

Did You Ever Notice ?

That Sometime between Christmas and January 10th, of each year the Thermometer drops and we find ourselves in need of **Blankets and Comfortables**

Prepare for the drop in temperature by taking advantage of the drop in prices on these items

Platt & Haar

Newest of The New "Ding-A-Ling" Hats

Large Felt Shapes 25 Cents

—at—

Gaylord's Big Store

210, 212, North Front Street.

Holiday Goods Sacrificed

Our Holiday Goods arrived late, therefore must be sacrificed to move them in the few days remaining. In the stock are Solid Mahogany Rockers, some upholstered in genuine leather, Handsome Oak Rockers, in Golden Oak, and Mission, many in genuine leather, Fancy Reed Rockers and Reed odd pieces, Tables of all kinds, 17 Ladies' Desks from \$6.75 up; more than 300 pictures, equal to any in the city as to quality of frame and subjects. Prices literally slaughtered on account of the quantity. Chiffoniers, Dressers, Buffets, Music Cabinets, Dinner Sets, Toilet Sets, Ward Robes, Chamber and Parlor Suits, Hall Racks, Rugs, all sizes, large quantity and must go. Portiers, Couch Covers, Lace Curtains, Brass Beds, Etc.

VALUABLE SOUVENIRS WITH EACH PURCHASE.

The Wilmington Furniture Co.

GARRELL BUILDING.

Cor. Second and Princess Sts.

Clothing for the Little Boys:—

New Styles—Single and Double Breasted Suits. Very Nobby.

PRICE \$5.00

J. W. H. FUCHS

28 South Front Street.

PLAN DENOUNCED

Citizen Writes a Caustic, Logical Article on Present Inclination—Declares That the People Should Rule.

Editor The Dispatch:

"I am mighty nigh added to death." "Along with this vaccination trouble, here comes this commission form of government business," said an humble specimen of humanity to my greeting of "good morning."

It took me some hours to read this proposed measure in the newspaper and it sounds pretty good on paper. It did the first time I read it anyhow, but after I read it to a friend, he had a few objections to raise, and then when I read it to John, another weather-cock of public sentiment, he squinted his eye, and he saw trouble ahead, or said he did. Another said that "h— would be raised if the legislators tried any more monkey shins and tried to put men in to govern this town without giving the people some chance to say who they should be."

He "seemed to allow" that pretty near all the trouble here now was caused by just such "carrying on." He said that some mighty good men had done some mighty curious voting in the past because they thought that certain laws, which were good ones, had been unfairly put upon them, and that they would do so again if this business kept on. He "allowed" that if the Commission Government was going to be a success, and good men were going to run this town, that the people ought to be consulted a little bit beforehand or else the people would see hereafter that somebody else would fill these places, and that if made mad, they might not be too "darned careful" who they did put there. "Sugar," he tritely opined, "would do more catching in this world than vinegar."

"But Bill," I ventured, "don't you believe that if this thing is put to the people, they will put a lot of politicians in there who may not be fit to run things?" That's just what they will do," he answered, "the first time they get a chance, if you don't start out right." "Now look here," he continued, "this town ain't run entirely by know nothings." "All the vagrants and no accounts put together couldn't run this town if some substantial men didn't vote with them." "I ain't talking about those people who for one reason or another think they have got to stick together whatever comes."

But this kind ain't a majority just so by any means." "It takes the other fellows to give them a majority." And what this illiterate man says, in the main, is true. Measures affecting the government of this community, railroaded through in the last days of a legislature, whether hastily drawn, or purposely withheld from public scrutiny are responsible, in a measure, for the bitterness and discord arising in politics locally, and a seeming inability to get together. Men of intelligence have at times been embittered and have turned against and opposed measures, admittedly containing merit, seemingly on account of the feeling that the means by which the measures were secured were unfair or appeared so to them. If the commission form of government, contemplated, is to secure its full measure of success and co-operation, it ought not to be coupled at the outset with fair criticism and suspicion. I do not mean to convey the impression that the ulterior motives prompt those who are engineering this measure, but I only want them to see it, as I see it, that however patriotic their motives, human nature is human nature the world over, and suspicion and discord will be the result of any opportunity for discussion and some voice in the selection of those to be put in control are given. The wave of public opinion would sooner or later sweep clean the decks of the proposed ship of State, unless some expediency violate the high aims of the proposed measure could successfully be resorted to. If past history in this community can not be relied on, it is simply because the people and their awakening have been gradual, but that there is an undercurrent of unrest and a knowledge of their power, gradually crystallizing among the masses, had better be heeded before all confidence is lost in those who are equipped to lead them conservatively. The arguments advanced for, and the ends, sought by, a commission government are efficiency, economy and the removal of the several departments from politics.

The truly efficient man is not always a public idol, and at best it is difficult to get indorsement for him at the hands of the public. All thinking men recognize this difficulty, but as the proposed change in our government is to be a lasting one, we trust, it seems manifestly unfair to handicap the efficient man and his kind, at the outset, and incidentally the city's ultimate good, by converting the indifference of the many into open suspicion and hostility by an arbitrary and somewhat high-handed method of appointing.

There is no denying that the woods are full of men, filled with a sense of their own importance, and believing themselves endowed with ability to fill any office. The malady is confined to no class, and some of these gentlemen can always be expected to modestly put themselves "in the hands of their friends," but it is the conclusion of many observant men that the majority of men in this city are heartily sick of political intrigues, the bickerings and in many cases the incompetency of public officials, and that these if frankly treated and not utterly ignored in all public matters, would show and continue to show that they can give the support and influence to men best equipped, and measures best suited to accomplish desired results for the city.

Theoretically, and from a democratic standpoint, there can be no question that a submission of the proposed amendment to, and the selection of the Commission by, the people, would be the fairer course, but if it is deemed expedient to pass the Act and provide for the appointment of the Commission, give the people some opportunity to have a voice in naming those who are to be appointed to conduct their

public affairs. Such a course will not satisfy all the people, but on the other hand, if the change works well and some opportunity has been given to name the appointees, great numbers of men will not be blindly prejudiced hereafter by the thought that unfair advantage was taken of them by utterly ignoring them and trampling on their every right as citizens.

Good men are wanted, and the Act ought to provide such a salary that efficient men, without the suspicion of an axe to grind and whom the people can be made to feel will disinterestedly give their best efforts and time to the City's advancement alone, will be willing to serve. Cheapness is not necessarily economy in the last analysis. A cheap man may be dear at any price, and yet the able man who, from a diversity of interests, can afford to give but a few hours per day may be little more satisfactory. Reduce the number proposed, if necessary, but pay such salaries as will command efficiency.

It may be the best means of eliminating many of the "hopeful" in the event a public vote is decided upon. The average man is unfortunately too often willing to try the man of unproved capacity where the emoluments of the office do not impress its importance upon him. But make the remuneration adequate to the efficiency sought, and the average man will think a long time before he will give his inefficient neighbor his vote simply because he happens to be a "good fellow."

The salary as fixed in the published bill practically eliminates selections either to men who have heretofore been unable to command a respectable livelihood or to those who are not dependent in the least on such a salary and would probably give but a small time to the city's affairs, usually to the neglect of other and more important business to them, unless their business should consider itself interested in having them in a position of influence. Neither of these extremes, as a rule, could be counted on to get the best results for the public out of the new law, nor secure a hearty co-operation of the general public. The retired capitalist in these parts with a yearning to serve the public or the busy and able man of affairs with sufficient time to give to public affairs at \$1,000.00 per year could be counted on the hand.

The elimination of those connected with public utility companies is not a bad idea and if the Banks could for the time being, be induced to eliminate themselves from trying to govern this community a wide-spread cause of grumbling and disaffection would be allayed.

CITIZEN.

Salisbury Post.

Something out of the ordinary occurred at the funeral of Mr. Jacob S. Lipe at Mt. Moriah Lutheran church at Landis yesterday afternoon when, following a request, the pastor Rev. D. I. Offman, proceeded to read the last will and testament of the deceased from the pulpit. Mr. Lipe, who was a devout member of the Lutheran church, bequeathed his stock in the cotton mill at Landis to the Lutheran Orphans' Home at Salem, Va. The amount of this stock is \$800, though it is worth considerably more than par. The bulk of the remainder of the estate, which is estimated to be worth between \$5,000 and \$6,000, is left to Le-noir College, a Lutheran institution at Hickory.

The Orton Confectionery

ORTON BLDG. 113 N. Front St. E. DINOS, Proprietor.

We carry the best Line of Candies for **CHRISTMAS GIFTS**

Large assortment of fancy boxes and baskets

Hot Drinks

Our Specialty

The only Parlors for Ladies and Children

Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Co.

Wilmington, N. C., Dec. 24, 1910.

The Board of Directors of Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company has declared a dividend of three per cent. on the Common Capital Stock of that company, payable at the office of the Treasurer, at Wilmington, North Carolina, on and after January 10th, 1911, to stockholders of record on December 17th, 1910. The transfer books are closed from the 16th day of December, 1910, to the 11th day of January, 1911, both inclusive.

JAMES F. POST, Treasurer.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

This is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of Thad F. Tyler, deceased, to present their claims in writing to the undersigned administrator on or before the 10th day of December 1911, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery.

Given this 10th day of December 1910.

CHAS. C. LOUGHLIN, Administrator of the estate of Thad F. Tyler. de 10 3d.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that an application will be made to the General Assembly of North Carolina, convening January 4th 1911, to change the charter of the city of Wilmington.

It is understood that the charter will be published for public information.

de 12 30t W. G. MacRAE, Mayor.

5¢ a Package (Never sold in bulk)

Uneeda Biscuit

NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Fresh in every climate: Hot or cold, wet or dry.

Adapted to every condition: Rich or poor, sick or well.

Suited to every color: White, black, red, yellow.

Used by every age: Childhood, youth, manhood, old age.

Good at all times: Breakfast, lunch, dinner, supper.

And in all places: At work or play, by day or night.

Uneeda Biscuit

Nobby Neckwear For Ladies'

Always an acceptable gift. Real Irish and Cluney Lace are on display at

Taylor's Ladies' Hatter

114 Market Street.

All Trimmed Hats Reduced To One Half the Price

The Reason Why

The reason why our Glasses give relief to the eyes is because we know where and how to place them.

It's our business. Make it your business to see us. **EYES TESTED FREE.**

Dr. Vineberg MASONIC TEMPLE.

PRICE BROS., Good Year Shoe Repair Shop

13 North Second.

SPECIALS,

Men's 1-2 sole and heel \$1.00

Ladies' 1-2 sole and heel 85c

Sewed Work.

Phone 751.

Shoes called for, repaired and delivered same day. Satisfaction guaranteed.

A trial is all we ask.

Bayne Price Manager.

E. H. HOLMES, Agt. "The Quality Grocer."

22 South Front Street.

Phone 253

High Grade Groceries at Moderate Prices. Give us a call.

Blankets and Comforts!

Shoes, Rugs and Mattings!

It will pay you to anticipate your future needs and lay good supply of these winter-time Comfortables! **Bargains of great importance.**

Nashua Woolnap Crib Blankets, \$1.50 value, this week only... 98c

All wool, full size 11-4 \$6.50 Blankets, pink and blue borders, this week only... \$4.93

Heavy Comforts, fancy colors on both sides, a bargain... 75c

Extra fine silkline covered heavy Comforts, full size, regular \$5.00 value, this week... \$3.60

25c Matting, Japanese patterns, big variety, this week only... 22c

(AND NO CHARGE FOR LAYING.)

\$1.50 Deltax Rugs, 26x72 inches, this week only... \$1.19

SHOES: The famous Crawford Shoes for Men; patent leather, vici, gunmetal and box calf. All are newest last. Call and let us fit your feet.

We also have complete line Children's School Shoes. All sizes at a great saving.

Special Reduction in all Ladies' and Children's Coats.

Boys' School Suits to suit the boys. Overcoats to fit the purse.

J. H. Rehder & Co.

THE POPULAR DEPARTMENT STORE

THE FIRM THAT PAYS YOUR CAR FARE.

New Suits for the New Year

Perhaps you mean to "swear off" wearing common clothes. Father Time has ticked off another year—a new era confronts you. Will you go forward gladly, blithely in new garb which befits your station? Clothes don't make the man, you know—but they can do much to mar him.

You will look better and feel better, and work better, and play better in one of our Stein Bloch Models—suits made for men of affairs. Overcoats, too—just every kind. And Furnishings of the better sort. What are your needs for the New Year?

JNO. B. STETSON SPRING HATS JUST RECEIVED.

J. W. FLEET CO.

Phone 673 S. W. Cor. Front and Princess Sts.

Ever Mindful

of the generous patronage extended us by our business friends we heartily wish them a **HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR**

Clayton Giles & Son