

Sense and Nonsense

BY CARL GOERCH

Another Legislative guess—Helping an editor—Clothes lines and prosperity—The way we talk.

For the ninth consecutive week, I'm predicting that the legislature is very close to adjournment. If I keep on making this prediction, it's bound to be verified some time or another.

Charges of bribery, of drinking too much liquor, and of displaying too keen an interest in what we laughingly call the gentler sex have been brought against the General Assembly and have been dismissed. They have been called everything under the sun except horse-thieves. And the reason that charge has not been made against them is because there aren't enough horses to go around.

W. O. Saunders, Elizabeth City editor, was attacked by a barber of that city a few days ago. The barber attempted a fistic massage of the editor's countenance, but was only partially successful.

One of these days, W. O.'s enemies in his home town are going to learn some sense. They ought to know by this time that nothing can be gained by taking a wallop at him. He's been walloped too many times.

Take last week's episode, for example. He'll probably write up an article for the American Magazine on "How It Feels to be Walloped by a Barber," for which he will receive around \$500. Then he will follow that up with another article for the Christian Herald on "Forgiving One's Enemies." In view of the assistance rendered him by his son, Keith, he also probably will scribble off a story to The American Boy on "The Love of a Son for His Father." Several hundred dollars more! And then, to top it all off, he'll make four or five speeches on the subject and gather in another bushel of shekles.

What a favor that barber did do him!

One of the most interesting things to be seen while driving along the highways of our grand and glorious state is the rural clothes-line on a Monday morning.

People comment on beautiful trees or attractive homes or nice looking cattle or well-tilled fields, but I don't believe I ever heard anybody pay any particular tribute to the clothes line with their cheerily-waving adornments.

It makes a fellow feel good, to be driving along by himself, feeling, perhaps, just a trifle lonely, and be suddenly greeted by an enthusiastic waving of two or three bed sheets and several pieces of lingerie. It makes him feel as though his presence on the road really is appreciated.

One can gain a lot of knowledge from watching these clothes-lines. For instance, it is very evident that fashions in lingerie do not change very much out in the country. Bifurcated garments with lace on the lower edges still seem to be very stylish. The men, as a whole, seem to prefer lengthy underwear. An occasional pair of red flannels may be seen from time to time. You can get a fairly accurate idea of the prosperity of the people living in a house by counting the number of table-cloths and bed-sheets on the line.

Every clothes line along the highway tells its own story. Most of them are interesting stories, too, if you'll only take the trouble to read them.

Southern enunciation sometimes is responsible for mistaken ideas and erroneous impressions. For example:

I was riding with a friend from Raleigh to Washington the other day. We were about two miles out of Raleigh when, with a wave of his hand toward the right, he commented:

"It's alright to take care of the unfortunate and destitute, but I think Wake county is spending too much money for that purpose."

I asked him what he meant. "The poor house over there," he explained.

"What poor house?" I asked. "Over there."

I looked in the direction he was pointing. He had reference to the handsome home of Dr. Clarence Poe, publisher of the Progressive Farmer. A couple of years ago he had asked somebody what the building was, and his informant had replied: "That's the Poe house." Ever since then, he had been under the impression that it was the poor house.

I told that to Dr. Poe the other day. He laughed and said: "Well, to tell the truth, your friend wasn't so very far wrong at that!"

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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1931

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EXTRA LAND TAX LOOMS

Community Training School For Church Workers Opens; Many Enrolled in Classes

The community training school for Sunday school teachers and church workers was opened Sunday night with a joint meeting of the various young people's church organizations in the Baptist church. A large congregation was present, including, besides the young folks, a number of their elders.

Reviewing interesting experiences in visiting colleges and schools throughout the country in a study of the religious work and influences of students, Mrs. Taber reported encouragement in the findings,

DEATH CALLS MRS. HIGGINS

Dies Suddenly in Atlanta From Heart Attack; Buried Here

Funeral services for Mrs. Minnie Higgins, who died in Atlanta at 6 o'clock Sunday morning, were held in the First Presbyterian church here at 10 o'clock Monday morning.

Mrs. Higgins suffered a sudden heart attack at her home in Atlanta about 4 o'clock Sunday morning. She was taken to a hospital, where she died within two hours.

Mrs. Higgins was born near Franklin on February 26, 1868. She went to Springfield, Mo., about 1909. After living there for five years she removed to Atlanta, where she lived until her death.

She is survived by her husband, Dr. W. H. Higgins; one son, Harry S. Higgins, and two grandchildren, all of Franklin, and by one sister, Mrs. T. M. Slagle, of Carrotochay, and by one brother, H. O. Siler, of Everett, Wash.

MACON W. M. U. MEETING TO BE HELD AT IOTLA

The annual W. M. U. meeting of the Macon Association will be held with the Iotla Baptist church on May 30. Mrs. Edna R. Harris, of Raleigh, will make the address. The women are urged to be present whether W. M. U. members or not. A special invitation is given to pastors.

With a new sweet potato storage house of 5,000-bushel capacity to be built at Tryon this summer, Polk county farmers now have ample storage facilities for their crop this season.

Sylva Collegiate Institute Closes Successful Session

SYLVA, May 20—Many people in Western North Carolina have never heard of the Sylva Collegiate Institute at Sylva, a Baptist school which has been in session for 33 consecutive years and has enrolled hundreds of promising boys and girls in this and other sections who have gone out and made good in the world—lawyers, doctors, ministers, teachers and many others who are serving in their various fields.

It was decided a few days ago by the local board of trustees that this school should continue to operate and train boys and girls for specific service to humanity, since this is the only Baptist preparatory school remaining west of Asheville.

The session which has just closed was one of the best in the history of the institution. Sixteen were graduated on April 21 with honors. Prof. B. L. Mullinax, who has completed his second year as principal, was unanimously elected for the coming year. The outlook for the next session is exceedingly bright. Plans are going forward for a larger enrollment for the next session. An intensive campaign will be launched during the summer for students and means upon which the school can operate. This institution has as its constituency seven Baptist associations in Western North Carolina from which to draw largely for its maintenance.

FOREST BODY TO MEET SOON

National Convention To Be Held in Asheville

TO START JUNE 3 Prominent Forestry Leaders Listed On Program

ASHEVILLE, May 20.—Forest conservationists from every section of the country will gather at Asheville, June 3, 4 and 5 to hear the nation's outstanding authorities discuss such national problems as land utilization, flood control, soil erosion, state and federal forest and park administration, and protection of wild life at the Fifty-Sixth Annual Meeting of the American Forestry Association, the oldest forest conservation organization in America.

Termining soil erosion as the greatest national land menace in America, and as the chief attribute to destructive floods, the conference is expected to bring to light some astounding facts concerning its influence on the life of the nation and to present direct plans for its control.

Rev. Mr. Ervin Chooses Unique Sermon Topic

Sunday morning the Rev. G. Clifton Ervin will preach at the Methodist church on the theme, "Grasshopper Christians." At 8 o'clock in the evening he will preach on the subject, "The Greatest Adventure."

A Sunday school membership and attendance contest is now on, and a large attendance is expected at the Sunday school hour of 9:45 a. m.

The Epworth League will meet at 7:00 p. m. All the young people of the church are urged to attend this service.

Mr. Ervin will hold the regular preaching service at Carson's Chapel at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

BOARD MEETS IN HIGHLANDS

J. M. Hall Is Appointed Mayor Pro Tem and Accountant

A meeting of the new Highlands town board was held last Saturday night. J. W. Hall was elected mayor pro tem and town accountant, the latter being a position created by the present legislature.

The clerk, treasurer and the town marshal and the town electrician are to be elected at the next regular meeting, which will be held on the first Monday in June. Applications for these positions will be received up to that date.

J. H. Stockton Goes Into Candy Jobbing

J. H. Stockton has gone into the jobbing business, specializing in confections. His office is located in the old Farmers' Federation building, in which H. D. West recently opened a general merchandise store.

NEW OFFICERS NAMED BY CLUB AT HIGHLANDS

The Highlands Community club met for its monthly meeting last Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. J. E. Root, president. Important matters were discussed and others left open for discussion at a call meeting to be held May 20 at Mrs. Root's.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Mrs. J. E. Root, president; Mrs. Lewis Rice, first vice-president; Miss Bernice Durgin, second vice-president; Mrs. Leonard Pearson, recording secretary; Miss Dorothy Harbison, corresponding secretary; Miss Albertina Staub, treasurer. Honorary presidents are Mrs. E. R. Gilbert and Mrs. J. A. Hines.

Chief To Enforce Auto Parking Limit

Police Chief Bob Henry announced this week that, beginning Monday of next week, he would enforce strictly the town ordinance limiting parking on Main street in the business district to one hour. The penalty for the first violation is \$1 fine. This increases with each subsequent violation.

The chief explained that strict enforcement was made necessary by ever-increasing traffic. "We must keep some spaces open," he said, "for tourists and farmers who come here to trade. Residents of Franklin can help by parking their cars on the town square. There is plenty of space on the parking lot across from the courthouse."

The time limit on parking applies between the hours of 8 a. m. and 7 p. m. It is permissible to leave one's automobile on the street overnight. The spaces where the limit applies have been freshly painted.

TWO MISSOURI PASTORS HERE

Rev. George Newkirk and Rev. J. A. Bryson To Preach Sunday

The Rev. George Newkirk, of Syracuse, Mo., will preach at the Franklin Baptist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and the Rev. J. A. Bryson, of Columbia, Mo., will hold the evening service at 8 o'clock.

Rev. Mr. Bryson, who is the son of J. K. Bryson, and Mr. Newkirk are here for a visit attending the Southern Baptist Convention at Birmingham, Ala. Mr. Bryson, who has a number of friends and relatives here, is pastor-at-large of three associations in Missouri. His home is at Columbia.

CHURCH WOMEN HEAR TALK BY MRS. D. D. TABER

On Monday afternoon in St. Agnes church Mrs. D. D. Taber addressed members of the Woman's Guild of St. Agnes church and the Woman's Auxiliary of the Church of the Incarnation in Highlands on the subject of the approaching triennial convention of the Episcopal church in the United States to be held in September at Denver, Col.

Arrangements for the presentation service of the united thank offering of the women of the church were described. Denver's auditorium, seating 10,000, will be the scene of this event, which will mark the celebration of a gift to missions by women which aggregated more than a million dollars three years ago when presented at a service in the national cathedral in Washington, D. C.

Visitors at the meeting here were Mrs. J. A. Deal, whose husband was for many years rector of St. Agnes church, of Gainesville, Ga., and the following from Highlands: Mrs. W. S. Davis, Mrs. Lillian Pearson, Mrs. J. A. Hines, Mrs. H. P. P. Thompson, the Misses Charlotte Elliott, Rebecca S. Harris, Caroline Hall, Ethel Calloway and Lula Hinson.

Not Joking, Says Hobbs

"If you vote against the luxury tax you needn't go back to Johnston county to live," I told Senator Gower, and he said he had received about as many telegrams from Johnston county against the luxury tax as for it. I didn't ask him who offered the money, and no statements were made as to where the offer was made.

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Frank Murray 'Knows His Onions' but not His Cow

Frank I. Murray, clerk of court, may "know his onions," as the slang expression goes, but he doesn't know his own cow. As a consequence, it is reported that a movement is under way to have the town council adopt an ordinance making it illegal to milk another person's cow without due consent.

The story leaked out—much to Mr. Murray's chagrin—at the weekly luncheon of the Rotary club, where almost anything may be told on a fellow. It seems that the clerk of court keeps his cow in Dick Jones' barn, which is a sort of community boarding house for cows. Entering the barn the other morning, Mr. Murray called, "Here,

Ad Valorem Plan Before Assembly; Probe Under Way

Committee of Senate House Reverses Action After Rejecting Land Levy

WITNESSES HEARD SITUATION TENSE Opponents of Luxury Tax Accused of Buying Votes

RALEIGH, May 20.—Charges of attempts to bribe legislators to vote against a luxury tax have brought on one of the most sensational investigations held in Raleigh since the days just after the Civil War. A committee of the Senate is conducting the probe.

Tuesday this committee heard Senator Gower, of Johnston county, tell how he had waited 30 or 40 minutes in room 935 in the Sir Walter hotel for a man to come back with what he presumed would be an offer of a bribe to vote against a luxury tax.

In addition to hearing Senator Gower, the committee heard E. G. Hobbs, Selma attorney, and C. P. Harper, Selma druggist and former president of the North Carolina Pharmaceutical Association, tell of Gower's statement that he and "his colleagues" had been offered \$2,500 each to change their votes and oppose a luxury tax.

Judge Henry A. Grady also testified, giving the statement which he had previously given to the press, regarding a statement by Faison Thomson, Goldsboro attorney, that Thomson had been offered \$2,500 to get Senator Dortch to vote "present" and \$3,500 to vote "no."

Senator Hugh Dortch of Wayne testified he knew nothing about the rumored bribery efforts.

Hobbs Testifies

The luxury sales tax was defeated in the senate May 4 by a vote of 25 to 24. The events which took place on the afternoon the vote was taken, when the opponents of the luxury tax were making their greatest effort to defeat it.

Mr. Hobbs testified that May 12 he came into the hotel lobby at 5:17 p. m. and saw Senator Gower talking to Harper. All three of them went into a drugstore to get a cold drink.

"I asked Senator Gower the direct question, 'Have you been offered any money to vote against the luxury tax?'" Hobbs continued, "and he said that he and his colleagues were offered \$2,500 each and I didn't ask him who his colleagues were, because I had some months ago known it was Hugh Dortch of Goldsboro."

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The five changing were: Cranor, Ewbank, Johnston of Ashe, Leake and Pitts. Those absent were: Kilbrian, Pinnix, Johnson of Chatham, McDevitt and Tatum.

Roll Call

For reconsideration: Allen, Black, Brooks, Britton, Burgin, Chory, Connor, Cox of Forsyth, Cranor, Crause, Crudup, Doshier, Edwards, Ervin, Ewbank, Garibaldi, Gattis, Gill, Greer, Groves, Gwyn, Halstead, Hanes of Forsyth, Harris, Hines of Surry, Hood, Howell, Huffman, Jeffress, Johnson of Ashe, Johnson of Pamlico, Leake, Legrand, Long of Alamance, Long of Halifax, Marshall, Morphew, Moss, McRae, Neal, Newman, Pitts, Puett, Reading, Read, Rogers, Seawell, Scarborough, Signon, Spence, Thomas, Turner of Iredell, Turner of Guilford, Uzzell, Ward, Way-

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