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BENN DRUM Local Editor

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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.

WED., APRIL 20, 1927.

TWINKLES.

Despite the proverbial April showers no mud has been splashed in Shelby's city election.

A statistician along newspaper row has estimated that 67,544 grandmothers either died or were ill last week. The baseball season opened on Tuesday, y'know.

Something is wrong over Cleveland. Despite all the big poultry shipments the county hasn't struck the news pages yet with a big, or a bigger egg.

Shelby welcomes the Kings Mountain Presbytery to the town. "The City of Springs" is right well known as a convention center and the coming here of the church folks adds to that reputation.

Many reports and rumors run the street about Shelby's coming municipal election, but in less than two weeks the entire town will know the wherefore of everything, or, at least, the name of the next mayor and his board should be known.

Those with whom Frank Grist is not so popular as commissioner of labor can hardly get around the apparent fact that Grist would make a good press agent for the state. If you've noticed it, every time the Caldwell man bucks, or does not buck, it gets in the headlines.

A month hardly passes that Shelby High students, former and present, do not reflect honor on their school. Perhaps you noticed last week that two Shelby boys were highly honored at one college, while present Shelby students took leading roles in state-wide contests at Chapel Hill.

Movie magnates should find several good title writers among the headline artists of North Carolina newspapers. Speaking of the Mississippi rampage one headline had it: "Death and Destruction Ride Crest of Flood." One could almost hear the movie piano while anticipating what came another dawn.

THE DOGWOOD BLOOM

A reader reminds The Star that the dogwood bloom about this section now is perhaps the most beautiful ever, adding that the scenery about Cleveland Springs Estates resembles a beautiful picture.

In the reminder the reader has not erred a bit, except perhaps that he hasn't expressed himself strong enough. Out most any highway from Shelby now the landscape is beautifully dotted with dogwood bloom, and such is the beauty on Westfield road circling through Cleveland Springs that many cars are to be seen driving around the road daily admiring nature's scenic handiwork.

Bikewise one sees nearly every day a car piled full of dogwood limbs, meaning that some beauty spot has been despoiled with very little benefit to the marauder.

THE FLAPPER OF 1927

What will the flapper of 1927 look like? Grandfather appears shocked when he sees the proper young lady of today—will you be shocked at her successor 20 years hence?

Perhaps the stylists can predict correctly as to the attire of the young girl a score of years from now, but the scientist goes the stylist one better. The latter says by 20 years we will have baldheaded girls and women. Bobbed hair, he says, will bring it on. Hair cropped short will result in baldhead femininity within even less time than that, he continues.

So, if the prophecy is true one will be put over on the stage comedian of the present day who remarked that at the present rate of taking off the flapper would have very little left to show in a few years. A bald pate is something he hadn't calculated on.

THE ASYLUM MATTER

The recent probe of conditions at the state insane asylum at Morganton should prove beneficial to the institution in the long run despite some of the unpleasant things brought out during the investigation.

It is going a little too far to say that there was no basis for some of the criticism directed towards conditions there. Perhaps conditions were somewhat exaggerated, but nevertheless one could hardly believe that everything is perfect in the institution. However, this belief is not one that would place any blame on the superintendent or plan of supervision. Frankly, The Star asks no better authority than Miss Beatrice Cobb for proof that the state institution is doing the best possible under the circumstances and the financial income it has.

Undoubtedly more money is needed for the work there and unfortunate as it is the probe was perhaps the only way by which conditions showing the need of more appropriations could be brought to the public with proper emphasis.

Do not scoff at "exaggerated" conditions there, neither criticize the management too much. A man with a flivver income should not keep up a high-priced limousine—though some do—and likewise even an efficient hospital superintendent cannot be expected to maintain a perfect institution on shy appropriations.

NO CAROLINA FOR SMITH

Set it down now as a permanent reminder, that North Carolina Democracy is not going to whoop it up for Al Smith.

The proof comes by way of the Greensboro News, to which J. A. Hartness addressed a letter stating that he was not for the New York wet with the added expression that North Carolina could hardly bring any glory to the state by lining up under the Smith banner.

And that's that. To those really informed on politics in particular and other things in general that seemingly mild letter carries considerable information of value.

For a time there have been those who have wondered just how North Carolina political leaders would act about Smith when a show-down became necessary. The Hartness letter brings the wonder to an end even before a show-down. Mr. Hartness, the observant will remember, seldom announces opposing plans. When Hartness announces "thus

and so" the trend of North Carolina politics usually can be noted. And when others announce the wake of the announcement will find Mr. Hartness about.

Some may wonder just what brought forth the Hartness letter. No one had called the so-called powers-that-be for definite information, still the announcement came. Amid the wonder had it occurred to you that many minds not as yet made up about Smith prior to the Hartness letter may have a set opinion now as to who they will not support as the Democratic candidate? Contrary to the prevailing idea there hasn't been so much decisive discussion about the New York headliner. Many folks up until Sunday did not care very much how they stood in regards to Smith, meaning that when the time came the North Carolina delegation would follow some banner to the convention, and, of course, it would be the right banner. Very much has been decided as to what particular banner it will not be.

There will be those who will say the Hartness letter is of no general import. In proof thereof many cite the well-known fact that Mr. Hartness has always been a great prohibitionist and would not follow a "wet" no matter if he were

CATAWBA DEPUTY DOES NOT FAVOR LAW ON STILLS

Hickory Record.

The Klutz bill, making it necessary that county officers capture the operator of distilleries before they collect the \$20 fee, is branded by Porter Burns, deputy sheriff and dubbed the "Demon Distillery Destroyer", as a "license for moonshiners" to make all the booze they want.

Mr. Burns, in the presence of several other officers declared that no prohibition enforced could pay expenses on running a car under the new Klutz law, and that they were forced to give up the

search for distilleries because they could not afford to do it "for the love of the thing." He said that it is impossible to capture the operator of the still "one time in 10."

According to the deputy, most of the runs are made at night and officers cannot get to the distillery through the unfamiliar woods without the use of a light. "As soon as the men see the light they, of course, run," he declared.

"Then what is the use of us destroying the outfit and ruining our clothes when we don't get a cent for our trouble?" he asked. He stated that officers always tried to capture the operators but when they could not do that they destroyed the distillery and hundreds of gallons of mash, beer, and liquor. They got \$20 for that work, he said, and it was some incentive to go out and break up the root of the supply.

Mr. Burns told how the moonshiners made their liquor in this advanced age. "They do not stay

the best Democrat living. It is admitted that Mr. Hartness is a dry of the driest specie, has been, and will likely continue to be, but nevertheless the remembrance is that as far as North Carolina Democracy is concerned Mr. Hartness has supported few candidates not meeting with popular favor with the N. C. D., be they wet, dry, or what-not.

And it is on that assumption that we base our belief that it is a foregone conclusion North Carolina will not be seated with the Al Smith delegation at the next Democratic convention. Little letters like that one of Sunday may express only personal opinion, but some of them, remember, mean much more on occasions when the proper name is attached at the end.

at the 'still like they used to," he declared. "They put on their mash and leave it. In about a week they come back one night and run off the liquor. It is more or less an accident when we capture the men at the still, although we always try to. But even if we don't capture the men we destroy all the equipment and stop hundreds of gallons of liquor from getting on the market. That was worth a whole lot in stopping the liquor in this section, but now Mr. Klutz has given a license to moonshiners to make all the booze they want. Officers can't afford to run their cars and spend time and endanger their lives for pure sport."

Asked if he minded being quoted as making those statements, Mr. Burns replied, "Not a bit in the world." He said he thought all other officers felt the same way he did about the new Klutz bill.

The bill was introduced by L. F. Klutz, representative from Catawba county, and passed by the recent General Assembly as a local measure for this county. Representative Klutz said he asked for the bill because of the rumor that some officers were trading with moonshiners on their old worn out stills, and were bringing them in to collect the \$20 fees and then dividing with the blockaders.

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