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Armory, Raeford, N. C.

Poole's Medley

BY D. SCOTT POOLE

Calvin Coolidge was elected vice-president when Harding was elected president in 1920 and it was published that his father, being magistrate, swore him in as president before he left home.

Coolidge was a man of few words. One Sunday, while he was president, he went to church. Mrs. Coolidge did not go. At dinner that day he said the preacher preached a mighty good sermon. Mrs. Coolidge asked what he preached about, and he answered, "Sin". She then asked what he said about it, and he replied, "He is against it".

Astronomy teaches that there are a number of suns throughout the firmament, many of them larger than ours. All planets turn on their own axis, and travel in their own orbits. For any of them to leave their orbit might destroy everything. It is all beyond us. "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handiwork".

It is likely that an election on the question of the sale of alcoholic beverages will be held next November in this state.

Nobody was complaining about Prohibition not prohibiting except those who were violating the law. Wait awhile and we will learn more about the Wets and the Drys. There is no money business interesting the Drys. The Wets are money interested.

About 1890 Hamilton McMillan wrote a book, "The Croatan Indians", were now found among the Robeson County Indians. That is strong proof that the Croatans were "White's Lost Colony".

Astrologers are saying that the stars show that there will be no growing season this year until late in the season. Maybe so.

Wheat and oats grow under snow, and small animals den and winter under snow. Soldiers in the Civil War said they slept warm under snow.

My idea is that prices should be kept up somewhat until the war debts are paid, or they will never be paid.

One thing certain, if liquor drinking is not reduced, stopped, if that can be done, the number killed on the highways will increase as time passes, for people who drink, drink more and more.

I have not seen a bluebird nor a snowbird since the blizzard in February, 1899. Snowbirds used to cover the ground before a cold-snap, and bluebirds would build nests in stumps in the fields. The thermometer dropped to 14 below that cold snap, and many birds, insects and fowls were destroyed.

During cold weather in the old times, when we had all kinds of birds we had lots to do to shelter and feed them, but they enjoyed eating anything, especially field peas.

In a world wide meeting of the Churches assembled, they debated the reasons for the great number of Communists in the world, and they were baffled. Only Satan can account for Communists.

Christmas day, 1882, was warm as summer. We had company for dinner that day and in the afternoon we sat on the porch. But the next afternoon the weather turned cold and a 6 inch snow fell.

The fall and winter of 1903 was mild, only one cold snap and that was soon after Christmas. That was the earliest spring I ever saw, and turned out to be the latest. We had summer weather early in the year until the last of March. After a heavy thunder cloud late in March, the weather turned freezing cold, and the ground was frozen for three days. The leaves on the trees, which were fully grown, were killed and they did not reach a normal stage that year at all.

Printing was invented in China, we are taught, but the art of printing was developed in the United States, and that in latter years.

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MORE ABOUT

Poor Schools TEACHERS Getting Scarcer

In the next five years the elementary schools are going to be short on teachers as they are long on children. The shortage will be so great that even contemplating it gives school people the jitters. Parents, whose children will be the real sufferers, apparently have not yet grasped its full significance.

These are the facts:
We need at least 90,000 new elementary teachers this year.

At the outside we are getting about 20,000.

In the entire country this year only 11,142 four-year college graduates fulfilled the requirements for elementary teaching certificates and this is the only group which all the professional education associations consider adequately qualified to teach.

In addition, another 8000 less fully prepared students won elementary teaching certificates.

Lumping together the well and poorly prepared, only about 19,000 potential elementary teachers are coming from the colleges this year. (Some probably obtained certificates only as a rain check and will not actively seek teaching jobs.)

Against this meager stream of new teachers, the schools will need about 40,000 newcomers just to replace those who resign, retire or die.

At least 20,000 more are needed to instruct the added number of children.

Another 25,000 to 50,000 more teachers are needed to replace at least part of the 100,000 who still are teaching under wartime emergency certificates. (These are recruits who cannot meet even the minimum requirements of the various districts.)

If the schools also attempted to obtain enough teachers to reduce the size of over-crowded classes, the figures on teachers needed would soar higher.

The teachers themselves consider the overcrowding the greatest of their burdens. As much as low salaries, it explains why many of them quit. A National Education Association official who works with teachers explained: "They feel frustrated with the size of their classes. The teachers can't get properly acquainted with the children. She can't work with them individually. She comes to feel as though she were simply dishing it out on an assembly line."

An equally serious aspect of the elementary teacher shortage is that no relief is in sight. Judging by present college enrollments, educators see little prospect of getting more than 20,000 new grade school teachers a year for the next five years. All the while, as the number of children in school increase, the demand for teachers will be going up proportionately.

Only in the high schools is there no teacher shortage. The 34,071 college graduates who obtain high school teaching certificates this year will just about meet the present demand for secondary teachers. The only difficulty is that the colleges are producing too many English and social science teachers and too many coaches—a field popular with ex-GI's—and too few teachers of home economics, science, commercial and vocational subjects.

As these figures show, about two thirds of the college graduates headed for teaching are going into the high school, and only one third into the elementary schools. The ratio should be exactly reversed.

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