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## GIVING THE FOLKS POWER

OR HOW DEMOCRACY MAY BE RESTORED WITHOUT

“Revolution” Discussed By Mr. R. E. Aycock Who Advocates Initiative, Referendum and Recall Legislation.

“You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.” The immortal Lincoln must have had in mind the need of initiative, referendum and recall, which puts democracy in the hands of the people, so if tricked by their legislators they can enact or kill such laws, or discharge such officials as they wish. The time has come to establish the democracy at home which we have fought for in Europe.

Government in the United States was founded on the principle of Democracy, the rule of the whole people. But somehow principle and practice don't get together. The democracy we have now at least doesn't demote to suit the folks. Someway, by some trick or other, the will of a powerful wealthy minority gets done, the will of the big majority is disregarded. Over the head of the average voter there is a question mark a foot high. He feels that Representative Government does not represent and he wants to know how it can be made to. What is the way out?

There is a way out and the people of several States and many cities have already found and are applying it. It is a way so simple and reasonable as to have been scarcely noticed by the headline writers of the daily papers. Yet this way constitutes a political revolution of the first magnitude, a revolution which is securing for the common people political powers of the kind for which our forefathers fought the Revolutionary war and which in other lands and times have been secured only by bloodshed and the violent overthrow of reactionary governments.

I shall attempt to describe in my feeble way this epoch-making movement. It is a thing every voter should know about and thoroughly understand. It will bring hope and courage to all those who believe that the closer a government is kept to the people, the better that government will be. We are to deal with new political machinery, popular tools of self-government. I shall confine my description to State government because the movement has not yet reached the national stage, and shall define by describing here and there illustrations which show just how the tools of the new democracy work out in practice.

One gives an example of the initiative, one an example of the Referendum and one of the Recall, now in actual practice.

The legislature of Washington in 1915 enacted a law seriously crippling the public port of Seattle. The people had built this port at an expense of \$7,000,000. There are fine grain warehouses, refrigerator for fruit, and truck storage, docks, piers, ferries, and public market. Wharfage and storage charges had been reduced from 40 to 70 per cent of the former private charges. Farmers all over the Northwest were using it. It was a great business to both producers and consumers who had before been systematically robbed. It was rapidly reaching a point where it would be self-sustaining and of no cost to taxpayers. The law was recognized instantly as a first step on the part of the railroads and corporations to put the public port out of business. A storm of protest issued by the port of Seattle Commission. When the act was pending the people protested vehemently against the passage of so vicious a bill; meetings held in public halls; Commercial bodies, civic organizations, women's clubs and improvement societies throughout the city and Districts transmitted resolutions; and telegrams demanding defeat of the measure. Representatives of such organizations went to Olympia at their own expense and personally appealed to members against legislation so needless, so undemocratic, reactionary and unsound. Notwithstanding the aroused sentiment of two of the largest papers printed in Seat-

ROBERT MAYNARD DUNN



Lieut. Dunn is a son of Mrs. Bettie Dunn, of Wise, who has made a good record since he left home for Camp Jackson in the fall of 1917. He went with the draftees, but has risen steadily until he holds the commission of First Lieut. He was transferred from Camp Jackson to Camp Sevier and from there went to the officers training school at Camp Gordon. Lieut. Dunn is a young man of a most amiable disposition, one who makes friends everywhere, and his associates here in Wise were not surprised to learn of his many promotions.

He demanded the emasculation of the port commission, under the whip of the party machine the Legislature adopted word for word the bill of the Special interest and rejected all other amendments, suggestions and presentation of facts.

Within ninety days a petition signed by over six per cent of the voters of Washington was filed with Secretary of State, the law suspended and at the election of Jan 7th, 1916, the voters rejected the act of Legislature by the overwhelming vote of 195,253 against to 45,264 for. So this port, the ocean gateway of the Northwest, was saved.

This is an excellent illustration of the use of the Referendum, that is the power of the people to require that any law or part of a law may be referred to themselves for ultimate decision.

I hope that our honorable representatives from Warren County will have an eye open to a measure like this, have an amendment passed and let the people of North Carolina vote on it next November, 919, that is the Referendum.

There are many laws in North Carolina that should be referred to the people both State and County, is my way of thinking. If we had Referendum only that would put more power by the people.

Respectfully  
R. E. AYCOCK.

## Local News From Littleton and Community

Mrs. Telfair Ricks and children, who have been visiting relatives and friends here left Wednesday.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Johnston are very glad to know that they are improving after an illness of “Flu.”

Mrs. T. P. Eideout and children, of Henderson, who have been the guest of Mrs. Jim Johnston have returned to their home.

Mrs. Rom Parker and son, of Enfield are visiting friends and relatives this week.

Mr. Jack Northington, of Norfolk, Va., is here on a visit.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Newsom, Mr. and Mrs. V. F. Harrison, Mr. John Taylor and Mr. M. J. Grant motored to Raleigh Tuesday to attend the show “Pom Pom.”

Born to Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Whitehead Friday morning a son.

We are glad to see Mr. “Rick” Harris up town again.

Mrs. Marvin J. Grant who has been visiting relatives in Raleigh, has returned.

Mrs. Bessie Cawthorne and daughter Bessie Lee, are very sick with influenza.

Mrs. Ella Bailey, who has been visiting her sister Mrs. W. H. May, has returned to her home in Knightdale.

Miss Frances Sessoms spent Sunday in Thelma.

Miss Saddle Vinson is quite sick (Continued On Second Page)

## ARMENIA, SYRIA NEED AID TO KEEP FROM PERISHING

Four Million Armenians, Syrians and Other War Sufferers Practically Without Food, Clothing or Shelter; Eyes Turn to America In Appeal For Thirty-Five Million Dollars.

AND JESUS SAID  
“If ye shall ask anything of the Father in my name, He will give it you.”

For nineteen centuries this glorious promise has been a source of comfort and of strength to countless millions of the oppressed, the sick, the suffering, the troubled, and the grievously burdened. These burning words have been a pillar of fire by night and a pillar of cloud by day to the heavily laden and the sore distressed and to those multitudes who have passed through the Valley of the Shadow of affliction or death. Anr now in this latter day—nay, at this very hour—millions of women and children in and near those lands, those hills and rivers made holy by the sacred memories of our Lord, are claiming this promise and are crying out to Him in agony of spirit and body beseeching Him that He will save them from starvation, from death, and from horrors worse than death.

Four million Armenians, Syrians, and other war-sufferers in western Asia are practically without food, clothing, or shelter, the vast majority helpless women and children. More than a million and a half have been deported. Nearly a million have been brutally murdered and massacred. Four hundred thousand children are orphaned. It can be said that there are practically no more children left under the age of five, all having perished from exposure and disease. For every hundred births there are from two to three hundred deaths. The newly born children die almost immediately, their mothers having nothing to give them but tears. Deaths from dysentery, typhus, tuberculosis, and famine are increasing from day to day with appalling rapidity. The homeless—a pitiful stream of women and children—wander aimless through the streets of their wrecked villages. If you stop a child toward evening and ask him where he is going he will tell you, “I am searching for a place to sleep.”

All winter long they have slept in nooks and corners, in alleys and by the roadsides, with no blankets, no covering whatever, their clothing the merest rags. The women clasp their wan-faced children to their breasts and on their faces is written the pitiful story of their utterless despair.

The scenes in these lands of grief and suffering are beyond the power of imagination to conceive or of words to describe. Throughout the length and breadth of these countries there is no food save bread, the dry crusts of bread that they receive at the hands of charity. No meats, no soups, no vegetables, no sugar, less than a pound of bread daily, and even this morsel has often to be shared with others. “A poor old woman faint with hunger said to me to-day,” writes one of the devoted workers, “‘Sahib, the bread won't go down. I soak it in water, but it sticks in my throat.’”

“Wheresoever I go,” a missionary reports, “I see men or women fallen on the street dead or dying, and little emaciated children stretching out their wasted hands for just one shahid for bread,” tears running down their cheeks, and still more awful are the little ones sitting propped against a wall, listless and torpid, indifferent even to food, waiting quietly for death.”

“Just now,” says another worker, “I have been interrupted in my writing. A Jewess has come to tell me of a woman who staggered to her door begging late last evening. She was allowed to spend the night in a corner of the house and this morning she was dead. ‘Won't you please send some one to bury her,’ employed my caller.”

Such pleas are frequent now. There are more dead than buried in Armenia. Men and women once in good circumstances and self-respecting, now hungry, helpless, friendless, crawl away, like animals, out of sight, die unseen, and lie unburied.

blessing; neither rest nor respite; lands where the war has lend an awful human wreckage in its wake; a great Kingdom of Grief filled with the cries of mothers and orphans, a distress people prostrate with desolation, numbed with suffering, having no partnership in the great joy of a liberated world. No sons, no fathers, no brothers are returning victorious to their homes in Armenia or Syria, for their villages and their cities have been razed and ruined and lie in dust and ashes, and the men by the thousands have been pitilessly murdered or barbarously deported.

Deported? Yes, but what a euphemism for the most heartless and relentless cruelty. Deportation means the loss of home, business property, and every personal possession. It means being driven into desert places, forced to march at the point of the bayonet until strength is exhausted; it means being refused shelter, food, drink; it means being subjected to outrage and calculated cruelty.

Many such scenes of terrible and tragic suffering are in the very lands where Jesus walked with his disciples; where He had compassion on the needy multitudes, and fed them and healed them and comforted them. Many of these awful sights are even in the very shadow of the Mount of Olives, where Christ said: “Suffer the little children and bid them not to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” Millions of “the least of these my brethren” are hungry and naked and sick and in terrible prisons without walls. In them and through them the King of Pity and of Love is calling to you to minister to them just as you would do if you saw Him lying at your feet.

You, to whom the Christmas just past has meant a time of reunion, a time of feasting and happiness; you, whose homes are warm and whose children are well fed, think now of these your brothers and sisters who are perishing. The cries of these children must reach your ears. The year hearts. These homeless and prayers of these mothers must touch starving millions are dependent on charity—your charity—for Turkish charity provides for no one—it begins and ends at home.

It is America's God-given privilege to feed the hungry from her great bounty and from her unlimited stores. It is her blessed duty to life the head of fallen Armenia and put the cup of bread in her hands, and so prove cold water to her lips and the morsel of bread in her hands, and so prove herself ended the protector and liberator of the oppressed and subject races.

But now the period of rehabilitation in the Near East is at hand. Vastly larger sums will be required to restore the refugees to their homes than were required merely to sustain life in their desert exile. The American Committee for Relief in the Near East, under the able leadership of Cleveland H. Dodge, is appealing for a minimum of thirty million dollars “with which,” says the committee, “we can, humanly speaking, save every life.”

We feel this cause to be so worthy, this need to be so desperately urgent, that even tho we made a liberal contribution less than a year ago, we are now subscribing five thousand dollars to this new drive. We are doing this after having convinced ourselves by a careful investigation extending over a number of days that these funds will be wisely administered, that this work is in most capable hands, and that every dollar given will go for relief without the deduction of one cent for organization expenses. Send your own contribution quickly, and so bring new life and a new hope to some weary, broken body in the Near East.

Now is our opportunity to show these lands made luminous by the footprints of Christ and the Apostles what our Christianity of the West means to-day. Now is the time when these places of sacred history should receive

ROMIE C. HEUAY



Son of Mrs. Lucy Heuay, of below Littleton, who volunteered and left with H. Company in 1917 for Camp Sevier. He was wounded in the battle of September 29th, but last reports are that he is all right.

a new sanctification by the service of God's children in the twentieth century. We a Christlike healing of the sick and feeding the hungry, we will make a royal highway for our Lord into the grateful hearts of these people, along which the King of Glory may come with his message of love and light.—Literary Digest.  
Send your check at once to Cleveland H. Dodge, Treasurer, Room 190, No. 1 Madison Avenue, New York City.

## Mr. Hornaday Pleasantly Located Maxton

Editor of the Record:—

Having persuaded myself that a brief message from me to the good people among whom I lived last year, published in your excellent paper, might be read with some degree of pleasure, I have decided to ask you for space for said brief message.

On the first day of January wife and I left the good town of Warrenton for our new-old home in Maxton. And right here I wish to mention one very unsatisfactory incident connected with our leaving that splendid town. An unkind fate ordered it that the schedule of the trains on which we were to make the trip had been moved up ten minutes that very day, which we did not find out until we were just ready to sit down to quite a tempting dinner prepared for us at the ideal home of our dear friends, Mr. and Mrs. Norwood Boyd's. The unsatisfactory side to it was, we did not have time to attend to that dinner just as we wished to.

Of course we had a long ride from Warrenton to Maxton, but the connections were good, and we arrived here about fifteen minutes after nine o'clock of the day we left Warrenton. As Bro. Ormon was not out of the parsonage wife and I went to her sister's for a brief visit.

On Friday the third day of January we came over from Mr. McKay's in an automobile, and found quite a number of the ladies, and a few men, at the parsonage to welcome us to the charge. We began our itinerant ministry right here thirty-five years ago, and we were impressed with the fact that several of those who were present to welcome us this time were present to welcome us when we came to the charge before. Of course a great many changes have taken place during the years that have fallen into the gulf of past eternity since we were here before, but some of the old friends were easily recognized in spite of the changes. Then, too, Maxton is quite a good deal larger than it was back in the eighties. Having spent four happy years on the Ridgeway. Circuit twenty-odd years ago, living at Ridgeway while serving that charge, we felt like we were going back home when we were appointed to the Warrenton Circuit. A feeling very similar to this possessed us when we were assigned to Maxton by Bishop Darlington at Goldsboro. We shall not cease to regret the necessity for leaving Warrenton, but having to leave that charge, there was not another charge in all the Conference

(Continued On Fourth Page)

## REPEALS H. COMMISSION

REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS INTRODUCES OTHER BILLS

One To Repeal Dog Law and the Other to Abolish Present Method of Taking School Census; Jones Defends Present Act.

Representative Davis has introduced the following bills:

A bill to repeal the Dog law; a bill to repeal the working of able-bodied citizens upon the Public roads; a bill to repeal the Highway Commission. A bill to repeal the Act of 1917 appointing a County Census Taker for Warren.

Supt. Jones Defends Census Law.

I note that the Representative from this County has introduced a bill to repeal the law appointing a County Census Taker for Warren county. Of course it is a matter of opinion as to the method of taking the Census. It was assumed by the late and honorable Representative of County Superintendents that the present method was a failure in that it often was not “a true and accurate census.” At the time that the law was enacted it seemed almost impossible to get the census properly taken and promptly taken. “One man may lead the Pony to the brink; but a THOUSAND cannot make him drink.” Farmers were too busy (and are now) to take the census at three cents per name; when the labor of completing the census and filling out the blanks is more trouble and requires more care than procuring the names. The law which Mr. Davis proposes to repeal requires the Census taker to visit in person the home of each child and each adult illiterate and procure the information required by the State and County; to place a copy of said census of each school district in the hand of the teacher or before the opening of the school; to furnish a copy of the census of each district to the County Superintendent for filling in the office for the inspection of the public, and prohibited payment by the Superintendent for the service until the census and method of taking was sworn to by the County Census taker. The cost for 1918 and 1919 was \$492.96. That is to say \$246.48 per school year, including a census of those who could not read and write. I believe this method if followed intelligently and the census made out on the Card Index system; each card representing the head of a family and each card having blank space sufficient for a record of each family for say six years, and a blank space for showing the progress of each child in the public school is an ideal system. The law is alright, if carried out as written. The old method of having one census taker for each school district means a variety of degrees of efficiency, and a variety of dates of delivery of Census—and sometimes, as was the fact in 1917, the census was taken late in the Fall by the white and colored school teachers. A true and accurate census of school property, school buildings, blackboards, desks and set. and of illiterates, giving proper ages in all instances, is of much value to the County; but with the old method we had all kinds of degree of opinion and of record.

It may be that Mr. Davis has something better in view; he certainly cannot make it cost the County less money than the price of six cents biennially per school child. A better system will be welcome. A combination of County census taker and County Attendance Officer might be a step in the right direction; but don't go back to the old system.

HOWARD F. JONES, Supt.

COMMENDED FOR MERITORIOUS CONDUCT

We gladly call attention to the fact that First Lieut. Bravid W. Harris, Warren county's only Commissioned colored officer, has been commended by General Martin Commanding the 92nd Division, for meritorious conduct in action at Bois Frehaut, near Pont-a-Mousson, on November 10th and 11th. Lieutenant Harris is a son of B. Washington Harris of this town and has had proper training at home as a foundation for success in life.