

What I See And Hear

By
E. J. Black

Every man has to make a fool of himself sometime in life, and it is much better to get it over with while you are young.

The old-fashioned way in getting acquainted was to "burn the midnight oil." Now it is to burn the midnight gas in frivolity and questionable tours.

A woman newspaper writer says, "Some women smoke like ladies, and some women smoke like a chimney," and then she added, "Some women make their husbands smoke."

It used to be when a polished gentleman met another gentleman, he would say with some dignity, "How do you do sir." To-day when they meet one or the other blunty says, "Hello-no; gimme a match!"

She said that in the old-fashioned printing offices there was what they called "A Printer's devil" the boy learning the business. Now they are called apprentices. At any rate under the old custom "the devil was to pay" every Saturday night.

The Smithsonian Institute slips us the information that man has been on this earth for 400,000 years. And yet he still takes plugged quarters in charge, patronizes all the fake concerns floating about the country. But give us another 400,000 years Smithsonian and see what we'll do.

Whiskers are out of fashion these days. But during the Civil War period the boys lived in a whiskered age. Grant, Sherman, Lee, Lincoln, Jeff Davis wore them. Cabinet officers, lieutenants, novelist like Dickens and notables generally wore whiskers. A beard was then the insignia of manhood. Bankers, merchants, men in trades, physicians, scientists and statesmen all wore beards. The mustache coffee cup then was in style! Some men wore what is called the "Horse Tail" mustache, which is in style today by a few as an evidence of manly pride. Some years ago I turned out my beard for several weeks. Some one said that I soon would look like King George. I had a girl then. She said that she couldn't stand "those bristles." My whiskers went

and I have been gone every since.

Sometimes we hear an old-timer sigh for the good old days of his youth. He smiles and wonders who would choose to live during the period of history of the stage coach, or when our forebears wove the cloth to make our clothes, and when many of the conveniences of this age were unknown. How the ancients got along without automobiles, radios, soap, stoves, tooth brushes, window glass, railroads, telephones—without practically all of the new things we now regard as the bare essentials of life. There has never been a time when life bettered itself so rapidly, and so consistently as now. The new inventions and discoveries are continually bringing out something to make our work easier, our life more pleasant and our clothing and food problems less difficult. How many can recall when men put shirts on over their heads, and any body could hitch up a horse, everybody had tonsils and kept them, nobody had appendicitis, people

carried a lantern on the dash-board of the spring wagon and were through mud, sand beds and loose rock most of the time. Slept on a straw tick and took a bath in the wash tub in the kitchen only on Saturday nights. A brick was used as a floor step, and women wore rats in the hair. If you remember any of these things and many others it's no sign you are getting old. It's just the sign of good memory.

It is no wonder that many people declare that the world is growing worse for the simple reason the press is literally filled with stories of accidents, catastrophes, crime and other disconcerting news. The means of communication have been so well developed till wide awake reporters let nothing escape. This is the kind of stuff that usually catches the attention of the reader.

If the good works of the good people were given an equal publicity we believe that so many people would not be prone to think the world is growing worse.

Then the Senate finance committee did come marching up the hill and then pitched down again on the reduction of the sales tax. It first reduced the sales tax to two per cent, and only receded after it was shown that the budget could not be balanced, even with the liquor bill, in the shape the bill was in, without a three per cent sales tax. But the return to the three per cent rate does not mean that a fight will not be waged in the Senate for a reduction. But there is little prospect that it will succeed. The best that can be hoped for is elimination of food stuffs from the bill. If there is exemption of staple foods from the measure, then that will call for taxes from other sources.

The Senate finance committee eliminated the income tax from dividends on stock dividends and the high bracket chain filling station license taxes, but adopted a substitute for the latter that is expected to yield practically the same revenue. A fight will be waged to restore the income tax on dividends to raise income taxes to the maximum of six per cent, to eliminate income tax exemptions on gifts to churches and charities, etc., with the hope of either reducing the sales tax rate or else placing exemptions of staple foods. Even the budget will be out of balance, but as better business conditions are expected, it is the contention of many legislators that they can leave the budget theoretically out of balance a million or so for each year of the biennium without danger.

When the Senate gets through with the revenue bill, which will take all of this week, it will go to conference, and the various items over which battles have been in the House and will be waged in the Senate will be used as trading items in framing the bill. All of this will take time, and then the bill will have to go back for final passage, and this will take another week. As matters now stand, it will take three weeks for the Legislature to complete its work, and that will put the adjournment date up to May 1st. It had been hoped until the past week to get through by Easter. Even with May 1st as the adjournment date, it will fall short of the 1931 session when the Legislature stayed in session until May 27th.

While the Senate finance committee wrestled over the revenue bill, both houses of the Legislature marked time, and scarcely a quorum was in attendance. However, enough members stayed in Raleigh to have a quorum at each session as Representative Clegg discovered when he made the point in an effort to defeat a measure that permits sheriffs to pursue criminals across county borders. The House roared its approval after it was found that sixty-one members, just enough to make a quorum, were present. No legislation can be enacted without a majority being present, but if no point of a quorum is made, a small number may legislate, if the roll isn't called, and that is frequently done.

After hearing Attorney General Cummings describe the warfare that the Federal Government is waging on crime, the Senate passed a bill to increase the State highway patrol to 130 members and to create a state-wide police radio broadcasting system. It would make the patrolmen give their entire time to patrolling the highways, and eliminate the window dressing duties as escorts, and other decorative duties. There has been much criticism because of the use of the State highway patrol in other work than that of patrolling. No serious effort has been made to patrol the highways, for the reason that there are not enough patrolmen to do the work.

The machinery bill providing the set up for the collection of taxes, has been reported to the House. It provides for levying taxes as of July first, and would increase the maximum pay of listers to \$6 a

Notice!

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THE BANK OF MAGNOLIA
Magnolia, N. C.

As required of all banks operating under the laws of this State by the Act of the General Assembly (duly ratified and known as House Bill No. 185) this bank hastens to give you due notice of the effects of this legislation, according to the following statement specifically set out in the Act:

"That on and after July 1, 1935, by virtue of Chapter Public Laws of 1935, the additional or double liability heretofore imposed by Statute upon the stockholders of banks, in the event of the liquidation of such banks, doing business under the laws of North Carolina will be no longer imposed."

L. D. DAIL,
Cashier.

With The State Legislature In Raleigh Last Week

By M. L. SHIPMAN, Special Reporter For This Newspaper

Raleigh, April 8.—All signs fall in wet weather, and the same is true of the North Carolina Legislature. The Senate finance Committee has taken a solid week to extract practically all the changes that the House inserted in the revenue bill after it got the measure from the joint finance committee. As a practical matter, it would have been easier to have substituted the original bill, and have gone to the Senate with that, but there was one important change, an increase from one million dollars to \$1,630,000 in the amount proposed to be diverted from the State highway funds. In order to put that across, the chairman of the Senate finance committee, Harris Newman, made a special trip to Washington after other State officials had gone. That delayed matters for a couple of days, and then there was some dandruff raised among Senators, who have been standing by the highway funds. That started more discussion.

There was another matter that delayed things in the Senate finance committee. There has been a strong bloc of Senators, anxious to get the finance measure in shape so that it would require passage of the Hill liquor bill to balance the budget. It was thought that if the sales tax could be reduced, and it could be shown that the Hill liquor bill would balance the budget that it might have a chance. This effort apparently failed, as there is a strong sentiment in the House against putting over the liquor bill in the absence of a mandate from the people, no matter what may be thought of the referendum of 1933. Most of the members of the Legislature were elected without having gone into a discussion of prohibition. There was a tacit, if not actual understanding, in the last campaign, that the referendum of 1933 on the repeal of the eighteenth amendment was a mandate to 1935 Legislature.

day. It is also designated to prevent tax evasions by purchase of government bonds by wealthy people.

The House killed without discussion a Senate measure to prohibit county party chairmen from becoming candidates unless they resign by April 1st of the year in which they run. This was in line with the disposition of the Legislature to let things political stand as they are. All efforts to secure repeal of the absentee voting act have likewise failed. Several bills would repeal the act as to counties but these could only apply to local officers, as it would be unconstitutional to make a local act apply to State officers.

Hardly had the legislative committee on penal institutions gotten through with their investigation of the Mecklenburg prison scandal before Chairman R. E. Sentelle was called to make another probe of the whipping of the 13 leaders of the negro convict strike at woodville in Perquimans county. The whipping was believed to have been without authorization of law. The matter will be probed by the State highway department.

The House killed in short order a bill offered by Representative Pickens to repeal the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. Representative Pickens who comes from High Point questions the authenticity of the Twentieth of May declaration, and wanted to take the date off the State flag. Nothing doing. The State Legislature will not revise history.

While it was killing business, the House killed a bill that would have permitted lawyers to comment on the failure of a defendant to take the stand to testify in his own behalf. Attorney General Seawell, a veteran former member of the Legislature, endorsed the measure, but the Judiciary committee would have none of it.

Farmers Entertained Here Last Week

An evening of pleasant entertainment, a chance to win a prize, in a dart-throwing contest and an opportunity to learn some interesting things about one of the South's great industries, was given free to

farmers last Friday night. The party was given at Duplin County Court House.

The chief feature of the evening was a presentation of "Back to the Soil." This production gave a lot of interesting information about nitrate of soda and shows how it is produced here in the South.

Only a few weeks ago Dr. Charles H. Herty, the South's great scientist, urged Southern farmers to use Southern fertilizers. American nitrate of soda is one of these fertilizers and many farmers in this neighborhood were at the showing in order to find out all they could about this home product.

The winner of the contest were Stephen Raynor, of Beaufort; Miss Nancy Hines, Kenansville, and Balem Miller (colored) of Kenansville.

STEALS SOAP, GOES TO JAIL
Atlanta, Ga.—Found guilty of stealing a cake of soap, a scrubbing brush and a can of sardines, Vernon Reville, colored, 56, was sentenced to from four to six years in jail.

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WARSAW WALLACE

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Then why should you use "hit-or-miss" methods in buying fertilizer? There are a number of good brands on the market now. Dixie doesn't claim a 'secret process' that will make crops "grow like magic". After all a 3-8-3 meal base is about the same in Florence, South Carolina, as it is in Goldsboro or New Bern.

The important thing is—has the fertilizer you have been buying been suitable to your land? Dixie Fertilizer is tested. It is used by farmers in every section of Duplin County and has proven to be good fertilizer, every thing we claim it to be. The old adage applies in fertilizer as well as other things: "The proof of the pudding is in the eating."

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