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A Democratic Journal, devoted to the material, educational, economic and agricultural interests of Duplin County.



Liberality was formerly called honesty, as if to imply that unless we are liberal we are not honest, either towards God or Man. — Tryon Edwards.

How often in this world are the actions that we condemn the result of sentiments that we love, and opinions that we admire. — Mrs. Jameson.

Meditation is the life of the soul; action is the soul of meditation; honor is the reward of action; so meditate, that thou mayst do; so do, that thou mayst purchase honor; for which purchase, give God the glory. — Quarles.

VOTE FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Next Tuesday North Carolinians go to the polls in their regular bi-annual election. There is little interest manifest in this election which is usual in North Carolina. We have no governor to elect and we do not elect a president of the United States. Our state being overwhelmingly Democratic, battles for public office are fought out in the Democratic Primary which in nearly all counties is tantamount to election. So it is here in Duplin.

There are five questions to be voted on by the people that need particular attention. Voters usually do not pay much attention to constitutional amendments. Few people have made a study of our state constitution and do not realize the importance it plays in our daily life. When the constitution is amended or changed there is no authority or power in the state that can change it or condone its violation. The constitution is the expressed will of the masses of the people. The amendments are the laws the people themselves make and no legislature can change them.

The five amendments to be voted on next Tuesday are all good and reasonable and should be passed by a large majority of the voters. Mark your ballot "yes" to each of these amendments. They do not increase your taxes, they merely rectify some injustices now existing.

The first amendment has to do with waiving indictments. What this really will accomplish will be to eliminate so much work on the part of the grand juries when a person, guilty of a criminal charge, admits and pleads guilty. At present the grand jury must bring a true bill of indictment on all criminal charges. Under the amendment if the person is represented by legal counsel and pleads guilty to the charge this will not be necessary before the case can be tried and disposed of.

Amendment II, safeguarding the funds of teachers' and state employees' retirement system. This amendment merely makes it impossible for any legislature to appropriate funds that have been saved up by our teachers and state employees for any other purpose than that for which they are intended. It has been done in two other states. At present our legislature, if it saw fit, could take the more than \$50,000,000 now saved for their retirement and use it in some other manner, legally, and when the time came for this money to be spent for its intended purpose it would be gone. This money belongs to the teachers and state employees. It is their money they have saved and the legislature should have no more right to use it for any other purpose than should a bank take one's personal deposits and use them for some other purpose. Surely no one can deny the teachers and state employees the right to do with what is already their own. If this amendment passes it will guarantee for all time that the funds will be intact when needed by its rightful owners. Vote "yes" on your ballot.

Amendment III, has to do with compensation of legislators. It doesn't require a Philadelphia lawyer to figure out that our state representatives and senators cannot live in Raleigh for three months or longer on \$600. That is their present pay. This pay was set up years ago when a legislature lasted only 60 days and the cost of living was much lower than it is today. The new amendment will raise the pay to \$1300 for three months. A member is lucky if the legislature adjourns at the end of three months these days. \$1300 is hardly adequate but is much better than \$600. Vote "yes" on this amendment.

Amendment IV, relates to giving the legislature authority to call for an election of additional superior court judges. We all know that there are times when we need more judges on the superior court bench than we now have. A shortage of judges causes congested dockets and cases to linger on for months that should be disposed of. If it is found that we need more than one judge in our own district which is now served by Judge Henry L. Stevens of Warsaw, the legislature could provide for the selection of an additional judge. Vote "yes" on this amendment.

Amendment V, has to do with assignment and jurisdiction of superior court judges. As it now is this power is vested in the governor. We would hate to think that a governor would play politics in dealing out justice in North Carolina but it must be remembered that the governor's office is the center of political activity in North Carolina. The supreme court justices are supposed to be as far from politics as is possible for any group to be. Their work is dealing with courts and justices and it would naturally follow that they should have this authority. To make this change is not a reflection against the governor's office, it is merely a step forward in progressive handling of courts and justice in North Carolina. Vote "yes" to

Your Worst and Best

Lesson for November 5, 1930

"Within my earthly temple there's a crowd; There's one of us that's humble, one that's proud; There's one that's broken-hearted for his sin; And one that, unrepentant, sits and grins. From such perplexing doubt I could be free, If I could once be certain which is me."

FROM some anonymous rhymester comes this complaint, which any of us might have truthfully written if we had thought about it. Which is me, anyway? I seem to have three selves. One is a good deal better than my everyday or ordinary self. On rare occasions he will do something or other so good it surprises even my best friends — it "isn't like me."

On the other side is another self, much worse than my everyday personality. He too surprises me by acts or thoughts so dreadful I am afraid of him and ashamed too. Yet both these "other selves" are "me" too.

Life is a Fight

THE TRUTH of the business is that life, when a man takes it seriously, is a fight. It is a war between your best and your worst self. Your two other-selves are there every moment, like ghosts, or rather like a bright angel and a dark one.

It is always possible to become a better man than you are; also, alas, it is possible to become far worse than you are. No man stays the same through life. He is continually pressing upward, or plunging downward, or varying between the two. There has been only one person, Christians believe, who actually fulfilled all the good that was possible for him. The possibilities for evil in his life remained only possibilities — he never let them come to pass.

The possibilities for good, on the other hand, became real. His dark angel remained only a ghost; his good angel was simply his real self. At no point in his life was he forced to say to himself, "I wish I had . . . I wish I had not." And yet, even for him life was a struggle. We do not believe he sinned. We do believe he was tempted; and if the temptation was real, then he could have sinned. No man can be really tempted to do what he cannot do. Yes, the Master had his fight. But the point is: he won.

The Way to Win

CHRISTIANS are not exempt in this war of good against evil. We are not "carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease" any more than Jesus was. We do not drift into the Promised Land. We have to fight our way uphill.

Yet Christians are expected to win. That is, God stands beside each Christian in his fight, and God's power is for the Christian's use. As Saint Paul says, with each temptation God provides a "way of escape." Our prayer "Lead us not into temptation" can always be answered. Sometimes it can be answered by ourselves. That is, we cannot leave the fight to God.

But we can win as Jesus won: sometimes by standing and doing battle where we are, sometimes simply by leaving temptation behind. For often the best thing to be done is to retreat. Get as far as you can from whatever tempts your worse self. Don't stand debating between right and wrong when you know which is which. Turn your back on the wrong . . . run, don't walk, to the nearest exit!

Is Alcoholism a Disease?

ONE of the common temptations of millions at all times is alcoholism. It is popular to speak of this as a "disease" and yet it is the only disease of which victims have actually cured themselves.

Dr. Brady, whose medical column is well known, reminds us that nobody ever got over migraine headaches, or heart disease, simply by deciding to be well. But men and women have got over alcoholism, essentially by deciding to be well, and sticking to that decision.

Alcoholics Anonymous, that well-known group of former victims, who have been very successful in helping slaves of this habit to become their best selves, use much the same methods we find in the New Testament: (1) staying out of temptation's way, (2) overcoming evil with good; and (3) laying hold of the "Power, not ourselves, that makes for righteousness."

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WILLIAMS VENERAL HOME

Billy Tyndal

Raleigh, N. C., Oct. 29.—With election time just around the corner, some of the so-called political experts in Raleigh are predicting that Willis Smith -- senatorial nominee -- will be low man on the Democratic ticket.

They don't think he'll be defeated by Republican E. L. Gavin of Sanford, but they do think he'll receive less votes than any of the other Democrats on the State ticket.

Meantime, nothing much has been said about the five proposed constitutional amendments. All of them are favored by Governor Scott and other State officials, as well as members of the North Carolina congressional delegation.

The new amendment would pay legislators \$15 per day for up to a 90-day regular session and the same amount for up to a 25-day special session. It calls for a \$20 day for presiding officers. Both Democratic and Republican party leaders favor the increased pay, because it would allow able men who now cannot afford to take the financial loss to serve in the legislature.

As Governor Scott says, the pay raise will keep the legislature from becoming a "rich man's club."

2. To allow a person facing a criminal charge to waive indictment if he is represented by a lawyer. Now a man must wait for indictment by a grand jury in a felony case. This would keep him from an extensive stay in jail while waiting for grand jury action. It would not allow waiving of indictment in capital cases, but only in felony cases where the defendant is represented by a lawyer.

3. To safeguard the funds of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System. This one would do just that. At present, the General Assembly could appropriate this money for other uses if it wanted to. This amendment would make it impossible for the legislature to touch the money paid into this retirement fund.

4. To allow additional superior court judges. At present, the constitution allows election of only one judge in a judicial district. This would allow the General Assembly to provide for election of more than one judge in such districts as it might determine are needed. In some districts -- particularly the more populated, such as those embracing Charlotte, Winston-Salem and Greensboro -- it is impossible for the resident elected judge to keep up with his duties.

5. To give the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court authority to assign superior court judges and call special terms of court (now done by the Governor) and allow the Legislature to define jurisdiction of special judges. The first part would place assignment of judges under the judicial system, giving unified direction to our courts. The second part will cut away the strait jacket which now gives special judges power and authority in the courts which they were appointed to hold. Special judges now have no out-of-court jurisdiction are unable to aid the resident judge, who generally is swamped with out-of-court work.

All five of the amendments have been approved by persons who have studied them. Generally, they would help improve the personnel of the legislature, safeguard retirement funds and help speed and improve justice.

Over in Sampson County, the Democratic-Republican fight has turned into a knock-down drag-out affair that has turned up some interesting notes. Chief among these is that the Sampson Democratic Executive Committee has in its hands a report of a firm of professional investigators.

This report says that the liquor traffic in Sampson county is a disgrace not only to the county but to the whole State.

This national investigative firm reported that its operatives found it "almost as easy to buy government whiskey as cigarettes in numerous establishments in Sampson county." The report also states that Sampson county has a "king of bootleggers" and that most of the establishments selling "regularly distilled whiskey" buy their supplies from this king of bootleggers.

The report says further: "The conclusion is inescapable that this traffic in bootleg whiskey could not exist without either law enforcement or connivance. There is one establishment located on the Fayetteville Highway just outside the city limits of Clinton and adjacent to the golf course where curb service is available.

"The investigation did not cover traffic in public lodging, or hotels, or restaurants, or other places where liquor is sold."

Incidentally, along about next Wednesday you can look for automobile dealers, merchants and truckers, to launch a concerted drive to fight the elimination of sales tax exemptions.

Top brass of merchants, trucking and auto dealers organizations had a top secret conference some time back to talk over initial plans for such a campaign.

And the NCADA "Flashes" -- publication of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association -- recently sent out an interesting letter, instructing its members to

raid establishments which sell so-called government or sealed whiskey.

The report further says that the "king of bootleggers" is not unknown to the law. It adds that this king has had several brushes with the law, but always has gotten out by the payment of a nominal fine and the imposition of a suspended sentence.

Generally, the report indicates that the traffic in illegal sale of tax-paid whiskey in Sampson is big business, on a scale comparable to that of "white liquor" traffic in some of the western counties.

In a local beer and soda emporium there is a card on the mirror advertising the business of insurance man Ira W. Day. "Face the Future with Security", it says. Day apparently leaves no stone unturned to try to help his own future.

He was quite active locally in the Democratic primaries last spring in behalf of Willis Smith. A report filed this week with Secretary of State Thad Eure lists Day as contributor of \$50 to the Republican campaign fund. Thus Day now is spending his money to help fight the man he supported last Spring.

Some of Governor Scott's most ardent critics last week again were reminded of their predictions that his administration would bankrupt the State, run North Carolina so far in debt that she never would get out.

Last week the Governor and the Advisory Budget Commission made it official that North Carolina's 25,000 school teachers will get their contingency pay raise. That means that it now seems fairly certain that the State will have a surplus of more than \$7,000,000 above the \$142,000,000 budget for the current fiscal year.

These same critics of the Governor now are yelling that Scott is letting down his farm friends by suggesting that exemptions -- many of them favorable to the farmer -- might be removed from the sales tax.

Limitations were put on farm machinery and various farm supplies, needs and products to help the farmer, they claim. Now, the critics aver, here is the farmer's professed best friend proposing elimination of the same exemptions.

They are the same critics who have charged the Governor with being more friendly to farm folks than city folks. They have been critical of everything he has done. They have been unhappy whenever his actions proved right. They have been happy only when they thought the Governor was slapping in the face, first with defeat of his senatorial candidate Frank Graham and second when the Democratic executive committee refused to name his appointee Murray James a Democratic candidate for the supreme court.

From here, it looks as though the Governor's suggestion seems to show that Kerr Scott believes farm folks should bear their proportionate part of the tax load in accord with their ability to pay. And the farmers, more prosperous than they have ever been before, now have the ability to pay.

A sales tax without exemptions would be probably the fairest tax in the history of the State. But, except for farm and food exemptions, the exemptions now favor the man more able to pay than they do the poorer folks in North Carolina.

The unfortunate truth seems to be that the folks who are now trying to make it look as though Kerr Scott has turned his back on his farm friends are the ones who would benefit most if exemptions stayed in the sales tax.

There's nothing fair, for example, about a limitation of \$15 in sales tax on automobiles. The man who can afford to pay only \$500 for a used jalopy pays \$15 in sales tax. And the well-to-do guy who buys a \$3,500 limousine pays only \$15 in sales tax. It seems to me that a person who can afford an expensive car can also afford to pay more sales tax.

The automobile dealers, incidentally, have found a loophole to get around paying sales tax on automobile accessories on used cars. For example, the dealer has a used car to sell for \$500. He puts a \$75 radio and a \$25 heater on it, raising the total price to \$600. But he is liable for only \$15 in sales tax. If he sold the car, then sold the radio and heater to the buyer, the total sales tax would have been \$18. There's nothing wrong, legally, it's just a slick operation that beats the law.

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BISHOP GETS BASEBALL... An affidavit Yankee fan, Dr. Franklin C. Fry of New York (left) presents a baseball, autographed by every member of the New York team, to Lutheran Bishop Hans Lilje of Hanover at Tutzing, Germany.

WCTU Asks for Ban On Alcoholic Drinks During Wartime

DENVER, Colo.—Outlawing of alcoholic beverages in the armed forces and "wartime" prohibition for the nation were urged in resolutions adopted by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union at its annual convention here.

The action to oust alcoholic beverages from the military services was in the form of a recommendation to congress that it "speedily enact a bill to make effective" a 1901 law which prohibits "the sale or dealing in beer, wine, or any intoxicating beverage on any post, exchange or canteen or army transport or upon any premises used for military purposes by the United States."

In adopting recommendations of their president, Mrs. D. Leigh Colvin, of Evanston, Ill., the group called on all persons "in responsible positions to abstain from alcoholic liquors during the period in which our boys are risking their lives in war."

"Drinking by public officials as in the District of Columbia where the consumption of liquor is three times that in any other comparable area is unthinkable at a time when the use of the atom bomb is in the balance," Mrs. Colvin said in urging adoption of the resolution.

In another action, the convention asked the nations' congress to set aside a day in which the importance of total abstinence pledges would be explained, and members would be given the opportunity to sign them.

Federal laws outlawing the sale of liquor, wine, and beer on trains, in club cars, and on airplanes -- other common carriers were urged. The delegates recommended that the proposed legislation provide that carriers be held responsible for injuries to passengers by persons under the influence of drink.

Religious Music Heard At Biarritz Concerts

PARIS—Vacation crowds at Biarritz, fashionable French summer resort, responded favorably to religious music in the feature concerts. An innovation introduced this season.

Igor Stravinsky's Mass was played for the first time in France during a concert in the cloisters of Bayonne, reopened for the occasion by the Ministry of Fine Arts.

Reviving picturesque medieval traditions, fresh flowers were strewn over the floor, the cloisters were illuminated by candlelight and the women present wore "mantilles" (lace shawls) as if at a church service. The cathedral and spire were illuminated in sharp relief by floodlights.

Jehovah's Witness Tried in Pawtucket

PAWTUCKET, R. I.—Trial of a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses on a charge of violating a city ordinance prohibiting religious addresses in public parks was marked by repeated clashes between opposing attorneys.

On trial was William B. Fowler, 36, of Arlington, Mass., who was arrested after police broke up a "Witness" meeting in Slater Park here.

Hayden C. Covington, of Brooklyn, N. Y., national counsel for the Watchtower Bible and Tract society, told District Court Judge William M. Connell that his religious group considers the Pawtucket ordinance unconstitutional.

Covington and City Solicitor J. Frederick Murphy clashed over minutes of the case in defying a subpoena upon the meeting, and over what Mr. Murphy declared were attempts to propound religious points of view in the testimony.

Star Enters Bible School

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