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Entered as second class matter January 1, 1905, 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, AUGUST 8, 1927.

TWINKLES

Yes, where there is a will it is an oddity if there is no one to way-lay it.

One thing may be said, and maybe more, for these Superior court judges in this state who have endorsed Al Smith: They at least have the nerve to express their opinions publicly despite the fact that numerous public officials are not of that bent.

Why doesn't the North Carolinian who sneers at New York's wet governor and hundreds of "Speak-easies" wonder how two filling stations every five miles on Highway 10 through this state manage to make a living? A motor club says there are that many and from observing other highways very few will doubt the statement.

In court here last week a plaintiff was awarded damages because the defendant trying to collect a debt from him had the plaintiff put in jail. Now suppose the defendant in the last case cannot pay the damages awarded by the court, who will he sue for having him put in jail, should such come to pass—and how long could such a matter ramble along?

When Judge Rufe Clark and The Greensboro News entered upon a discussion of the olden delicacy of "pone" it seems that they found it hard to decide upon the thing "pone" was made in. Finally, to the satisfaction of one party at least, it was found that pone was baked in an oven. Perhaps so in some sections, but Ye Twinkler remembers having his pone in the home of Dutch ancestors from nothing other than a "skillet."

SHADY, BUT REFRESHING?

Some of these days the so-called Memorial Fountain, erected some years back on the court square, may devolve, in the minds of rural people, into a decorative building instead of a spot both serviceable and beautiful.

When the fountain was completed the various places about the city where free water had been dispensed began to point to the fountain well when thirsty folks came by asking for water—and that fountain over on the court square is about the most popular spot in Shelby on summer Saturdays and other week-days when large crowds of rural shoppers are in town. The soda fountain beverages are all right, nifty enough so to say, but they do not quench a thirst. Yet on these days of popularity the fountain on the square fails to measure up to the task. It should, or be marked for decoration only.

INSURING AGAINST HAIL

A mutual hail insurance association organized along the line of the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association in this country would furnish protection at a great saving in our farmers and the organization of such an association was suggested in an issue of The Star last week by W. A. Crowder, one of the best business farmers in Cleveland county. We trust you read Mr. Crowder's contribution and have given it careful thought. A few years ago when hail insurance was cheap, the farmers protected themselves, but the rate has been increased to a point where it is a burden to carry so the farmers have stopped buying hail and storm coverage.

The matter of rate would be worked out later. Mr. Crowder calculates that at \$1 per acre on cotton, the farmer could be protected on a loss up to \$50 per acre from hail damage if there are as many as 35,000 acres insured during a season. At any rate the cost would be considerably less than the same protection is sold for in the stock companies that operate on a high overhead cost. The best evidence that a mutual association is practical and workable is the successful operation of the fire insurance association.

Farmers need protection and are willing to pay a reasonable amount for it, but they cannot pay the rate which the stock companies demand. If the protection can be had at a cost suggested by Mr. Crowder, the farmers should busy themselves at once toward a mutual organization that would be ready for business next year.

COOLIDGE HAS ENOUGH

Since Mr. Coolidge made his famous little statement—"I do not choose to run for President in 1928"—a country-wide cross-word puzzle has been on trying to determine just what the President meant. In fact, the one line statement can be interpreted in more ways than the usual impenetrable silence of the President—and a silence, you know, can at times be interpreted with a thousand angles.

Some believe Mr. Coolidge really intended to say that he was through, while others believe he meant that he isn't going to seek the nomination, but will accept if the nomination seeks him.

This paper, after reading an Associated Press dispatch of the day following the startling, semi-mysterious announcement, really believes that Calvin has enough. That dispatch had it that Mr. Coolidge seemed to feel relieved and better able mentally to enjoy the events of a day in the Black Hills. From that we would judge that this matter of being, or attempting to be a president again, had been worrying the President. To our mind the worry wasn't so much over the trouble he would have in getting the presidency, but of the trouble he would have as President again.

Despite that silence, which brought to him the monicker "Silent Cal," we believe the President has been troubled enough in recent years to yell out in agony scores of times. Perhaps while meditating with himself, as his fishing pole dangled across his knee, he has decided that it isn't worthwhile; that being the official head of a party that makes of him only a tool isn't the greatest thing in the world although the position may be the highest. Perhaps he wondered during those days-back with nature just who was President, and what fun there was in having this and that powerful group order certain measures and then sidestep for him to take the blame, should blame arise.

Yes, it is our opinion that Mr. Coolidge within himself has enough. Honestly he doesn't care to go through with it again.

and the loophole he left with the vague statement was for his party and not for himself. When he reached his conclusion he perhaps thought that the party might want him again and that he would be the party's best bet, and the statement was left open to several interpretations so that the party might not suffer. Willing to sacrifice himself again for his party—an allegiance as remarkable to the national G. O. P. as that of the late Col. Alston Watts to the North Carolina Democracy—but not anxious for the troubles and worries if some other winning candidate could be found.

And one interpretation is about as good as another considering that no one other than Mr. Coolidge knows for a surety what he did mean.

A GREAT FEELING-EGO

It's a great feeling—that feeling that you are just as good as the next man in your business or profession; that your town is the best town on the map and your state is the best state in the union. Perhaps it is that feeling about you and yours, your town and your state, that keeps you spurred on. If so it is a good mental state to be in, for in the individual it should create happiness, and about an individual it should create an atmosphere of anything but unrest. The mental ability to make yourself satisfied with that which you have and are, and that which is about you must be a key to success.

Nevertheless, and with all credit to the individual, or general ego, newspapers and public speakers apparently do their best to overdo. The ego necessary to success and happiness may be swelled into conceit and the realization of conceit. How many "best towns in the state" are there? How many towns and cities have "the most beautiful streets" in North Carolina? How many towns and cities have "shown" the most remarkable growth in 10 years that I have seen? How many hotels are without equal? How many golf courses are there in the state that from a natural layout could not be improved upon?

Scores of 'em, partner, if we are to believe our newspapers and public speakers.

Just the other day a Superior court jurist told a Statesville luncheon club that he expected the city to double or triple in population in 10 years. On the same week a Hamlet newspaper stated that visitors termed the Hamlet golf course one of the best natural sites they had even seen. No criticism of the two towns but similar speakers have told Shelby and other towns that they had the best. This paper has time and again carried similar statements. It seems, after thinking it over, that a visitor to Shelby can attain wide publicity in the town by doing nothing more than stating publicly that Shelby appears to be the fastest growing and most beautiful town in the state; that it has a superior citizenship, a golf course made perfect by nature, and a future that is glowing. This paper helps it along. Somehow newspapermen in general have labored under the illusion for years that a boost of taffy from a visitor is "Page One" news every crack. Perhaps it was for awhile but if it is kept up we are going to realize that we are conceited over our city instead of proud of it, and nothing turns the individual's own stomach quicker than to realize his own conceit.

Wouldn't it be a good thing for a time if the newspaper profession, the wind-jammers and real orators would see that such boasts made in every town over and over do not get so much prominence and are relegated to the minor inside items?

If we all have the best towns and the best everything we had better keep our pride a little more to ourselves or somebody will be remarking that it all can't be.

Chicago's Old Chinatown Is Gone; Modern Buildings Now Going Up

By FRANCIS F. HEALY
International News Service Staff
Correspondent

CHICAGO.—The old Chinatown of Chicago is dead.

The catacombs and blackened hovels, subterranean passages, musty rooms, dens, frame shacks, the scents and colors of the oldest civilization in the world have gone under the knife of the plastic surgeon.

Merchants of Chinatown have spent more than one million dollars for improvement. Another half million is scheduled to be used.

Willie Lee, genial "mayor" of Chinatown, pointed with pride to new buildings, wider streets, new sewers, bathing facilities and other improvements.

The metamorphosis was brought about when the city council ordered the widening of Twenty-second

street, the main oriental thoroughfare. A large slice was cut from the face of all buildings on the south side of the avenue. Realizing that the homes and shops, dating back to the pre-world's fair days, were to be destroyed by the scythe of progress, enterprising merchants held meetings.

Today Chinatown is teeming with industry. A Chinese-American bank building to cost \$300,000 is being constructed. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce building, to house a school with three professors, club rooms, and recreation rooms, is to be built at a cost of \$750,000.

County and community fairs are being planned for practically every county having a farm and home agent according to reports from these agents.

Death And Injury By Black Bottom

(By International News Service)

Kzyl-Orda, Asiatic Russia.—Dancing the "Shaksy Vachsy," an Oriental version of the Black Bottom, during a moonlight Mohammedan religious orgy resulted in the death of six persons and the serious injury of 56 others.

Starting as a night of prayer to Mohammed, 500 fanatics who gathered near Kzyl to protest against the decline of faith, wound up in such a state of frenzy that not a single man, woman or child was able to move from the spot. The ground was soggy with blood from wounds self-inflicted as a sign of purification.

The "Shaksy Vachsy," an old tribal stampede, is danced to the chanting of the famous Mohammedan line, "There is no god but our god." As tom-toms beat louder and louder the chants increased to yells and cries. The dancers beat their heads against stones and trees. Drawing knives they stabbed themselves through the lips, arms and legs until they collapsed.

Six died from loss of blood. Soviet police carted 56 to hospitals and treated every one of the remaining participants for injuries including children who emulated the jabs of their elders, grabbed knives from those who had dropped to the ground and mutilated themselves.

Alvin York Will Be At Legion Meet

Alvin York, of Pall Mall, Tenn., the greatest American hero of the world war, has let it be known that he will attend the state convention of the American Legion to be held at Washington, N. C., August 15.

York captured single-handed some thirty-odd Germans and marched them back triumphantly to his own company headquarters. After the war he returned to his Tennessee home where a grateful people bought him a farm and gave him and where he has been living since refusing all offers to capitalize his great feat.

The first year's salary of an early Michigan circuit rider consisted of hay, oats, socks, mittens and cash to the total of \$118.

Fox hunters of the south do not kill their quarry with firearms but practise the hunt as do the English huntsmen.

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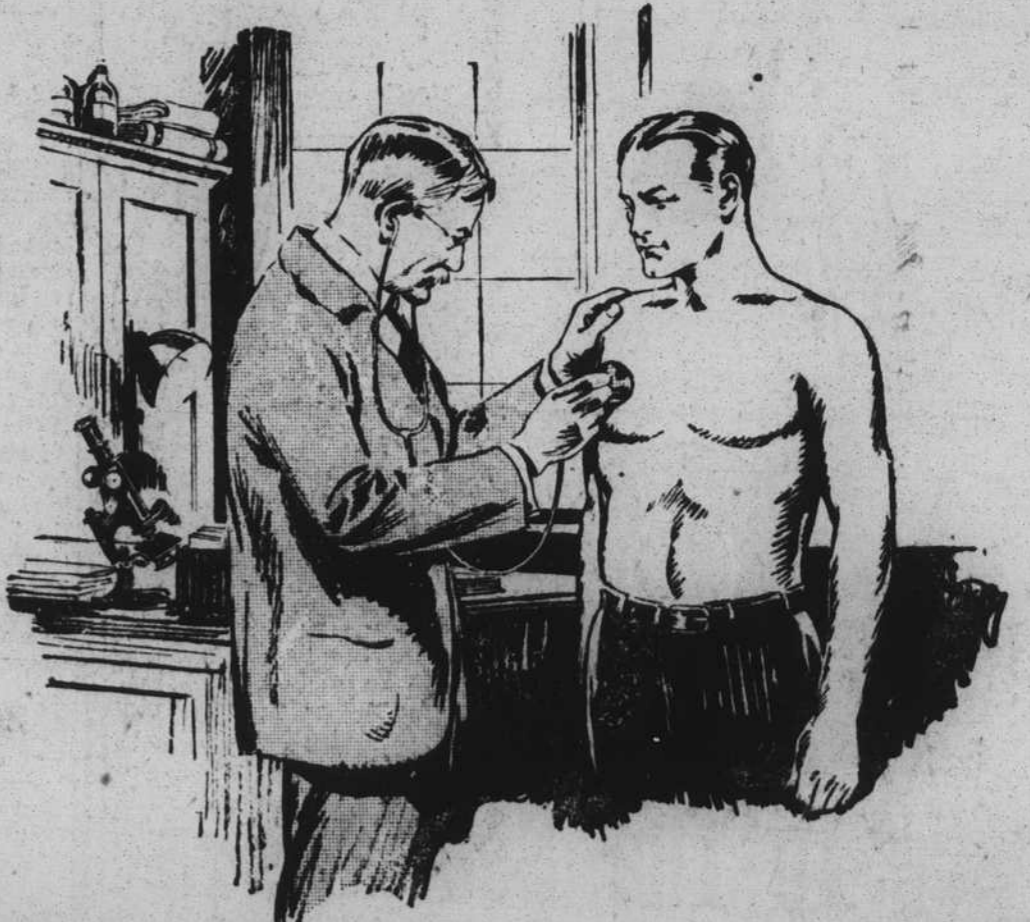
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