse and are doing a vast amount of harm by demoralizing the youth of this country."

"Instead of teaching young men to seek labor they cause them to despise it, and the students leave the schools with the feeling that they are too good to work and are smart enough to make their living by their wits."

"Instead of appropriating funds for such institutions it would be a good deal better for the state to put a torch to them and burn them down, to go out of the 'higher education' business and permit the boys to go back to their homes and assist in supporting their families, instead of causing them a heavy expense."

That is a pretty fierce indictment of the University of Illinois, for that is the particular institution that called forth his remarks. He had been approached by members of the Illinois legislature, asking his advice on the question of increasing the appropriations for the university and the above spicy remarks were made in answer to that request for advice. The university has nearly five thousand pupils and for fifteen years it has received an average of \$2,000,000 a year from the state, this year's appropriation being \$2,200,000. If Mr. Crane had merely suggested that it was time to call a halt in the appropriations he would doubtless have found many to agree with him, but because one university seems to be a spendthrift is no reason for calling down maledictions upon those that are doing their appointed work, many of them on meagre means, and serving their states, their country, and the world.

GOVERNOR WINNING PLAUDITS.

Governor Kitchin is winning much praise by the way he is looking after the duties of his office and the state. In the three-cornered fight for the nomination for the governorship, which was raging in this state this time last year, there were many opponents of Mr. Kitchin on the ground that he was an extremist and would keep the state, if elected, in a turmoil all the time. They were afraid that he and the policies which they thought he stood for would work injury to the state. Now those people have seen that their fears were groundless and no governor has ever been more heartily commended for his work than Governor Kitchin has been for his way of conducting business since coming into office. The people had become surfeited with excitement and bustle in the affairs of the state and they

wanted rest, a cessation of wrangling and constant disturbance. Governor Kitchin is giving them just the "rest and peace" they wanted. He is looking after the duties of his office quietly and unobtrusively. The people know that affairs are being attended to and they are gratified that the machinery of state has stopped creaking and that business is being conducted without so much noise. The Salisbury Post about conveys the general opinion and approval now of those who formerly opposed the governor in the following editorial:

"Like The Observer we had our apprehensions about Governor Kitchin in without ever questioning his honesty. But we are prepared after reflecting upon his course as the state's chief executive for nearly five months to give unqualified endorsement to The Record's estimate of him. He is indeed proving himself the governor of the whole people, with no side or back doors to his office. He became governor at a time when the state was praying for a cessation of turmoil and in so far as it has been in his power he has given it. His every act has been that of one who loves his state and who is resolved to adhere to a policy that shall make for its glory and stability."

"The Observer and The Post are but two of a great number who have taken another measurement of Governor Kitchin and made a new estimate of him."

When Collector Loeb gets the New York custom house straight the addition to the revenues from that source ought to help some.

PRESS COMMENT

Good Health Record. Think of it! Greenville, with a citizenship of 5,000 people has had only two deaths among the white population, which is about two-thirds of the number, in nearly five months! We don't believe there is another town anywhere its size that can come up to such a health record. You are lucky to live in Greenville.—Greenville Reformer.

Meeklenburg Signers.

President Taft captured the hearts of a multitude of the genial people of the Tar Heel state in his address at the celebration of the signing of the Meeklenburg Declaration of Independence. The president seems to carry a banner along with him at times, for he certainly gave to his audience as fine a compliment for the act of their progenitors as could have been made. The Meeklenburg claim has been something of a joke with historians but the people of the southern community absolutely see in it, whether or not the earlier document influenced the drafting of the Philadelphia declaration, it certainly was a noble act of patriotism, entailing personal danger on the part of those who entered into the covenant to withstand with their blood the British king.

It was quite fitting that such enthusiasm as vented itself in Mr. Taft's audience should have been signified by a cloudburst, nor is there implication in this that the atmosphere was unduly heated by the fine eloquence of the speaker and the cheers of his hearers. The south is solid. It is solid for Taft. The Meeklenburg declaration has gone far toward enhancing the reputation of the most popular of American presidents with the Southern people.—Baltimore American.

The McCue Case.

The following from the Richmond Times Dispatch in regard to a celebrated case will be read with interest in the country over:

"Under a decree filed yesterday in the clerk's office of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of J. William McCue and others against the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, in error from the Circuit Court at Lynchburg, a petition for a rehearing is denied. This action means that the insurance company must pay a claim of the heirs to the estate of the late Samuel McCue, of Charlottesville, for \$29,000."

In the United States Circuit Court the decision favored the insurance company, but the United States Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond reversed the lower court, and the refusal of an application for a rehearing finally ends the case, unless the United States Supreme Court is appealed to. The petition for a rehearing was filed December 14 last.

J. Samuel McCue was hanged for

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wife murder after a sensational trial, and the claim was that the amount of the policy was not rightfully due, as he forfeited his life. The final decision, as the case is the only one of its kind ever heard in Virginia, has been long looked forward to with interest by insurance men in every section of the country. Judge Pritchard, Judge Waddill and Judge Dayton presided when the lower court was reversed in November, 1908.—Wilmington Star.

A True North Carolinian.

One of our esteemed democratic contemporaries recently referred to the fact that Gov. Aycock was a most estimable gentleman but a very poor politician. It may be that Gov. Aycock is a poor politician, yet he is the most popular man in North Carolina. An effort was made last spring to set aside his influence in the state. On the 24th of last June at the Charlotte convention when Gov. Aycock arose to speak, the attention was not given to him that was formerly his, and it was visible that his great influence before a North Carolina audience had been somewhat dimmed. But before that long convention had closed Gov. Aycock was the idol of the convention, and in the closing hours of the convention when he arose to speak, the convention arose almost as one man to hear his every word; and at the close of the convention he was stronger than ever and every man who went home from the convention who remained throughout its session, realized the greatness of this distinguished North Carolinian.

Gov. Aycock may not be great in seeking office because he does not display the zeal that some men do, and may not spend his hours in seeking and devising means by which to accomplish selfish purposes, but in the hearts of the people of the state no man is closer, and it comes not from an effort on his part, but from his remarkable record and the goodness and greatness that are in the man.—Ashboro Courier.

The Mississippi At Natchez.

Off Natchez, 250 miles in a line from the mouth of the great river whose name it bears, the battleship Mississippi has her choice of water from 55 to 290 feet deep to lie in and swing with wind and current. She has plenty of room to turn under her own steam. She could go further north if there were any occasion. Here are practical facts well worth such a carrier the river has a splendid future. No other nation has its equal. Off Natchez the Mississippi was greeted with the most emphatic expressions of loyalty to a common country. Henceforth she will carry an American banner with only thirty-four stars, captured from the federal gun boat Petrel in 1864 by a company of cavalry and now given to her by the brother of the captor. The Governor of Mississippi spoke on his command, the wealth as a loyal member in moral and material progress. Here are facts of sentiment which alone would far more than have justified the cruise up the river. Sentiment the greatest power in human affairs. Both for reasons of business and for reasons of patriotism the river voyage of the Mississippi is a success. It was well she went west.—New York World.

Judge Connor.

To the Editor of The Times.

When our chief magistrate threw the mantle of federal judgeship upon the shoulders of the broad minded, honorable Judge H. G. Connor, it was not because he could not find a capable man in his own party, for he threshed around among both parties, and from them he selected the man of all men whom he thought would most worthily fill the position, which makes it a greater honor to Judge Connor. Therefore, I think it unjust, ungrateful, in the democratic press from this high and noble act of our president, prompted by the highest motive by trying to put office above party to turn the dogs of war upon him, and lining up and arraigning his own party against him. I was informed by a party who heard his speech in Petersburg last week, say that he very gently rebuked both parties for having so much to say about his appointment of a federal judge in North Carolina.

In the words of the poet we might say of Mr. Taft: "Tis he whose law is reason; who depends Upon that law as on the best of friends."

We can truly say of Judge Henry G. Connor: "He fixes good on good alone and owes To virtue every thought that he knows: Who, if he rises to station of command, Rises by open means; and there will stand On honorable turns, or else retire." H. B. HART. Rocky Mount, N. C. May, 24.

Mrs. W. W. Faison, of Goldsboro, is in the city to attend A. and M. commencement, where her sons graduate.

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