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Entered as second class matter January 1, 1906, at the postoffice at Shelby, North Carolina, under the Act of Congress, March 3, 1879.

We wish to call your attention to the fact that it is, and has been our custom to charge five cents per line for resolutions of respect, cards of thanks and obituary notices, after one death notice has been published. This will be strictly adhered to.

MONDAY, DEC. 21, 1925.

Oh, well, it is only three more days.

Shelby has the appearance of the modern city again. The collegiate set has arrived.

One good thing the inquiry board had a nice word for Mitchell's war record, but their objection seems to be that he keeps warring after the armistice.

A fellow usually starts about this early in the season to writing his New Year resolutions, and about as early after January 1, to breaking them.

America must have possessed a weak mind to begin with. A big scientist says continual attendance of the movies weakens the mind. Good picture on tonight. Let's go. They may show the scientist in the News reel.

Have you turned over your bit to the Charity fund? Just three days to do it, and the contributions should be distributed by early Friday morning when Santa starts on another years vacation.

The best Florida story we've heard lately is that the boom is heading for Western Carolina. Soon they'll be telling in Kalamazoo how a friend of theirs bought a hill side in Carolina and sold it for enough to pass Ford on the income tax list.

Some people have horses, but not horse sense. In New Jersey the other day a horse died at the age of 57. Being the oldest horse in the world his owner refused \$50,000 for him. He got nothing when he died. Insurance companies became modern after the auto supplanted the horse.

THE CHARITY FUND.
 Perhaps your contribution has been made to the charity fund for Shelby, and again it may not. The appeal should be given serious consideration. It is a worthy one, and hard to resist once it enters right.

There may be the idea with you that the contributions will not be as well handled as you might distribute them yourself. Frankly, that is a mistaken thought. The survey and distribution is in the hands of men who have made a special study

of the needy families. Their list was made, then the less needy cases eliminated until only these in actual want will be served first. The cases are known by numbers. Sometimes such cases are too delicate for names to be mentioned. It would be better so if it were you or yours, so stand by the appeal and see that not another needy home must be erased from the list because there is not enough to go to all classified—they're the worst cases. There should be some left over for other needy families.

HE BRIGHTENED THE PATH.

The hustling town of Forest City, neighboring Shelby to the west, has cause to ponder today and pay respects. There today they put away to his final sleep a man in his section whose prominence and worth is not fully described in the word "outstanding"—Jake F. Alexander. Just a mountain boy he was, but he rose and at the end of his career he was a power in industrial, banking and charitable circles in three states. He threw his strength behind banks, they thrived. He gave his support to churches, they grew stronger. He started Forest City on a career that is making larger their dot on the map. He recently gave his active aid to a mountain school. Mayhaps the last was his greatest work as things go that are not counted in dollars and smoke from industry's furnaces, but in men and women given a chance.

Florida knew him as a banker, Georgia as a lumberman, and Carolina as builder, benefactor and as a man.

NOT SUPPOSED TO KNOW.

The public is not supposed to know. Those that be, in places of power, know why and that's enough. The people placed there, what business of the people is that which the men they placed there do. There are a lot of things many of us would like to know about the Mitchell inquiry, and many "whys" we might inject. Oftimes this thing and that happens or is made to happen in public places and of interest to the masses, but the fact that it happened is enough for their knowledge. Many times there are those who ask "why?" locally, in the state, nationally. Yet we must be content with the sometimes more comforting thought that "they"—the men we place there—should know what they are about.

This little dialogue from the New York World about says the say of such things:

That inquisitive child, the American Public, is at it again.
 "Ma," it pines.
 "Yes, dear," says Mother Kellogg.
 "Ma, why can't the Countess Karol come into this free country?"
 "Because," answers Mother Kellogg.
 "But, ma, what law is there that keeps her out?"
 "I don't know, it may be that she's a shouldn't ask question."
 "But, ma, don't you have to prove she's a shouldn't ask question?"
 "Yes, dear, I don't. That is quite enough for you to know."
 "But, ma, isn't it any of my business, and if it isn't what is?"
 "Never mind. Now toddle off to bed. And don't ask questions. Mother knows best."

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