

THE PILOT

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INTERPRETING A CERTAIN STAR

In the days of that Herod, king of Judea, whose cruelties and atrocities made him the standard of heartlessness almost unparalleled, certain wise men journeyed from the east to Jerusalem, led, so the story runneth, by a brilliant star which they had seen against the evening sky. They interpreted the glowing light to mean a new king of the Jews. That same year Herod died of a painful and lingering disease, and the new king of the Jews died some thirty years later a painful death on the cross. The cruel king is still familiar in history through his heartlessness. The other, an antithesis, is known throughout the civilized world because of his consideration for mankind. Herod is dead. The other king of the Jews is today king of the human heart wherever men can read or listen to the tales of progress.

For nearly 60 years Herod ruled as minor official or chief authority, and long enough to impress his name definitely on history. The people rejoiced when he died. When death claimed the child the wise men sought out under the shining star of Bethlehem jesters hung up the sign, "I. N. R. I." Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. Three hundred years later it is said a flaming cross appeared in the sky before Constantine, of Rome inscribed with a phrase, "By This Conquer." Constantine was at war for the salvation of his empire, but with the adoption of the sign he won his wars, and presently was the ruler of the Roman world, then dominating civilization, and the emblem of the King of the Jews was set above men never to be pulled down again. The wise men had discovered an idea. The Roman emperor established it. Human intelligence and power have ratified it. So on Christmas day the banner of good will to men is broken out from pole to pole and from sun to sun, and the invincible army that follows it is the army of uprightness, fellowship, the flaming cross still the battle cry, the song of triumph a psalm that tells of uplift, of peace and of consideration for those around us.

A singularly interesting rally of this gigantic army was symbolized in the last two or three weeks in this vicinity. Frank Buchan, modest warrior that he is, seems to have been the Constantine of the rally, but he was surrounded and supported by soldiers, every man and woman of them with his hand open, and enthusiasm and kindness his camp equipage. Local organizations all over the country, saints, sinners and unattached delegations and individuals, marched in the ranks. Priests, Levites, Samaritans, an occasional recruit from Baal and Beelzebub, all carrying the one good-will ensign, bent on one idea, to lend aid to that great defender of the faith that said "inasmuch as ye have done unto the least of these ye have done it unto me."

This community has had many curious experiences, but never was such a triumphant rally of the militant banner of righteousness for the holiday occasion. The sentiment saturated the neighborhood and a new interpretation of kingly power swept over the Sandhills. There are various ways to make life a pleasant adventure. One of them, and not the least, is to enroll under the banner and to follow the crowd that hangs aloft that conquering "In hoc signo vincit," the rallying sign of hosts of Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews of ancient brutal jest, but king of the universe in the present days of enlightenment and

human interest of men in each other.

Ahead of us is a great tomorrow. Again and again the Christmas flag will make note that unto us was years ago born a King of the Jews, and that his dominion has steadily spread until his rule is beyond the boundaries of human understanding and comprehended limit.

Peace, tranquility and fellowship rest upon your altars and by your firesides.

CAMERON MORRISON SENATOR

The stars in their courses have brought many surprises, but nothing more startling than the political upheaval that has characterized the representation in Congress from this particular district in the last two months. Mr. Hammer drops out to be succeeded by two different men. Major Stedman in the adjoining Greensboro district is followed by another. Senator Overman gives place in the present short session to a newcomer, and Senator Simmons retires at the close of this short session. Four of the best known group in Congress go out within a few weeks, or we may say that Overman, Simmons, Stedman and Hammer are disposed of in that brief period from October to December, and the political front of the state is wholly revolutionized.

So the state starts with a new rating at Washington. Cameron Morrison establishes this week a new Senatorial seniority in a

state where a new senator is a novelty in this generation. It is an old man who has lived as a voter under any other Senator in North Carolina than Simmons and Overman, and had political part in the campaigns. But for our district the state is wiped absolutely clean, with an extra Congressman to be dropped March 4. Three different representatives from this district in October, December and March 5. Four different Senators between December and March 5 accredited to our swiftly changing representation.

Cameron Morrison is received by the people generally as a man whose inheritance has come to him. At the time of the Gastonia strikes The Pilot remarked that Max Gardner had handed Cam Morrison the Federal Senatorship, and the people have approved. Governor Morrison has such a large and emphatic following that his selection was not difficult to forecast. He is a man of mercurial disposition, but he has a force that could not be overlooked, and the intelligence to make good. The man who has kept even a casual eye on North Carolina politics has known that Governor Morrison would eventually be Senator Morrison, and The Pilot is with the bulk of the people of the state in the belief that the new arrival at Washington will do a man's job there and with credit to himself and his state. Cam Morrison is a right sizable individual.

GRAINS OF SAND

Each year at this time we all tax our minds in an endeavor to think of some original substitute for the good old phrase, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." Millions have been trying to do this for hundreds of years, but we all give it up, and out goes each Christmas card, each gift, with the old saying.

The Pilot might write a lengthy editorial on the subject of Christmas. And when we were through, all we would have said was, "Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year." So we will just sum it up in the grand age-old sentiment, to which we add: "God bless you all."

Politicians can't even forget politics during the Christmas season. The Democrats in North Carolina are squabbling over the McNinch affair, and the Republican party is torn asunder nationally over the Norris business. Peace on earth—except in the political arena.

Apparently no one recalls a white Christmas in the Sandhills. At least no one has come to the front in answer to The Pilot's query of a week ago.

Ralph Page has returned from a trip north and says we have every reason to be happy down here. Gloom prevails up there, with reason. Down here he believes conditions not far from normal. He is optimistic for the future.

George Ross, newly elected president of the peach growers, was in town during the week. George thinks

there is something in this new fruit freezing proposition, and that it will mean a lot to the industry in the Sandhills. He looks for the cold-storing of a large part of the Georgia crop under the new freezing method, thus withholding much of that crop from the usual seasonal market and opening up a wider market for the North Carolina crop. Georgia already has freezing facilities. North Carolina producers may come to it later if the Georgia experiment proves successful.

Hard times do not seem to have affected the horse game much. The Paddock stables at Southern Pines report reservations for nearly 40 horses for the remainder of the winter. Probably the answer is that anyone clever enough to tell a good horse from a bad horse is good enough to escape the pitfalls of a receding market.

Frank Buchan estimates that well over 1,000 persons will be the beneficiaries of the charity of Sandhills residents and visitors through the Kiwanis Christmas Daddies fund. Trucks laden with clothes and food started on their rounds of benevolence Tuesday afternoon. And Wednesday night, Christmas Eve, several hundred colored children were the recipients of bags of fruit and candy from the Daddies. The Sandhills responded as never before to the appeal for money, food and clothing, and can enjoy Christmas Day safe in the knowledge that the poor and needy are enjoying it with them.

Merry Christmas!

At the CAPITAL

By M. R. Dunnagan, The Pilot's Raleigh Correspondent

North Carolina had, given in for taxation in 1928, a total of \$107,606,000 in stocks of merchandise and figures, or an average of \$1,076,060 for each county; \$121,394,000 in materials in process of manufacture, or \$1,213,940 per county average; \$26,279,000 in household and kitchen furniture above the \$300 exemption, or \$262,790 county average; \$131,262,000 in solvent credits, or \$1,312,620 county average; \$89,826,000 in miscellaneous items, including automobiles, or \$898,260 per county, and \$68,493,000 in all other items not specified, or \$684,930 per county, the 1930 State Board of Assessment report shows.

Moore county had \$818,000 in stocks of merchandise and fixtures; \$304,000 in materials in process of manufacture; \$540,000 in household and kitchen furniture, above the \$300 exemption; \$687,000 in solvent credits; \$692,000 in miscellaneous items, and \$629,000 in all other items not specified.

Special Judge J. Hoyle Sink, of Lexington, has been appointed by Governor Gardner as regular judge in the 12th Judicial District, composed of Guilford, Davidson and Stokes coun-

ties, to take the place vacated by the death of Judge-elect J. D. Humphreys, of Danbury. Judge Sink takes his new post January 1 and will serve two years under the appointment, or until the next general election, when the unexpired four years of the term will be filled by election. He was named special judge by Governor McLean in 1927 and reappointed in 1929 by Governor Gardner, who lauded his ability and record as special judge.

Strange things, the unexpected following the remarkable, have happened in politics and among politicians of the State during the past few weeks. Some of them are thus enumerated:

Governor Gardner appointed former Governor Cameron Morrison, who nosed him out of the gubernatorial nomination 10 years ago, to the United States Senate to succeed the late Senator Overman.

Senator Morrison, as his first official act, approved confirmation of appointment of his neighbor, fellow churchman and townsman, Frank R. McNinch, head of the anti-Smith group in 1928, as a member of the Federal Power Commission, after dubbing him a "sorry Democrat."

Senator F. M. Simmons led his suc-

cessful opponent, Josiah William Bailey, down the Senate aisle and placed him in his own seat for a time, chatting pleasantly.

Senator Simmons presented the credentials and the person of his former friend and recent political arch-enemy, Cameron Morrison, to the United States Senate.

Senator-elect Bailey's opposition to the McNinch appointment was overriden by Senator Morrison's approval, who, although named only 10 days ago, will be North Carolina's senior Senator over Mr. Bailey, nominated last June and elected in November.

Governor Gardner's appointment of Morrison as Senator was undoubtedly a wise political act. For Morrison is popular with a large element, worked and spent money in the counties in the present campaign and has many followers in the next General Assembly who could at least annoy Gardner in his legislative program. Now they will certainly look at it with friendly eyes.

Senator Morrison's stand on the McNinch appointment will undoubtedly bring to him a large number of the formerly estranged anti-Smith Simmons element, more in numbers, probably, than will be estranged in the Gailey following. Bailey can ill afford to break with Morrison, his senior in the Senate and his staunch ally in the recent Bailey-Simmons and Bailey-Pritchard campaigns.

But, politics, assuredly, makes strange bed-fellows.

"Quite probably there exists today \$500,000,000 of untaxed intangible value in foreign corporations doing business in North Carolina," Attorney General D. G. Brummitt said in an address on "Readjustments in Taxation" before a group of State University students last Friday.

Tracing the changes in conditions in North Carolina from agricultural to largely industrial activities since the first of this century, Mr. Brummitt held that changes in taxation methods must follow. While domestic corporations are paying taxes on their intangible assets, the State's taxing system is not prepared to collect it from the so-called foreign corporations, and should be moderated, he stated.

"Readjustments in taxation which distribute the burden more evenly will aid in any effort toward agricultural and industrial rehabilitation," he said.

E. B. Jeffress, publisher of the Greensboro Daily News and now also of the Greensboro Record, is mentioned as a possible candidate for Governor in 1936, taking place with other prospects, including A. H. Graham, Hillsboro; Thomas C. Bowie, Jefferson; Thomas L. Johnson, Asheville, and T. L. Kirkpatrick, Charlotte.

Mr. Jeffress was mayor of Greensboro and was elected this fall to the 1931 General Assembly from Guilford. Just what attitude his "brethren of the press" would take toward his candidacy is problematical.

The Machinery Act "requires an actual valuation of all property, real as well as personal," and permits no exceptions, Attorney General Brummitt has held in reply to inquiries. Some counties have recently made valuations and want to adopt these, or want to make a horizontal increase or decrease of former valuations, he said. He points out that the General Assembly can change the method and make a new plan, however, and suggests that county officials in such counties take up the proposal with their county representatives.

MANY HOLIDAY GUESTS AT HIGHLAND PINES INN

Holiday visitors are many at the Highland Pines Inn and among former guests returning are Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe N. Fertig, of Titusville, Pa., A. N. Barber, Trenton, N. J., Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth B. Trousdell, of New York, and the Rev. and Mrs. O. F. Humphreys of Lexington, Mass., All enjoy golf.

H. LeRoy Potter, of Brooklyn has joined his family at the Inn. Mr. Potter will spend much of his time in quest of quail and wild turkey.

Hotel guests were this week attracted to the sylvan trails of Weymouth Heights. Among those in the saddle were the Misses Mary Louise, Yvonne and Roberta Johnstone, of Flushing, N. Y., Mr. and Mrs. Johnstone, Mr. and Mrs. John R. Westerfield of Essex Falls and A. C. Fraser, of New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank C. Paine, Miss Jean Paine of Boston will be at the Highland Pines Inn for the entire Holiday period.

Dinner guests Monday included the Rt. Rev. James J. Hafey, Bishop of Raleigh. Also Rear Admiral and Mrs. C. L. Hussey, who are guests of Dr. and Mrs. John F. Nichols of Williamstown.

A flock of 300 hens in Knox county, Tenn., laid 32,942 eggs in a year, which brought \$1,285.25. Feeding costs were \$429.05.

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THE PAGE TRUST COMPANY, ABERDEEN, N. C.

It is easy to say to you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, but it is far better to suggest that the new year be made happy by a prudent habit of caring for your finances.

Give yourself a substantial Christmas gift for next year by starting an account at your bank and seeing that from time to time it increases so that your new year may be happy in the assurance that when hard times come a knocking at the door something is behind the door that can tell old hard times to go away and bother you no more.

Your account is invited by—

THE PAGE TRUST COMPANY, ABERDEEN, N. C.

A Dollar Saved is a
Dollar you have any time.

ON

Weymouth Heights Southern Pines

Over three thousand people the census found in Southern Pines this year.

Three thousand people is what has made all that growth on Weymouth Heights.

But where would we put another three thousand people?

Yet it is quite certain that presently we will have that other three thousand, for those inducements that brought the first three thousand still exist and still attract more folks.

Southern Pines is just getting under way in its growth.

Better get your Weymouth location, for steadily development is pushing farther out that way, and the longer you wait the farther you will have to go.

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Wishing you the kind of Christmas you wish yourself—and a bit more, for good measure.

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