

**YES YOU CAN GET IT AT THE PARAGON DEPARTMENT STORE**

—and their prices are so reasonable—that's the way people are talking. We hear it and hear of it every day. People are talking about our store—our merchandise, our prices and it's the kind of talk we like to hear.

—when we bought this store, we made up our minds to cause folks to talk—and believe us—we put it over. We stocked this store with the right merchandise, we put the price to suit one and all—We give service. That's us, every day in the year—make us a visit, we'll prove it.

**AS TO PRICES**

—well of course we must make money, but we are working on a mighty close margin. We count on volume and to this date we are satisfied. Our sales are better than we expected. It is our aim to save our folks money and to make money. So far we are doing both. Every day we hear customers say that our prices are so reasonable in fact, many tell us that our prices are best. All this makes us happy. GIVE US A CHANCE IS ALL WE ASK. If our merchandise and prices are not right, then we do not expect your business. Come to see us, tell us frankly what you think about these things. We will appreciate you speaking frankly—and to us.

**A SECRET**

—when we purchased this well known store, well, it was a new adventure for us. Our minds were not quite made up—just what, oh well—Any way we made up our minds, rolled up our sleeves and went to it. We set our pegs pretty high perhaps, but we got lots of encouragement from our good folks around here, who wanted this high class individual store to go on.

—well we decided to make our sales reach a HUNDRED THOUSAND by January, and they are going so good we have decided not to keep all this a secret any longer, but to just spill the beans. We want you to know that we are pleased with this new adventure, and that we appreciate the fine support our good folks are giving us. If sales keep up we'll reach the hundred thousand all right that is since we opened up in August.

**TO DO IT**

—we have stocked this store, every department with the right merchandise at the right price, and we cordially invite one and all, come to our store, view the wonderful displays of merchandise and compare prices. WE HAVE IT. WE ARE DOING IT. COME AND SEE. You'll make us happy and you will be happy, so come often—

We thank you, THE PARAGON DEPARTMENT STORE

Shelby, N. C.

**THANKSGIVING WEEK SPECIALS**

Our entire stock of Table Damask, Linen and Mercerized, bought on the low market including Napkins to match for this week only, 10 Per Cent Off For Cash.

**40 INCH SHEETING 10c**

A wonderful buy of heavy weight 40 inch Sheeting or Factory Cloth, so desirable for Sheets, Pillow Cases and domestic use. A 15c value. In order that all my customers may share in this special we are forced to limit this item to 20 yards to customer. Special for this week

**BLANKETS \$1.39**

A real large beautiful plaid cotton Blanket, single assorted patterns, made of the best cotton, just a real pick up for this week. They went last long. SPECIAL

**"The Home Of Star Brand Shoes"**

The largest stock of Star Brand All Leather Shoes in this entire section. This is why we can fit and Shoe the whole family.

**Comforts and Comforts**  
Cold weather and comforts go hand in hand and we have a real special of pure white corded cotton, assorted colors. Sizes 72x84, Extra large, Special

Trade at Wray's and get the Girl a BIG DOLL for Christmas.

**A. V. WRAY & SIX SONS**

"SHELBY'S BUSIEST STORE" PRICES DID IT

**DOLLS! DOLLS!**

600 (SIX HUNDRED) MORE DOLLS TO GIVE AWAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS—So trade at WRAY'S and save your TICKETS and you will have a BIG DOLL for the little girl ABSOLUTELY FREE if you trade at WRAY'S and save your CASH REGISTER TICKETS.

**Cotton Flannel 15c & 20c**  
3 cases of Bleached and unbleached Fepperell grade cotton flannel for underwear. Values cheap at 25 and 35c. Our Thanksgiving Week price—

**15c and 20c**

**BOY'S CLOTHING**

Two big shipments Boy's Snappy Suits with two pairs of pants. Extra Values—

**\$6.50 \$6.95 \$7.95 \$8.95**

**Christmas Special \$5.00**

Beautiful Comforts of pure corded cotton and wool filled. Borders of pure satin and centers of floral satin patterns—a \$6.95 value, bought at clean up price to run special

**Al Smith May Well Serve Country In Arousing The Dying Interest Of American People In Self-Government**

(By RENN DRUM.)

Al Smith, the stormy petrel of American political environment—an environment that is fast losing the glamour and attraction of other days—may, despite the dissension he brings, well serve his country.

An odd statement that, but the colorful Smith with his religion, wetness, and principles, is awakening a new interest in politics and government America over. That interest is needed, for with general prosperity and the machine-like system of various political organizations the average citizen gives less attention to his political duties and his right to have a hand in his government these days than he does to his radio aerial.

For several years now, as is marked in this section, Mr. Average Man cares just about as much who is elected to Congress, or other offices, as he does as to who is vice president of Barney Google's order of billygoats. That lack of interest in the government, he cusses at periods and ignores at others, may eventually prove to be the downfall of the world's "example nation" of self-government—which is anything else but these days.

There may be those who will say that Al Smith will not bring anything worthwhile into the political world by his proposed candidacy. That, instead, he will only arouse animosity, bigotry and hate bred of narrow-mindedness. Such may be true. Al Smith may arouse a little bit of everything, but out of the jumble and jargon of the wrangle may come renewed interest in government and the making of the government. Smith may or may not be a candidate, and may or may not be elected. Likewise he may be a wolf in sheep's clothing, or one of the greatest public leaders in the country. Smith's ability, or lack of ability, and his prospects are not being talked. This view is merely an advanced claim that the New York man may prove of real worth to his country by arousing something that is now in its doldrums. And if you do not believe Smith can arouse interest, pro and con, just cup a hand to the ear and hark about you. Men who can not name three North Carolina congressmen can tell you every fault in the Smith make-up, while others, who could not, to save their neck, name two members of the cabinet, can point out every touch of greatness in the popular New Yorker.

As the Norfolk Virginia-Pilot pointed out recently it is almost an impossible task to arouse the interest of the people in any section to the importance of voting and

having a say in the men who represent them. Year after year in this county, this state, and all over the nation the number of voters are decreasing while the population increases. "A government of the people, for the people and by the people." Pooh! More people have talked the harmful effects, of the beneficial effects, Smith will have on the nation if elected than he has in the past six years. Maybe this man, who we seem to hate so fervently down South, can make it such a government as Lincoln visualized whether he is elected or not.

Yes, the wagering odds are two to one that there will be fist fights galore, street squabbles, and rows of all types if Smith really gets in the running. But, hark back a bit. How long has it been since you've seen that much interest among a people supposed to take a hand on election day in governing themselves?

Chalk off the state situation seven years ago when things waxed warm in the Morrison-Gardner contest—an affair of one party only—and the McCall-Hoey congressional race and it has been many colorless years since there was political interest to speak of in a state that once had its Vance-Settle settes and some of the most gloriously amusing and colorful elections ever known.

Many reasons might be assigned for the lack of interest by the people in elections these days. Some will tell you that voters, or should-be voters, have far more intelligence nowadays than in the past and that having such they realize that in the long run it matters little how they vote, or whether they vote. This impression has the general idea that the political machines will have it their way regardless and it does not make much difference from an economical standpoint which way it goes. Good reasoning, perhaps in a way, and although we see fearful visions of ruin and revolution at election time if the other candidate should be elected this ruin seldom comes along and events transpire about as they would had the defeated candidate been elected. Yet things have come to poor pass when the people drop into a lethargy from which they can scarcely be awakened at a time when their vote would have some effect on conditions. Have you noticed how elections work in recent years? Instead of the old fist-fight days, which are so abhorred by the politicians, when the people rolled in of their own accord to vote and were mighty particular how they voted, it is now necessary that the candidates and their paid hirelings employ taxicabs and other free methods of coaxing the public out to vote. Load after load of "just so many votes"

are piled in taxis, dashed to the polls, and voted with not more than 40 per cent knowing what they voted for, and then rushed back to their labors and other interests. In the old days such methods were not necessary. The people may have been dumber then but they at least took an interest in the principles advocated by the men they voted for instead of piling blindly into a taxi and voting for the favorite of the man who paid the taxi fare. No matter how it comes about, can you fail to agree in the belief that Al Smith if he does nothing else may awake an apparently dead political situation?

Mark it down for future reference that if Al Smith is a candidate scores of people right in this section who haven't taken time off to vote in years, unless sufficiently urged by a candidate, will swarm to the polls of their own accord—some with the deadly intent of blotting this "wet Catholic" off the map, and the others with the view of backing "the only Democrat who can win." (Note both quotations.) The Al Smith magic, anti or pro, will bring far more voters out than every hired taxi in recent years. Isn't it worth something to get back even a little of that fleeting interest that was? Will not Smith have served some purpose after all?

Get the old-timers about Shelby to relate the "red shirt" days when Senator Overman was not so feeble as some would-be-senators would have him now. Particularly the day when Overman spoke in the old tabernacle, stripped off his coat, his vest, his collar his eight-inch stiff cuffs, and kept the stage moist as he spoke heatedly for several hours to a gathering that filled the tabernacle in every proverbial nook and corner. Compare that scene with a political speaking of the present day. At the last election neither Democrat nor Republican could fill half of the court house gallery. Neither speaker took any considerable trouble to berate the other party and both affairs were extremely tame as compared to "the good old days." In fact, the audience at a modern

political speaking resembles a general siesta and for the most part is made up of old-timers who are living in the past and just by habit wander to a political speaking hoping to see an outbreak of fireworks that might remind them of their younger days.

After a Republican candidate for the United States Senate spoke here in the last election so-called "good Democrats" walked up and grasped his hand. He hadn't said a thing about their party which would come near hurting their feelings or arousing their animosity. Now suppose some politician would come here next year and make a speech for or against Al Smith, can you imagine those on the other side going up to pat his back and fondle a hand calloused with vote-catching hand pumping? Not hardly.

There will be those who will say that the view is nothing more than that of a news hound, as such an election, or primary, would furnish good newspaper copy. It surely would, reams of reading that would never be tossed aside, and with a scrap likely over every paragraph. What a newspaper period it will be, but every newspaper office, especially where there is a heated difference over Smith, should along with primary time employ some 15 fictitious writers upon whom could be laid the blame for every disagreeable article—and it will be hard to write anything about Smith—al ready is, for that matter—which will not draw the ire of some one. But what an exciting time that would be!

Only time will tell how Al Smith will go down in history, but he should rank as a greater tonic for American politics than the advertisements say Herb Juice is for human frailties. And that with neither love nor enmity for the prodigy of the East Side.

New York World figures that it would take 15,000,000 prohibition agents to enforce the Volstead Law in the United States. The World is optimistic. It should have made it "non-corruptible prohibition agents."—Florida Times-Union.

**A NATION-WIDE INSTITUTION**  
**J.C. PENNEY CO.**  
"where savings are greatest."

**Men's Beacon Bath Robes**  
Nothing could be more acceptable for a man's gift than one of these warm Beacon Blanket Robes. Cut full and well shaped; big pockets, large shawl collar, silk cord. Big values at—  
**\$4.98 to \$8.90**

**Give Underwear To Any Miss**  
The feminine heart thrills to a gift of lingerie every time! Rayon garments are irresistible.  
**98c to \$2.98**  
Tailored styles—and frilly lace-trimmed and appliqued garments. Our prices are moderate, too.

**Men's Shirts For Christmas**  
Stripes, novelties, checks—exclusive patterns, confined to our Stores—light and dark grounds; finest quality thread. Buy your Christmas shirts now—buy them economically here at,  
**\$1.98**

**'Get Acquainted' Set of Our Own Jaciel Toiletries**  
A handy set to familiarize our friends with a new line of fine toilet preparations. A regular size box of powder and a jar of cold and vanishing cream.  
**98c**

**Imported Flannel Scarfs for Boys**  
Of imported all-wool French flannel. Big, cheerful checks, stripes and plaids in gay colors; fringed.  
Every boy likes a muffler for Christmas. One of our most exceptional values is priced at—  
**98c**

**Powder Puffs With Ribbon Trim**  
Fancy puffs; ribbon trimmings in two-tone effects.  
**49c**

**Mechanical Toys That Cost Very Little**  
Even the smallest boy likes toys with action—you will find many here to delight him.  
**49c**

**This Leather Bill Fold**  
Three-fold bill fold in black or tan ostrich grain leather. Very low priced at  
**49c**  
Others 49c to \$1.49



The year 'round popularity of "Standard" Gasoline is strong evidence of its year 'round superiority.

**"STANDARD" GASOLINE**



**Cotton high - Soda low!**

HAVE you bought your Nitrate of Soda? Now is the time to do it. Last season many farmers waited too long...then were unable to get it and had to use other things. "Once is enough," they say. This year they're making sure of their Soda by ordering now.

Chilean Nitrate of Soda is the only nitrogen that meets every cotton requirement. It sets a fine crop ahead of weevils and makes good in spite of fleas, flood or drought. It has no acid effect on your soil. It won't burn your hands or your clothes. There is no substitute for it...and farmers who realize this are farmers who make money.

Now, with cotton high and Soda low, you are in a fine position. Don't take any chances. Put in your order and be on the safe side, while the price of Nitrate of Soda is so favorable.

**It's Soda—Not Luck!**

Almost every cotton champion in '25 and '26 used Nitrate of Soda. Do you think that just happened? Think of the best crops in your section this year. Does it just happen that they were Soda crops? Check back on field demonstrations. Does it just happen that Nitrate of Soda always shows up best?

Everywhere it's the same story—it is Soda, not luck—that makes profitable crops. That is why we urge you to buy now.

"We use and have used Nitrate of Soda for years with results on cotton of 85 bales on 75 acres in 1925 and 100 bales on 100 acres in 1926."  
L. D. MOSELEY  
Edgewood Farm, Kinston, N. C.

**Chilean Nitrate of Soda**

EDUCATIONAL BUREAU  
Dept. 68-A, Professional Bldg., Raleigh, N. C.

FREE—Write for 24-page illustrated book, "Low Cost Cotton." Tells how to make money on cotton in 1928. Request Book No. 2.



The Chilean Nitrate of Soda is a natural product of the Atacama Desert, Chile. It is a pure, white, crystalline substance, free from all impurities. Write for book and any special information desired.

**Star Want Ads Always Pay**