

THE COMMONWEALTH.

Published Every Thursday
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Publisher's Announcement.

It is a settled point in newspaper ethics that editors and publishers are not responsible for the views of correspondents, and the publication of a communication does not mean that the editor or publisher endorses the communication. The COMMONWEALTH adheres to these general principles.

SPEAK OR BE SILENT.

In an editorial correspondence this paper last week suggested that inasmuch as there is considerable interest manifested throughout the county concerning a new court house, it would be well for the people of the county to come together at the court house in Halifax next Monday, June 7th, and exchange views on the matter.

One of our County Commissioners has said to us that the Commissioners do not desire to do anything which a majority of the citizens of the county are opposed to. We believe if the people make the Commissioners understand that they (the people) do not desire the expenditure of forty thousand dollars for a new court house, it will not be done. So let all come together—those who favor such expenditure for a new court house and those who oppose it—talk the matter over and come to a satisfactory understanding, and we believe the County Commissioners and the people will all feel better about it. Let's all go to the court house next Monday.

WHAT MR. KITCHIN SAYS.

Mr. Claude Kitchin on being asked by a representative of this paper what he thought about the county building a forty thousand dollar court house said: "I think we will be making a mistake. Our people have been paying off for the last ten years the bonded indebtedness of about \$20,000 left by the fusionists and it would be unwise just as we finish paying that to saddle a new issue of \$40,000. It is not good public economy. It is best for our people to feel at least for a short time the sensation of lower taxes rather than be burdened with more taxes.

"In my opinion a large majority of the people of the county are opposed at this time to the building of a \$40,000 court house. Public servants should be responsive always to the will of the people. The selling and tearing down the old court house and the fire proof Clerk's and Register's offices, the building of a new court house, the saddling for 20 years on the tax payers the burden of a \$40,000 bonded indebtedness, are too important and too grave responsibilities to be shouldered alone by our excellent Board of Commissioners, and they ought not to be asked to do it without consulting the people.

"Let us remember that the necessity for a new court house and the issuance of bonds therefor is not near so great as is the right of the people to be consulted in the matter by a submission of the question to their vote.

"If we must have a different court house I would suggest that \$7,500 would so improve and remodel the present one as to make it an elegant court house. If we must have a new one, \$20,000 would build a splendid, up-to-date court house. Neither the court house in Kinston, Wilson nor Tarboro cost to exceed \$15,000, Kinston and Wilson each having a population of ten thousand and Tarboro a population of five thousand."

Judge Connor's resignation as associate justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina is now in the hands of the Governor. It is thought that Governor Kitchin will appoint Judge Connor's successor immediately upon his return from Asheville. A few more days and the judgeship question, both State and Federal, will be settled and silenced.

STOOD ON THE DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM.

Papers all over the State and people generally heartily commend Hon. Claude Kitchin for the position he took in regard to the tariff issue, standing, as he did and as did no other Democrat from North Carolina, on the Democratic platform in every vote. It is such men as these, men who stand by their party pledges and platform promises, that win the regard and approval of men whom they represent.

With the exception of Mr. Kitchin, every Democratic Congressman from North Carolina seemed to think that he was sent there, not to represent the views of his people, but to think for them and make what views he wished. They all seemed to have the theory which Mr. Bryan explained in his letter to the Florida Legislature and called the "aristocratic theory." Claude Kitchin knows no such theory. His theory is the Democratic theory, the theory "that the people think for themselves and elect representatives to give legal expressions to their thoughts and to voice their sentiments." This theory Mr. Kitchin believes in and puts in practice. He knows that there is no aristocratic theory extant in his party, because men who advance the theory do not represent the party. A Democratic party, its theory is Democratic, and "teaches that the representative has no moral right to disregard the known wishes of his constituents."

Mr. Bryan in his letter to the Florida Legislature, clearly drew the distinction between these two theories, and in remarking further upon the subject he said: "I will allow no one to go beyond me in recognition of the claims of conscience, but I confess that I am suspicious of the official whose conscience is dormant during the campaign and only active when he wants to find an excuse for doing what his constituents do not want done."

It seems that the consciences of the Democrats in Congress from North Carolina, other than that of Mr. Kitchin, have done some sleeping sometime, either during the campaign or in Congress. In the campaign and on the platform they wanted tariff for revenue only, in Congress they wanted it for protection. When did their consciences sleep? Why did these Congressmen change? The people they represent have never changed.

If a man is against tariff when it will protect another's industry, he must be against it when it will protect his own. If the principle of tariff for protection is wrong in the New England States it is wrong in the Southern States; governed by the same laws and enjoying the same liberty under the Constitution each section should share alike in benefits. Consistency couldn't say that tariff for protection as it effects other States is wrong, but as it effects my State is right. The Congressmen from North Carolina then, with one exception, have been doubly inconsistent. They voted against tariff for protection when it was calculated to protect the other man's industry. They likewise opposed it in their campaign speeches, saying that the policy of tariff for protection was wrong in any section. Now, they turn and say that they want protection. They've gone back on their party, back on their platform, simply because to them it is not so easy to advocate tariff for revenue only when they have some interest that they want protected.

Hon. Claude Kitchin, however, has cleaved to the mark, and for this his people admire him. Believing as he did that the principle of tariff for protection is wrong, nothing could make him change his views and induce him to vote to protect an industry because that industry happened to be one in which his people at home are interested.

Mr. Kitchin represents the Second District in Congress. He's a citizen of Halifax county. His home is here in Scotland Neck and we are proud of him.

SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL YEAR.

From the newspaper reports of the commencements at the many colleges and high schools in the State, the school year now closing has been a most successful one. Hundreds of young men and young women are going out into the State to take up work in the various fields of endeavor, and the good work done by the colleges and high schools will tell well in the years to come.

Special Term Halifax County Court.

A special term of Halifax county court, called by order of the Governor to dispose of criminal and civil cases, began in Halifax Monday, Judge O. H. Guion, of New Bern presiding. The term will last two weeks, during which time one important criminal case—State vs Flannigan and Clark—and several important civil cases will be tried. Among the important civil cases may be mentioned the following: Roanoke Rapids Power Company vs Roanoke Navigation and Water Power Company; Rena Young vs Fosburg Lumber Company, and Walter Clark vs Patapoco Guano Company. The criminal docket is somewhat larger than were the dockets in January and March, but as Judge Guion said in his charge, comparatively speaking it is a small criminal docket.

The Grand Jury is composed of the following men: W. M. Carroll, J. W. Crawley, Jr., Ivey Watson, W. D. Wood, A. M. Glover, R. L. Simmons, J. W. Landing, M. J. Hux, Jas. Butts, C. J. Davenport, R. E. Green, Richard Harper, J. F. Davis, A. L. Roberson, R. L. Keeter, J. B. Jones and W. P. White.

Mr. W. P. White is foreman. Mr. Thos. Barnes was appointed as officer to wait on Grand Jury.

Judge Guion's charge to the Grand Jury was clear and forcible. He said that no grand juries anywhere had gratified him more than the grand juries of Halifax county. Considering how grand juries are drawn, Judge Guion said that the calibre and personnel of the grand juries in Halifax county speak remarkably well for the character and intelligence of the people of the county. He expressed regret that probably the end of this term would be the end of his official connection with Halifax county people.

Since the Governor had called a special term of court to dispose of criminal and civil cases, Judge Guion reminded the Grand Jury that it was its duty to be doubly diligent and active in disposing of as many cases as possible.

Judge Guion did not take up any particular crime and lay stress upon it to the exclusion of all the rest. He said that he had no pet crime, no fads and fancies in crime concerning which to charge the Grand Jury; that it was crime and not any special crime with which he was concerned, and that, therefore he would ask the Grand Jury not to single and ferret out any particular crime but to be diligent in detecting all crimes and bringing all criminals to justice.

Judge Guion named and defined the four capital felonies, and discussed briefly the action of the last General Assembly in abolishing hanging and substituting therefor electrocution.

In his closing remarks, Judge Guion, as he has repeatedly done heretofore, addressed the Grand Jury concerning the new \$40,000 court house. He again referred to Halifax county's splendid history and illustrious statesmen; told how surprised he was when he came to Halifax in January to see what a poor specimen of a court house we had; said that there was room in it neither for witnesses, criminals nor crowd; that uncomfortable benches, dirty floors, small rooms were all that met one's eyes. Judge Guion said that when a man came home from the court at Halifax without catching some disease, he thanked God for it. He said that he wanted to know what the Commissioners are going to do with the people's money if they don't spend it for a new court house. He said that good bridges and good roads had been built in order that people may drive to a court house which is not worth as much as an ordinary bridge in the county.

Such were the remarks of Judge Guion in regard to a new \$40,000 court house. As stated heretofore his charge to the Grand Jury was clear, cogent and to the point.

GOOD THINGS TO EAT.

In these hot days when you are at your wits end to know what to cook, can't we help you a little by suggesting something—probably suggesting the very thing you were wanting if you had only thought of it. See if we can. Genuine Old Virginia Fish Roe in one pound cans—a splendid breakfast, New Fat Mackerel, New Roe Herrings, Argo Salmon in one pound cans—very fine, Kingan's Pork Sausage in two pound cans—always fresh, California Lemon Cling Peaches packed in heavy syrup, Delicious Pineapple Chunks in one pound cans.

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J. W. Allsbrook.

No Time for Extravagance.

To the Editor:

There seems to be great dissatisfaction among the people of Halifax county at the determination of the County Commissioners to build a \$40,000 dollar court house when by the exercise of a little cool judgment an expenditure of eight or ten thousand dollars in repairing the present court and jail can be made so as to rank with the best in the State. It does look like our Commissioners could see that the present is no time for extravagance but that conservatism and economy should be exercised in administering the affairs of the county. The cost of living is increasing every day and a wise foresight should animate our county guardians to lessen by any means they can the burden of taxation that weighs so heavily on our people. I venture to say that nine tenths of the tax payers in the county bitterly oppose the expenditure of so large a sum at this time when one fourth of the amount can be made to answer every purpose both in the appearance and convenience of our public buildings. It is hoped that wiser counsel will prevail and that our Commissioners will listen to reason and reconsider their action before going too far. A justly indignant and offended people will hold them accountable for their action.

R. H. SMITH.

Advantages of a Silo.

Silos have become a fixed part of successful high-class stock feeding. The cost prevents its use by those having no money to invest in farm equipment or by those doing careless, unintelligent stock feeding. It need not be solely for the more intelligent and higher class of feeders, but high class and successful feeding is more difficult without it.

Among the advantages of the silo are the following:

- (1) It secures the storage of feed in less space than can be done by any other method. For instance, it requires about twice as much space to store the same feed nutrients in hay as in silage.
- (2) It saves the feed with smaller loss of feed nutrients than by drying or curing in the open air. The facts obtainable seem to indicate, for instance, that the loss in feed nutrients in corn cured in the shock is from 15 to 25 per cent, and corn put in a silo from 5 to 10 per cent. Moreover, the loss in feeding value continues in crops left in the open air, while in the silo the loss is immaterial after the first month or two.
- (3) It insures succulent feed at all times, and succulence in feed is of high value as recognized by the universally accepted fact that green feed is best for all live stock.
- (4) It enables the stock owner to provide sufficient feed that is always conveniently at hand to tide over periods of short pasturage or deficiency in other forage crops.
- (5) It makes the stockman, in a measure, independent of suitable weather for curing forage crops and will frequently enable him to save a crop for feed that would be lost if an attempt were made to cure it in the open air.
- (6) It saves corn in such a way that the entire plant will be consumed by live stock, whereas, when dried in the open air, considerable portions of the stalks will not be eaten.
- (7) In intensive farming it economizes in land, more feed being contained in this way than in any other, with the possible exception of soiling or feeding the crop green and freshly cut.—Progressive Farmer.

Messrs. Hardy Hardware Co. have just received a stock of the celebrated Carpenter-Morton Roofing. This Roofing is a very tough, elastic, rubber-like coating, which is guaranteed to last and wear for many years. It is cheaper than shingles, steel, or tin, and is much more durable. A little booklet free tells about it.

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The Negro Problem Will Solve Itself.

American negroes who have achieved success in professional or commercial pursuits, and white men who are striving to solve the negro problem of the country, are holding today, in the city of New York, what they call a national conference. The race problem and suggestions for the improvement of the condition of the negro, lynching and crime, and the black man's intellectual capacity, are among the subjects slated for discussion. It is the same old story. A party of these theorists, who know nothing of actual conditions, and do not come in contact with the bulk of the negro element, especially in the South, are meeting and theorizing, at a long distance—like talking over a long distance 'phone, and you cannot hear things distinctly. The negro problem is solving itself, and will be solved all right, if these kid-glove northern theorists will let it alone—or else take hold of the right end of the fulcrum; that is, impress upon the average negro that he must respect himself; rely upon his own integrity and energy to make a living, and stop getting into courts for larceny, and doing nothing and living on what his wife, or some woman can carry away from the place where she cooks.

The race problem is being solved in Durham, in a manner that is a shining example to all the agitators and theorists of the North, now or ever will be. The better element of the colored people here are preaching the gospel of industry and frugality, self-respect and growth in being something and doing something honorable for themselves, instead of sitting down, or loafing around, listening to the siren songs of some Northern theorists, or waiting to be hit in the stomach with a pone of "loaf" bread, greased with turkey. As a consequence the Durham colored people—the self-respecting, intelligent element, we mean—are accumulating wealth, buying property, engaging in wealth producing industries, and are asking no outsiders to solve any problems for them, regulate their station in life, or instruct them what to do. The industry and accumulation of Durham negroes is attracting world-wide attention. Before these Northern theorists "better the condition" of the negro too much we invite them to Durham to see how he is bettering himself, when freed from false and impractical notions, put forth by many who have not a practical idea of what they are talking about. Come here and learn some new ideas on the "solving" question, from our colored people.—Durham Sun.

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