

The Evening Times

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A FITTING MEMORIAL.

The Raney library is a great institution. It has been of inestimable benefit to Raleigh. Her people have gotten great pleasure and profit from within its walls.

The library is splendid in all its equipment, but this one thing it lacks, a place for the children, for as it is now no child under 12 years of age has the use of the reading-room because there is no department for them.

We understand that there is now a room in the library building that could be utilized for this purpose and there is already a trained librarian connected with the institution ready to take up the work.

THE SALARY BASIS.

Speaking of putting county officers on salary and abolishing the fee system the Salisbury Post says:

"That the salary idea is growing in favor admits of no dispute and it is due to the single fact that changed conditions have made it feasible. The fee system, we have contended, is desirable in those counties that have not attained affluence but in the larger and richer counties of the state a salary basis is preferable.

"There is a danger associated with the compensation of public officials at a stated amount, however, and it is found in a spirit of niggardliness that would let out important public stations to the lowest bidder. This spirit is one of the weakest characteristics of the American citizen.

The salary of an officeholder is not by a very great deal so attractive as it would appear on its face. To illustrate, take the office of high sheriff of Rowan county. Bonds are required of this official for the handling of the county's moneys and proper conduct as an officer of the law.

"Wherever there is a willingness to give public servants sufficient compensation for the responsibility assumed as well as for actual services rendered the salary system is all right; when otherwise, it is all wrong."

Of course the compensation in all cases should be a reasonable one. The public servant should be paid for his services and the responsibility attached be taken into consideration in fixing the amount of his salary.

The merchants of Asheville are interested in the commission form of city government. At a recent meeting of the Retail Merchants' Association of that city a committee was appointed to look into that form of government and report the result of their investigations back to the board.

Your vote, or \$1.58? You must give up one or the other on or before December 14th. The state puts its pistol to your head and says so—unless you happen to be a Civil War veteran.—Norfolk Landmark.

This is the same old sequel. But the state doesn't do any such thing. It says if you don't care enough about the state and its institutions and do not appreciate the benefits of organized society enough to be willing to pay \$1.58 for those benefits you haven't enough interest in the matter to vote intelligently, nor indeed have any business voting and the state is right.

The Charlotte News reads Raleigh a lecture on originality. We wish we could make our people see the humor of the situation, but since they don't read The News they can't. But it is a case of "carrying coals to Newcastle."

"Liquor is too scarce and eggs too high for eggnog to be as plentiful this Christmas as usual."—Greenville Reflector.

A western woman has made a discovery that will prove comforting to a lot of people. She says big feet are a sign of brains.

This is Worth Remembering. When ever you have a cough or cold, just remember that Foley's Honey and Tar will cure it. Remember the name, Foley's Honey and Tar, and refuse substitutes.—King-Crowell Drug Company, cor. Fayetteville and Hargett streets.

PRESS COMMENT

To Fortify the Entrance of the Chesapeake.

According to our dispatches from Norfolk, the Mayors of the Chesapeake Bay cities, along with the commissioners of the District of Columbia, are to be invited to a conference in Norfolk to consider the defense of the bay. The invitation is to be sent out by the Norfolk Industrial Commission, and the officials to be invited are the commissioners of the District of Columbia and the mayors of Baltimore, Norfolk, Newport News, Richmond, Petersburg, Alexandria, Hampton and Portsmouth.

In his speech to the waterways convention Admiral Sperry said: "In discussing the internal waterways as a line of defense and as a secure passage for coastwise traffic in time of war, it is imperative that attention should be called to the fact that in the present undefended state of the entrance to the Chesapeake this line can be cut in two and absolutely blocked by the enemy. Not a single gun could be brought to bear upon a hostile fleet passing from the Capes to the head of the Chesapeake Bay, while the great railway bridges are exposed to destruction and an enemy with full liberty to land in safety when he pleases may also blockade or attack Norfolk while his fleet lies comfortably at anchor in Lynn Haven Bay."

The "Middle Ground," which was mentioned by the president as the proper place for making the fortification, is a shoal in the very mouth of the bay about midway between the Capes and about five miles from Cape Henry. The ship channel is between the shoal and the Cape Henry side. With a fort on the Middle Ground and a battery at Cape Henry, it would be almost impossible for a hostile fleet to enter the bay. The creation of an island on the shoal would be expensive, but over portions of it the depth of water at mean tide is not more than seven or eight feet.

The proposed conference would be interesting, and while the coast is being fortified it seems unwise to neglect and leave defenseless so important a strategic point as the Chesapeake Bay.—Baltimore Sun.

Collector Loeb's Work at the Port of New York.

After a conference with treasury officers Collector William Loeb, Jr., of the port of New York, has returned, announcing that with a dozen more dismissals the work of housecleaning there will have been completed. Prosecutions are to proceed rigorously, and various steps taken to perfect the customs service at New York, but the greater part of the job of overhauling has been done. The result of it has been to uncover vast sugar frauds and other customs frauds through which the government has been induced out of millions of dollars.

Secretary of the Treasury MacVeagh has stood squarely by the efforts to reform the New York customs service and President Taft has encouraged them. The immediate task of ferreting out the frauds and finding the dishonest men of the customs service has fallen on Collector Loeb to a large extent. He has done this work well and deserves credit for it.

As "the faithful Loeb," his capacity for public affairs was generally appreciated, and as the buffer between President Roosevelt and his critics and enemies Mr. Loeb frequently suffered for occurrences for which he was not responsible. The value of the housecleaning at the port of New York is not yet generally recognized, but it will be great. It means that the customs service of every port will be examined to see whether there is dishonesty and corruption. After this there ought to be no need for periodical housecleaning. The treasury department ought to establish a system with such rigid safeguards as to make them unnecessary.—Philadelphia Times.

"Will Trusts Fight the Government?"

There seems to be a pretty general assumption that the judicial decision in the Standard Oil case will be sustained by the supreme court of the United States. It will, of course, be carried up on appeal in order that a final adjudication may be obtained. That is desirable. The question that seems to exercise most minds concerned with the matter is what will then be done, or what will be done in the meantime, to bring existing combinations into harmony with the law, either as it stands or as it may be modified by amendment. There are suggestions of trying to resort to some new device for evading the law and fighting against government authority. Nothing could be more ill advised than that, and it would be certain to aggravate the situation, for no government can afford to permit itself to be defied or its authority to be ignored by those who live or carry on business within its jurisdiction.

The chief suggestion of this kind that we observe is that a holding company might be organized under the laws of some other country, with its offices and its corporate action abroad, which could hold a controlling interest in all the constituent companies that it was desired to have work in union. As it could choose the directors of all the different constituents of the combination it could keep it working together as if informed with one spirit and purpose in the conduct of a widely extended business. The main difference between it and the plan of the domestic holding company would be that its meetings, its records and the evidence of its centralized action would be out of jurisdiction of our government and out of reach, while the external appearance would be that all the different companies which were working in harmony were independent and quite free to compete. It would be altogether impracticable to keep up any such secret arrangement and escape interference with its operation. But the suggestion of any such attempt at evasion or of keeping up any antagonism or resistance to the government or fighting against public authority is of evil import and in the last degree unwise. No corporation or combination of capital can exist in this country without being subject to law, and any combination that is made unlawful will have to cease to exist. There should be no keeping up of "fight" against the law or of schemes of evasion, but there should be submission in good faith wherever the law is finally ascertained and established beyond further dispute. It would be unfortunate for the business and the peace and good order of the country to have this antagonism kept up, and there should be a sincere effort on both sides, on the side of men who control and direct great industrial and business interests through corporate organization and on the side of those who represent the people in the making and administration of law, to establish a system of regulation which shall be for the common welfare.

North Carolina Leads.

The annual report of the commissioner of international revenue shows that nearly eight million dollars less booze taxes were collected this year than last, but that tobacco has brought in two million dollars more; and the further fact that tax receipts tend to indicate a decrease in the cigar trade and an increase in the demand for snuff, cigarettes, pipe and chewing tobacco. The fact that whiskey consumption seems to be growing less is encouraging, but that the consumption of tobacco in the form of cigarettes, snuff, smoking and chewing tobacco is on the increase does not indicate a very healthy state of affairs.

North Carolina leads in the production of chewing and smoking tobaccos. The quantity produced was 76,269,881 pounds. In this class of production Missouri comes second, Ohio third and Kentucky fourth, New Jersey fifth and Virginia sixth.—Kinston Free Press.

From Super to Super.

The British invincible, built in 1905-6 was the beginning of the Dreadnought race that may yet bankrupt European nations. The length of the invincible was 530 feet with a displacement of 17,250 tons and 41,000-horse power. Germany comes next, the boat being the Von der Tann. She was built in 1907. Her length is 550 feet, displacement 17,250 tons, horse power 45,000. And now comes the British indefatigable. She is 555 feet long and has a displacement of 19,000 tons and 45,000 horse power. This was begun in 1908. In 1909 the Germans began the construction of two ships each to be 570 feet long with a displacement of 23,000 tons and 67,000 horse power. The British are not to be outdone for the builders of that country have made plans for a double super to be built next year. She is to be 630 feet long, with a displacement of 25,000 tons and 70,000-horse power.

Dreadnoughts are like skyscrapers in one respect—they have no limit except the size of the ocean. A cruiser that had 10,000 tons displacement 10 years ago was a wonder, and yet no one now stops to inquire about one with 30,000 tons displacement. Fighting ships have been trebled in size in 10 years, and The Age-Herald declines to figure out the dimensions of a Dreadnought 10 years hence, or its cost or the deficit that will be created. Projectiles too have grown until the British at least are ready to hurl at an enemy shots that weigh 1,250 pounds apiece.

Oh, You Politicians.

In the light of the news from Alabama Mr. Bryan may not be so enthusiastic over the prohibition future. There are other politicians also who will ponder deeply over the result. It contains much food for thought for those who have climbed or are about to climb on the waterwagon for what there is in it for themselves.—Chattanooga Times.

Alone in Saw Mill at Midnight.

Unmindful of dampness, draughts, storms or cold, W. J. Aakins worked as Night Watchman, at Banner Springs, Tenn. Such exposure gave him a severe cold that settled on his lungs. At last he had to give up work. He tried many remedies but all failed till he used Dr. King's New Discovery. "After using one bottle" he writes, "I went back to work as well as ever." Severe Colds, Stomach Complaints, Inflamed Throats and Sore Lungs, Hemorrhages, Croup and Whooping Cough get quick relief and prompt cure from this glorious medicine. 50 cents and \$1.00. Trial bottle free, guaranteed by all druggists.

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upon the idea that there would be no escape for Roosevelt. "If he is nominated," said he, "I would propose this campaign slogan for your party. The sentiment is all right, but there will be scarcely any need for the use of the slogan. This country has about decided that it has had enough of Mr. Roosevelt as a ruler." We fear our usually far seeing contemporary does not fully appreciate the ambition and wisdom of Roosevelt. We happen to know who the proud republican to whom Senator Overman refers is, and while he is no Roosevelt partisan he is one of the longest-headed Republicans in the country, a national figure who has occupied high official position. The thought that Roosevelt will succeed himself is not an agreeable one to this gentleman but he declares there is no escape.

There is no telling. With all his vaunted freedom from implicitly the president is one of the smartest politicians in the country and he has demonstrated on more than one occasion that he is none too scrupulous in his methods in attaining an end.—Salisbury Post.

Back to the Circuit.

There may be room for Gov. Comer on the Chattanooga circuit. There were three of them in high fettle some three years ago—Glenn, of North Carolina; Smith, of Georgia, and Comer, of Alabama. They're all down and out now. And the separate incidents quite satisfactorily sustain the adage that the politician can't fool all the people all the time.—Chattanooga Times.

Free Advice on INCREASING ILLUMINATION OR DECREASING BILLS.

CAROLINA POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY. By virtue of the power of sale contained in a mortgage executed by Haywood Merritt and wife, Mollie Merritt, to me on November 14th, 1906, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Wake County, in Book 209 at Page 372, I will sell for cash at the Court House Door in Raleigh, N. C., on Tuesday, December 21st, 1909, at 12 M., two tracts of land situated in Little River Township, Wake County, North Carolina, and described as follows: First Tract. Known as part of the Hunter Tract, containing five acres; Begins at post oak on north side of road leading from Strickland's Mill to Wake Forest, George W. Sledge's corner; thence south 86 degrees east 15.40 chs. to stake on north side of said road; thence south 3.20 chs. to stake; thence north 86 degrees west 15.40 chains to stake in said Sledge's line; thence north 3.20 chs. to beginning. Second Tract. Adjoining the above described land, containing about eight acres, and known as part of the Lucy Johnson Tract. Bounded as follows: On the north by the lands of Haywood Merritt, on the east by lands of George Sledge, on west by lands of Richard High.

NOTICE OF SALE. This 18th day of November, 1909. L. L. MASSEY, Mortgagee. WATSON & DENSON, Attorneys. 1W-4Wks.

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