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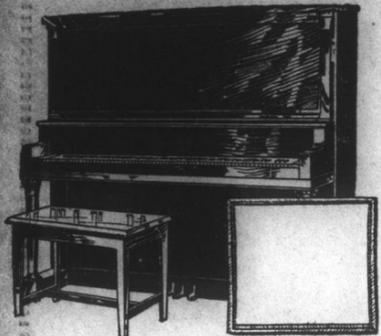
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Believe It Or Not—Here Is What Stars Assert 1926 Will Bring



"The signs are wonderfully favorable for America"

"A king will die in 1926. He is head of a great nation"

"Crops will be bountiful, and farmers will prosper"

BY GEORGE BRITT.
NEA Service Writer.
Washington, Dec. 31.—List to the stars of the prophetic:
The air will be filled with flying saucers, our people will be content, and will soothe all nations, the sea and the buyers of acres in the land of flowers will prosper, the sea of Wales at last will marry death will strike a great king, these are a few of the things that happen in 1926. Just wait and you have any superstitions at if you ever crossed a gypsy's path with silver, or watched your on Friday the thirteenth, or eaked on wood, or gazed in a fir on Hallowe'en—here may be names to justify your faith in the supernatural.
If you are a skeptic and say fortune telling is the bunk, may the predictions will prove your ous. In either case, this forecast is interesting to check on a from now if you have saved it, he secess is Mrs. Martha Spencer of the best known consultant in things occult in the nation's tal. Her method is astrology, led in personal readings with

psychology. She has been asked the stars about the New Year.
Peace Everywhere.
"The influence of Venus will be predominant and controlling almost throughout 1926," says Mrs. Spencer. "That means peace, quiet and prosperity everywhere, so far as it is possible to generalize for the whole world. The signs are wonderfully favorable for America in particular."
"The United States Senate will not agree to our joining the world court without very extreme reservations. The administration tax bill will be adopted by the Senate with but little change from the way it was passed by the house, and the people will like it."
"There will be upheavals in both the War and Navy Departments, particularly in the navy. I should not be surprised to see the heads of both those departments changed."
"Col. Mitchell will be recognized more than ever as an able patriot. Out of his agitation will develop an air service which will equal to any other on earth."
"The Prince of Wales will be married in 1926. I can not tell exactly who his bride will be, but she will

be a princess from one of the smaller nations of Europe."
"A king will die in 1926. He is popular and the head of a great nation. His successor will not wield the influence he does, and democracy will progress by his passing."
"Russia will be granted recognition by the United States."
Farms to Prosper.
"Crops will be bountiful, and farmers will prosper more than they have for several years. Business conditions generally will be better than they were in 1925."
"A French debt settlement will be agreed upon in 1926."
"The Florida boom will continue throughout the year. I think it has two years yet to go. After that will come a slump."
"It will be a year of discovery of new talent and of unusual accomplishment in literature and art. In the theater they will put on a few more clothes, but there won't be any modification of snappy lines."
"President Coolidge will not be elected president again. His successor will be a Republican."
And that is the future according to Martha Spencer. You can take it or leave it.

Bonded Indebtedness of State Shows Increase of 18 Per Cent.

On June 30, 1925, the total bonded indebtedness of the State of North Carolina, its counties and municipalities, was \$277,296,050.45, as compared with the sum of \$278,473,073.05 on June 30, 1924, an increase in twelve months of \$48,822,979.40, or about 18 per cent.
Figures compiled by the State Auditor Baxter Durham show that during the last fiscal year the debts of counties increased by \$15,000,000 and those of municipalities by \$24,000,000. The bonded debt of the State went up only ten millions, but during the period the State was doing the bulk of its financing with short term notes.
On June 30, the debt of the State and its subdivisions was about equally divided into the three classes, with the municipalities leading the other two divisions by about \$20,000,000. The debt was divided on June 30

as follows: State bonded debt, \$103,633,531; counties, \$102,181,873.95; cities and towns, \$121,181,873.95; cities and towns, \$121,480,645.50.
State Debt Mounting.
The compilation of the auditor as of June 30 furnished the latest data available on the counties and the cities and towns, but the State debt has been mounting since that date.
With the issue of \$20,125,000 in bonds this month the total increased to \$123,768,531, and when all notes issued in anticipation of bonds have been converted and all authorizations by the General Assembly exhausted, the State's bonded debt will be close on to \$150,000,000.
The bonded indebtedness of Cabarrus county is \$483,240, and that of the City of Concord is \$1,515,900.

HOW DUMB'S A DUMBBELL?

New York Mirror.
He's so dumb he thinks flying fish build nests.
He's so dumb he thinks a greenhorn is a loudspeaker.
He's so dumb he thinks a brief case is a hip pocket flash.
He's so dumb he thinks General Delivery is a war hero.
He's so dumb he thinks S. O. S. is a radio station.
He's so dumb he thinks Portuguese fly South when Winter comes.
He's so dumb he thinks plaster paris is imported building material.
He's so dumb he thinks cut-n-nine tails is a sideshow in a circus.
He's so dumb he thinks the Statue of Liberty is a traffic cop.
He's so dumb he thinks Bay Rum is a seaport.
He's so dumb he thinks the Flatiron building is a laundry.
He's so dumb he thinks the Flower Hospital is a hothouse.
He's so dumb he thinks an elephant packs his trunk.
He's so dumb he thinks a "run on the bank" is a race track.
He's so dumb he thinks the Mason and Dixon Line is a street railway.
He's so dumb he thinks devastated France is full of fallen cakes.
He's so dumb he thinks cakeaters originated in bakeries.
He's so dumb he thinks Governor's Island is owned by Al Smith.
He's so dumb he thinks a Nomde Plume is a hat feather.
He's so dumb he thinks Sing Sing is a Chinese lullaby.
He's so dumb he thinks Banana Oil is a patent medicine.
He's so dumb he thinks the Union soldiers originated the eight-hour day.

FIGURES THAT COUNT

Raleigh News and Observer.
We may not be able to thrill to Charlotte's claim to population. We may pick flaws in the Queen City's home-made census. But one distinction belongs to Charlotte—that all North Carolina must recognize.
Charlotte is the only city of its size in the United States which has gone thus far in 1925 without a fatal accident within its traffic control districts.
Talk about your bank resources, your new industries, your skyscrapers, your payrolls, your real estate booms and your building records until your tongue hangs out, but this is a thing that demands respect, that calls for quick congratulation, and speedy adoption of Charlotte's methods by other cities.
It would pay the other cities of the State to send their chiefs of police to Charlotte for a study of the system worked out by Chief Pitts, a veteran traffic man, who has been given free rein by the Commissioners to solve the growing problem.
They would hear him say something like this:
I find the public in general is perfectly willing to do what is right. The average motorist here only wants to know what you want him to do. Of course, there are a few glaring instances when a motorist will attempt to take advantage out these cases are rare. On the whole, the automobilist here is considerate and will obey instructions.
That is the point. The secret of traffic safety and traffic ease is regulation that is both reasonable and efficient. The aim should be to facilitate the operation of motor vehicles as such as possible without increasing the hazards of pedestrians. But safety is the word. That should control. If it is necessary for the motorist to drive around a block to prevent a left-hand turn when that turn would confuse traffic and increase risks to vehicles as well as pedestrians there should be no hesitancy in requiring this concession. Maybe a few drivers might complain. There are selfish people whose own convenience is paramount. But even they will fall in line. At any rate, they should be required to conform.
Charlotte has set a worthy example. The Queen City has given North Carolina a Christmas present, and a tip that is worthy any municipality's new year resolution.

CUTEST THINGS.

New York Mirror.
Mother—Get up, Elsie; remember it's the early bird gets the worm.
Elsie—All right, mother, let the bird have it, I'm not hungry.
I was sent to collect a bill from a "tight" customer. A small boy was playing on the porch. I sent him to get his mother. After a short time he returned and said, "Mother says she isn't at home."
Brown (after burglar's visit)—They carried off my wife.
Astounded Officer—Didn't they take anything valuable?
Lady—If you were a lawyer my profession, why must you beg?
Lazy Fitz—Well, you see, ma'am I'm an honest lawyer.
Helen—Will you help the Working Girls' Home?
Jack—Where do they live.
Teacher—Johnny, can you describe an island for me?
Johnny—It's a place where you can not leave without a boat.
Jessie was asked by a man if she could tell him where Mr. Dodge lived. Pointing to the west, she replied, "Go that way and that way, and stop at the first house where there's a dog."
A lumber factory in Tacoma has made more than two million wooden doors, which is said to be a world's record for this industry. Placed end to end the doors would make a board walk nearly 2,500 miles long.
The Christmas feast should not involve a post-Christmas fast.

The "Kick"



PROFESSIONALISM WILL BE DEFINED
Is "Bugaboo of American Athletics" Says Henry Breckinridge.
New York, Dec. 31.—Styling professionalism as the "bugaboo of American athletics," Colonel Henry Breckinridge, president of the National Athletic Federation, today appointed a committee to deal with the problem of drawing the line between amateur and professional sports.
Addressing the annual conference of the federation Colonel Breckinridge said:
"The professional athlete is per-

fectly all right in his own sphere, but when you have the amateur and professional spheres of athletics mixing, it is like the economic law of bad money driving good money out of circulation.
"Our colleges are not to train gladiators. College athletic training is a means, not an end. I object to the college-trained athlete who sells his services all over the country."
To illustrate his contention of a decline in amateur athletics, Colonel Breckinridge asserted that amateur baseball had fallen of 50 per cent. in the last three years.
Professionalism brought out an as-

sertion by Gustav T. Kirby, chairman of the advisory council of the Intercollegiate A. A. A. that "thousands of school boys under sixteen years of age were engaging in athletics for money, knowing that their amateur standing was being violated."
This statement followed a suggestion of Major John L. Griffith, executive of the N. A. A. F., that this organization be lenient with boys under sixteen who violate amateur rules.
Many a woman imagines that her heart has been broken when it is only her self-esteem that has been hurt.

The Ads In This Newspaper

are a never-failing source of information regarding the things you want and the things you need. They tell you about the newest and best, together with the prices and the places where they can be most advantageously obtained. Do you read them carefully before you make your purchases? Look them over before you lay this paper aside.

GAINED 10 POUNDS IN 22 DAYS

That's going some—but skinny men, women and children just can't help putting on good, healthy flesh when they take McCoy's Cod Liver Oil Compound Tablets.
As chock full of vitamins as the nasty, fishy-tasting cod liver oil itself, but these sugar-coated, tasteless tablets are as easy to take as candy, and won't upset the stomach.
One woman gained ten pounds in twenty-two days. Sixty tablets, sixty cents and money back if not satisfied. Ask the Pearl Drug Company or any druggist for McCoy's Cod Liver Oil Compound Tablets. Directions and formula on each box.
"Get McCoy's, the original and genuine Cod Liver Oil Tablet."

What Florida Owes to Science.
Review of Reviews.
Many of those who are decrying enthusiasm and accompanies the development of Florida are totally ware of all this recent history of real progress. In spite of the sentiment of the western movement the last century, Florida would be far more advanced in development but for occasional visitations of yellow fever, and the comparatively frequent recurrence of infectious and epidemic maladies, conquest of such disease gives a changed aspect to the agricultural and commercial development of a region like Florida. Many other states enter into the Florida movement, such as the comparative ease travel due to improved railroad steamship facilities, and to the universal use of the automobile.
But the underlying factor—one that counts for most—in the changes with which the movement Florida, and other southern districts, now attracts settlers and in the new freedom from the danger of certain diseases, obvious that the authentic record of half a dozen cases of yellow fever in Key West might create a

panic that would drive a million people away from Florida within a few days. But such a calamity is no longer to be apprehended.
The Judicial Conference.
Raleigh News and Observer.
The judicial conference that meets here today has large possibilities for usefulness. Just how useful it will be to the state depends entirely upon the seriousness with which its membership tackle the numerous problems that have already been brought before it for discussion. It is true that it is a purely advisory body, so far as its legislative functions go, but if it gives serious study to needed reforms in judicial procedure, the next General Assembly may be expected to give careful consideration to its recommendations.
The next session of the Legislature is a year off. One of the worst sins of the legal profession is that of procrastination. The membership of the judicial conference has manifested a disposition to get down to serious work, but there is danger of taking it for granted that there is no need for immediate action. There is a real need. There must be discussion of these problems, if progress is to be

made. The public should be informed of proposed changes or reforms in advance of the meeting of the Legislature, so that there may be discussion.
One of the greatest obstacles in the way of securing concrete action on proposals is the fact that the Superior Court judges are kept on the circuit most of their time, and the lawyers are engaged in the private practice of the law in the courts. Naturally, they have little time in which to do research work. Consequently, the judicial conference may be expected to deal largely with the problems pertaining to the administration of the court rather than with studying principles. In fact that is the reason for the formation of the judicial conference. It was not organized for research purposes primarily, but to make a study of the courts as they are now in operation.
For the fiscal year of 1923, the state government of North Carolina received in revenue receipts the sum of \$22,155,656.
It's a solemn thing to get married, but a serious thing not to get the chance.