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Tuesday, April 10, 1928

Lighting The Highways

The electric power companies are advocating lights on public highways. The Illuminating Engineers' Society says that State highways could be lighted for 2 per cent of the cost of building them, which would be about \$600 per mile. That sum is not so large. But what follows?

Suppose the State should light the 70 miles of its roads in Martin County. At \$600 per mile, it would cost \$42,000. Then there would be the upkeep. But we have not struck the knot for the people and the cream for the power companies, because it would cost at least \$1,200 per mile each year to furnish the current, and the power companies would draw from Martin County about \$85,000 a year for that purpose.

It is said that lighting the roads would double the traffic at night. If that theory is correct, then let the people pray for more darkness rather than pay for more light. Being aware of the side roads, proponents of the highway lighting plan do not exhibit enough cheek to suggest any moral uplift from lighting the highways.

Of course, the light companies charge darkness with automobile accidents. If they were to go far enough with their investigation they might discover that one arm drivers cause more accidents than glaring headlights.

Eighty-five thousand dollars spent on the side roads each year to enable folks to get to the highways would help more than to spend the same amount on electrifying the hard-surfaced roads.

The D. A. R. Black List Lie

Who is responsible for the "Black List Lie"? The news was recently broadcast that the Daughters of the American Revolution were blacklisting and dubbing as cowards all Americans who are trying to form peace relations and establish peace pacts and courts for settling disputes between nations. Now, the head of the D. A. R. comes back and brands all such statements as bare falsehoods.

It seems that a fellow named Marvin claims to be the key man—unfortunately he does seem to be the key to the house of corruption—and he apparently wants to decoy the Daughters of the American Revolution into his house.

Propaganda of the false type is trying to undermine the principles guaranteed us by the fathers of the D. A. R.

Where Does The Money Go?

The American Rescue Workers have been banished from the Streets of Charlotte by a city ordinance forbidding them soliciting funds on the streets. This ordinance was upheld last week by the Supreme Court of North Carolina by a decision of 3 to 2.

There has been rivalry for some time between the Rescue Workers and the Salvation Army as to the begging privilege of the two institutions. The Salvation Army, having the jump on the Rescue Workers, has gathered many millions and done much good.

Most people who contribute have heard of the war charities of the Salvation Army, but how many people know what becomes of most of the money now contributed to either of the organizations?

It seems that "Salvation" makes a stronger appeal than "Rescue."

Forest-Fire Bugs Should Be Punished

The fire fiend (some call him the fire fool) has been putting in his deadly work and burning over thousands of acres of land, destroying valuable timber, in many sections of Martin County recently, filling the air with stifling smoke. It seems harder to enforce the law against the burning of woods than it does the prohibition law, and yet it is more open and flagrant. Most forest fires are started by people who own no land themselves and who have little interest in their neighbor's affairs.

When may we expect to see the people of the State bring such fire bugs as pass along and drop a match that burns up timber, game animals, and birds, damaging the land owners thousands of dollars, to the bar of justice?

Out of hundreds of fires of illegal origin each year in Martin County, there is less than 1 per cent of the offenders brought to the courts.

Uniform School Term Only Fair

"When will the rural child be put on the same footing with the city child in the matter of education is a question that has been asked many times.

The answer is, When the country child demands it. It is a strange thing that he has not already demanded it. It may be that the fault does not lie with the child but is chargeable to the parent, who has for his excuse that the can't spare them from the farm. This is not a valid reason. In fact, it is false economy. One of the reasons why there is no profit, or at least little profit, in farming is because school children are kept out of school to raise too much cotton, tobacco, and peanuts. When the farm children of the South are kept in the cotton field only four months each year and in the school, where they belong, eight months, there will be a profit in farming.

It is a mistake to say that children must help make a living and can not be kept in school. If such is the case, then we have a very unsound and unbalanced economic system.

If the business of the clerk or lawyer is such that he can raise his family and school them eight months in the year, then something should be done to place the agricultural classes on a plane which will enable their children to have exactly the same opportunity that the town man's child has.

The only reason we do not have a uniform eight-months school is because the rural child does not demand it, and the wealthy cities are rather selfish to thrust it upon them.

The Loser Squeals

Everybody regrets that cotton gamblers depressed the market last year and caused cotton farmers of the South to lose \$250,000,000. Yet there is a good feature to it, and the whole South rejoices that Texas robbers outbowed New York, the crowd that has robbed the farmers nearly every year for the last 40. Now that the New Yorkers have been worsted, they are whining. Good enough for them. They seem to have forgotten how many times they have tapped wires and bought information.

One thing the quarrel is doing for the country is the fact that the people are able to understand better some of the ways in which they are mistreated in price manipulation.

We are getting to a great pass when every man in the country, governors, Senators, cabinet officers, judges, solicitors, lawyers, doctors, merchants, and bankers are trying to get rich quick by speculating in cotton. Some say it is a fine thing for the farmer, which is, of course, untrue, because whatever is made on cotton speculation ultimately comes out of the cotton, and cotton, or the man who grows cotton, has to pay for every clerk and all the other costs of manipulating the market, except occasionally when they catch a bull or a bear.

It is not considered good taste or sportsmanship when two gamblers clash for the loser to squeal.

Shooting Too Quick

There is danger in shooting too quick. Such was the case with Mr. L. T. Warren, of Nash County, on Saturday night, when he was planting watermelons near the house of one of his colored tenants. The colored man saw Mr. Warren and thought he was a night prowler and shot him, badly wounding him. Of course the negro was excited and thought Mr. Warren some one else. But the question is that the shooting of a human being is not permissible simply because he comes to or about the premises of another. Frequently our best friends come around us at night, and to shoot without hailing may cause a life of trouble.

Some people seem to think they have the right to shoot a man who steals a chicken or goes to their potato or watermelon patch.

Mr. Warren was planting watermelons at night by the light of the full moon in April in order to get a good yield. Of course, if Mr. Warren had about completed planting his melon seed, he may get a good crop. but, on the other hand, if he had just commenced and has to finish planting when the moon goes down, how sad it will be to get no watermelons.

Of course, the negro is fully exonerated, because a negro has never been known to hurt a man who was planting watermelons before.

A Menace That Threatens

Hickory Record

A menace resides in the tendency to combine. Throughout the whole country the merger is becoming more and more common, and as the smaller corporations are absorbed into larger ones, the life-blood of community commerce is being slowly drained. We have chain stores of every variety, chain moving picture and vaudeville theaters, chain railway systems, chain garage and service businesses, and chain this and chain that.

The logical result of this system is to eliminate competition and strangle the individual operator of commercial enterprises. After this end has been accomplished, the price field is in the hands of the combinations, and whatever they are minded to charge is the price the ultimate consumer will have to pay.

Such a monopoly may facilitate commerce for a short period, but in the end it is bound to terminate in commercial and financial disaster. Whenever the element of competition is driven out as a factor in any enterprise, the tendency is toward stagnation and collapse.

The governments of our State and Nation ought to do something in connection with the combination trend. Else the State and the Nation are going to pay a dear price for their negligence.

NOTICE

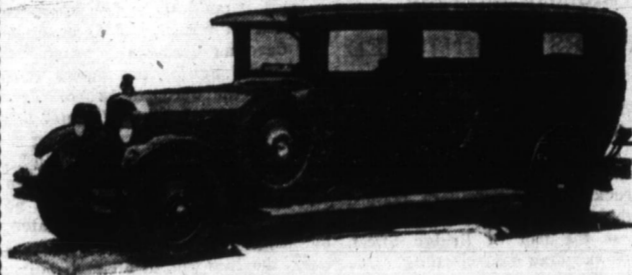
Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in that certain deed of trust executed to the undersigned trustee on the 20th day of July, 1921, said deed of trust being of record in book G-2, page 336, and having been given for the purpose of securing notes of even date therewith and the stipulations not having been complied with, and at the request of the holder of said notes, the undersigned will, on the 2nd day of May, 1928, at 12 o'clock, in front of the courthouse door of Martin County, in Williamston, N. C., offer for sale at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, the following described land:

The house and lot in the town of Williamston, lying on the west side of Haughton Street, bounded on the north by Cherry Street, on the east by Haughton Street, on the south by the lands of C. H. Godwin, and on the west by the lands of E. F. Bunch and J. W. Hodges, and being the corner lot and also the second lot from Cherry Street, and being part of the land deeded to James S. Rhodes and S. J. Everett, and being the same premises described in deed of trust to the Martin County Building & Loan Association, dated December 18, 1916, and recorded in book S-1, page 5.

This 2nd day of April, 1928.

W. C. MANNING, Trustee.

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