

THE MOUNTAIN SCOUT

Devoted to the Social, Moral and Financial Interests of the Citizen of Alexander County and Western Carolina.

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THE MOUNTAIN SCOUT.

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J. P. BABINGTON, Editor and Publisher.

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THE ONLY WOMAN MASON

BIOGRAPHY OF MRS. CATHERINE BABINGTON.

Written by her youngest son, a Master Mason and member of Lee Lodge, No. 253, A. F. & A. M., Taylorsville, N. C. She was the only woman in the world that ever received all the secrets of Blue Lodge masonry. This book tells how she came into possession of the secrets and was obligated. Price, by mail, 25 cents. Address J. P. BABINGTON, Taylorsville, N. C.

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J. P. BABINGTON, Editor
Mountain Scout
Taylorsville, N. C.

Taxpayers Getting Heard.

Governor William Sulzer of New York strikes what is beginning to be a popular note when he urges more economy and efficiency in government as a need of the times. When he was Speaker at Albany 19 years ago the appropriations for State purposes were \$13,000,000. Now he finds the estimate for next year no less than \$63,000,000. "We must keep down the expenditures for the State Government to the minimum," comments Mr. Sulzer. "If we do not the State will have to go into bankruptcy or direct taxes will have to be levied, which will become unbearable to the citizens."

It is the same story every where. Expenditures for the State and Federal purposes have multiplied at a fearful rate half a dozen officers growing where one grew before and two at most would serve the ends of government equally well. The average attitude of our politicians is indicated by their opposition to commission government in cities, and the need of the change which commission government embodies is indicated by its rapid spread notwithstanding all that the majority of them can do. Taxpayers are no longer as indifferent as they were before. They could not afford to be. It has become obviously necessary that they take a hand to save themselves from being simply taxated alive. Matters have gone so far now that if no remedy is applied we shall witness wholesale destruction of public credit, with bankruptcy avoidable only by a confiscatory tax. How much longer can

expenditure go on doubling every few years? If it goes on for another generation we shall have private property suffering to an extent which even the more moderate Socialist do not propose. Government will have become a self-devouring monster. This is no prospect in the dim distance. It is one to be faced and faced now.

When so keen and discerning and ambitious a public man as Governor Sulzer calls a halt on extravagance in government we may feel sure that it has become a live issue indeed with large opportunities for popularity as well as for service on the side of men who will take this stand. Present burdens are greatly aggravated where, as in North Carolina, preposterous inequalities in taxation and the distribution of revenues exist between units of government—the counties outside town limits heavily riding the towns. And here we already have the direct State taxes which Mr. Sulzer holds over New York State people's heads as an alarming possibility; we have them good and hard, besides taxes upon every urban occupation or business activity under the sun. With all that we are \$720,000 in the hole right now. When, therefore, proposals are made before the Legislature for the State to assume new or tremendously extended burdens in local taxation natural sphere there should be serious thought upon these things. —Charlotte Observer.

How to Bankrupt the Doctor.

A prominent New York physician says: "If it were not for the thin stockings and thin soled shoes worn by women the doctors would probably be bankrupt." When you contract a cold do not wait for it to develop into pneumonia but treat it at once. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is intended especially for coughs and colds, and has won a wide reputation by its cures of these diseases. It is most effectual and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all dealers.—Advertisement.

We understand from Mr. A. G. Hartley, Esq., of Hudson, that a four mile section of road in that township, made mainly of top-soil, by proper location and drainage, is in first class condition all the time. They found it necessary to do a little macadamising, at one place, but nearly all the section is good and remains so, simply because it is properly located and graded. This demonstrates that the location and grading of the roads has more to do with the upkeep than anything else.—Lenoir News.

Births And Deaths To Be Registered.

The Model Statistics Law has just been introduced in the Legislature. Representative Williams, of Buncombe, introduced it in the House, and Senator Hobgood, of Guilford, introduced it in the Senate. Within recent years a number of states have adopted substantially the same law on vital statistics. Each year improvements are made in this law until very recently it has become known as the Model Law. The bills are now before the Legislature, represent the 1913 edition of this Model Law, so, if passed, North Carolina can boast of the best vital statistics law in the country.

Some of the provisions of the bill are that all births and deaths occurring in the State shall be registered. In the case of deaths the name, age, sex, color, conjugal condition, occupation, cause of death, educational attainments, etc., are required. This information will enable state and local health officers to combat disease; it will settle many legal questions, point out the healthy and unhealthy places, prevent crimes, etc. In the case of births, the name, sex, color, etc., are required besides valuable statistical data about the parents. Such records will soon be invaluable for legal purposes; they will prevent violation of child labor laws and do much to prevent child marriages besides directly putting an end to much needless blindness, and furnishing information of inestimable value for workers and students of race questions, social reforms, etc. In fact if this bill is passed it will doubtless prove one of the most important and far reaching laws enacted by this session of the Legislature.

Fit His Case Exactly.

"When father was sick about six years ago he read an advertisement of Chamberlain's Tablets in the papers that fit his case exactly," writes Miss Margaret Campbell of Ft. Smith, Ark. "He purchased a box of them and he has not been sick since. My sister had stomach trouble and was also benefited by them." For sale by all dealers.—Advertisement.

A Novel Still Destroyed.

One of the smallest and most crudely constructed distilleries ever seen by local officers was destroyed by Sheriff Deaton and Deputies Gilreath and Albee in Turnersburg township. The officers rode nearly 20 miles through darkness and severe cold to raid the place where a still was reported to be in operation and on their arrival they found a little plant with a wooden still of six or eight gallon capacity. It had been turning out booze all right, but in small quantities, and is considered right much of a novelty, though the officers hardly considered it worth the trip.—Mooreville Enterprise.

Cured of Liver Complaint.

"I was suffering with liver complaint," says Iva Smith of Point Blank, Texas, "and decided to try a box of Chamberlain's Tablets, and am happy to say that I am completely cured and can recommend them to every one." For sale by all dealers.—Advertisement.

Gov. Sulzer's inauguration, however simple in the matter of display, has for some time been a thing of great literary splendor.

Plain Talk.

In a sermon to the congregation of the First Baptist church in Statesville, Dr. Charles Anderson, the pastor, took the tax dodger and the perjurer to task. He also thought the man who fails to exercise the privilege of the ballot is not a good citizen. Doctor Anderson urged his hearers to "obey every law of the land and pay all the taxes assessed against them; not to give in false returns at tax listing time and not to dodge paying tribute to the government." This is perfectly legitimate pulpit talk and there is need of more of it—when tax listing time comes around again.—Charlotte Observer.

It is the kind of pulpit talk that is too much neglected. The number of people who occupy the chief seats in the synagogues and are guilty of the things Dr. Anderson enumerates is amazing. Most of them are really good people but they follow a custom, not realizing the bad effect of their example nor how they suffer in the respect and confidence of those over whom they should exercise good influence. The ungodly are guilty of things they know are wrong but they will not excuse wrong-doing by Church men who should set the example. The preachers must arouse their congregations to right living before they can exercise a proper influence over those without the pale.—Landmark.

They 'Debated'

The Morganton papers, announce that two ministers of the gospel—a Baptist and an Adventist—are to hold a public debate this week on "the immortality of the soul, state of the dead and destruction of the wicked." Wonder if these gentlemen hope by this method of publicity to elevate the standard of spirituality or to strengthen the cause of their respective religious faiths?—Lenoir Topic.

These gentlemen, Revs. Vipperman and Butler, met as per agreement in the court house Tuesday night and were greeted by a large number, no doubt filled with morbid curiosity to hear two men who are supposed to be fighting the Devil indulge in a war of words directed against the belief of the other.

We have no doubt that the Devil patted himself on the shoulder in a complacent manner while this "struggle" was going on, and indulged in something that he rarely allows himself—a rest.—Morganton Messenger.

There is this difference between food and air, and that is, the air we breathe is invisible, so that we can not use our eyes to tell whether it is good or bad; with food we can tell, usually, by looking at it, whether it is clean or wholesome.

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