Carterel County Mows-İines The Beaufort News (est. 1912) \& $T$ EDITORIAL PAGE

## A Constant Problem

Morehend a moonth ago we ran an article which came from morehend city Hospital Board of Trustees. Although it was thermative article, It was, essentially, a plea to those who ow
the hosital money. It asked that they please pay their bill,
not in full, on account.
The plea brought little, if any, resuits, but we weren't su prised-the person who owes bills and makes no effort to plece of writing or an oral request. The persons who attempt to keep out of debt by making monthiy or weekly payments are the ones who recognize their obligations and do their utmost to keep the bill collector from the door.
 there. There were several responses, but according to the hos pital's business department, "hardly enough to pay the postage
We have noticed that certain people think it's smart to run up bills. It aives others a feeling of superiority and "well-being" beats who will get all they can for nothing and the devil take the indmost.
In centuries gone by persons who owed bills were cast into prison. Many of the men who colonized this country were deblors
who were released because they agreed to come here and settle the wild new lands that held promise of veailh. There is evidence sycceeding generations!
In this day, our economic status, generally, is high above that found themselves behind bars merely because they sought food for thesr lamilies when they had no means with which to pay
for it. The day of the "living wage," "minimum wage," "social security," and "pension" was to be found only in the distant fuand hope.

No business can operate on a "credit eternally yours" basis and expensive as printing machinery. Without the hospital, many people now living in Carteret county simply would not he living.
acations if there was a hospital no close: than New Bern? Many would think 'twice and many of these would seek another shore. hat could happen. Preposterous? Perhaps, but unless outstanding and current aeco
Morehead City residents are taxed fur hospital maintenance. Other persons throughout tho county come to the hospital-an ingtitution they do rutt help to feeep rühhing by paying town taxesgav the bill.

The hospital has been highly criticized for the manner in which they seek (upon admilting a person to the hospital) guarando not comprehend the situation, who do not realize that the same a true in hospitals all over the country. They are not charitable We are in favor of an adjusted scale of charges at the hospital whereby Morehaad City residents, who pay a hospital levy, receive eertain reduction on their bill. This may not be feasible a can. get, but it's worth considering.
The patient load at the hospital has decreased, yet an adequate staff must be maintained at all times. Patients are not was the practice. All these things tend to decrease hospital rewasue.

## Thoughts for an open mind.

II is tragic how few people possess their souls before they die.
The infinite always is silent - it is only the finite speaks. Our words are the idle wave caps on the deep that never breaks. the mystery speaks to ue.
mere in no great harm in forgetting to do a job, but great harm is done in forgetting its importance.
heed, and a generous heart.
point.


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in him."


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