

Around Our Town

— Shelby Sidelights —

With Renn Drum

IN OUR FAVORITE TRI-weekly we see an item saying that business men in New York and elsewhere have endorsed the proposed 13-months year. Can't say that we blame the business men, but what about us poor fellows their bill collectors call on 12 times each year now? Just have to dodge away one more day of our life each year, apparently.

ONE THING ABOUT IT, the fellow who draws his pay by the month should benefit, but not likely.

And another thing: think of the poor tough luck babies who may be born in superstitious homes during the 13th month of the year.

Perhaps, however, they'll tack the new month on at the end of December so that most of us will have a chance to get some of the Christmas bills paid in order to start the new year about half-way even on January 1.

WHAT ALL THAT HAS TO DO with Shelby is not clear, but to localize it, one should remember that it will not be long until scores of people will be walking from store to store in Shelby asking for calendars.

Incidentally, we're assured that a new year may be here before long—the Blum's almanacs have arrived at Ebeltoff's.

A STAR NEWS NOTE MENTIONS the fact that Judge John Mull is having light dockets in his court just before Christmas due to his observation that there is always a calm before the storm—and as we recall it will be Judge Kennedy who will have to weather the after-Christmas court rush. There's where Judge Mull gets at least one break.

THIS DEPARTMENT WILL greatly miss the Gilmer's Store, for one thing because Archie Galloway, the store's demon "ad" man, has always tipped us off to more mis-pelled signs in Shelby than any other person.

MRS. IRMA WALLACE, AS SHE

related in The Star Friday, was stumped when some one asked her to suggest menus for Christmas dinners which would be healthful. Her reply was that it couldn't be done. Perhaps she is right as no one could hardly say that a big Christmas dinner is healthy to the eater, but our idea is that quite a number of healthy (meaning robust, well-proportioned) Christmas dinners will be disposed of tomorrow in Shelby and Cleveland county.

And the doctors having about all they can do to cope with the "flu" without bothering with indigestion.

TELEGRAPH COMPANIES IN urging prospective patrons to send their various greetings by telegraph usually get out a form message which many people sign and send, thus saving time. One of these forms no doubt caused Howard S. Benedict to suggest the following form in F. P. A.'s New York World column:

IN YOUR TRIUMPH ACCEPT MY THANKSGIVING DAY GREETINGS FOR YOUR NEWBORN SON WHO GRADUATES FROM COLLEGE ON MOTHERS DAY MAY YOUR EASTER BE FULL OF CHRISTMAS JOY AS YOUR WEDDING ANNIVERSARY BEGINS ANOTHER NEW YEAR WITH NEWS OF YOUR ELECTION PLEASE RESERVE DOUBLE ROOM WITH BATH AND BE MY VALENTINE

INCIDENTALLY, WE HOPE Santa Claus will be kind to Al Smith. And while he's about it he might pack a few Stetsons in his kit for Al's supporters who still cling to their brown head-gear.

AND SINCE ALL GOOD LITTLE boys who expect Santa Claus to visit them must go to bed early, we'll stop right here and toddle along after wishing all those who read these jumbled lines throughout the year A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A JOLLY EGG-NOG RECIPE.

Copeland's Health Talk

BY ROYAL S. COPELAND, M. D.

(United States Senator and Former Health Commissioner of New York.)

Tomorrow is Christmas. It is the day of all days, because it commemorates the birth of the Christ Child.

We can rejoice on Christmas Day and every day that the accident of birth means little in the final outcome of our lives. The memory of manger casts no shadow over the career of Jesus.

He waxed strong in body, took His place in the primitive society of His day, and worked as a carpenter. From that lowly position Jesus Christ has come to be recognized as its Savior by fully half the world.

In seeking to fathom the future of the newborn babe, the accident of birth may be disregarded. The early surroundings of the child do not determine his career, provided he has a strong body, a good mind and goodness of soul. The child may be born in a palace and die in a hovel. He may be born in a manger and arrive at a throne.

Just as the Christ Child was unhampered by the conditions of humble birth, so any child may wax strong, as Jesus did. No matter how poor may be the home in which he is born, it cannot begin to be as humble as the place where Jesus saw the light of day.

In North America it is made possible for every parent to give his child the proper beginning. To give the child a healthy body is greater than great riches. No matter how lacking the home may be in things making for physical ease and comfort, it can be the abiding place of perfect health.

In the spirit of the Child Jesus communities have established health centers, hospitals and clinics. Baby health stations supply pure milk, medical advice and nursing care. In many states, counties provide district nursing. The states and provinces send out sanitary trains and disseminate health knowledge. Newspapers and magazines supply readers with medical advice. Every school teaches physiology and hygiene. High schools, colleges, and the churches regard their gymnasiums and out-of-door contests as essential features of their work.

No one can read the Bible without being impressed by the idea that the body is the temple of God. Each of us dwells in a holy place. Fortunate indeed is that family where father and mother in their devotion to child life teach the solemn obligation that God's temple must not be defiled.

On this Christmas Day, the birthday of the Christ Child, let every parent in the world take a solemn vow that the children in that home shall be given every opportunity for health. Let every child in all the world dedicate himself to habits which make for good health and long life. Let every person determine upon a conduct of life that shall guarantee to posterity a heritage of good health.

Many of the preachers today will speak of the influence of Jesus

Christ upon the spiritual life of the world. Let us not forget that the physical vigor of the Master did much to make possible His divine mission.

Among the good gifts we give our children today, or contemplate giving in the future, let us prize above all others the gift of good health.

SPECIALISTS GET THE HONOR AND THE MONEY

(Dr. A. F. Van Bibber, in North American Review.)

"Is it any wonder that country doctors are no longer being recruited?"

"Enough men (and women) are being graduated today, probably, to keep the ranks of the specialties filled. The honor to be gained in the profession is to be gained by the specialists, and beyond all doubt the money to be gained all goes to them! The more they specialize the greater the reward. The profession has not been slow to notice this law, and the results grow ever more astonishing. One can sympathize with the lady who asked a doctor who was being introduced, where he practiced? 'I am a naval surgeon, madam,' he replied. 'How you doctors do specialize now-a-days!' was her un-natural exclamation."

NEWSPAPER TALKS MULL'S PREDICTION

Rocky Mt. Paper Discusses Shelby Man's View Of Long Term School.

Considerable significance must necessarily be attached to the recent statement of Odus M. Mull at Shelby that there appears to be little chance for passage of the eight months school legislation at the approaching session of the North Carolina general assembly.

Of course, the statement of itself is significant and of vital interest to North Carolinians, but its greatest claim to significance rests in the person who uttered it. Mr. Mull, it will be recalled, is a fellow townsman and intimate friend of Governor-elect O. Max Gardner. More than that, he is chairman of the Democratic executive committee in North Carolina, and any statement which comes from him must be interpreted as voicing to some extent the party's views and policies.

To cap the climax, Mr. Mull has been picked by political writers and observers as the administration spokesman for the approaching session of the general assembly, believing that he will champion the measures which the governor approves and lead the fight against those which meet with the administration's disapproval.

The official position of Mr. Mull, his connection with the Democratic party machinery and his chances for acting as administration spokesman combine therefore to make his statement that the eight months school term is not likely to come just now fall with telling effect upon the ears, minds and hearts of North Carolinians, especially those who are most interested in the cause of education, who realize that the public schools offer the future citizenship and who hope and pray that the educational progress of

the state may in no way be retarded.

One wonders, after reading Mr. Mull's statement, if he is speaking merely his personal views, if he gives what may be interpreted as the belief of Democratic leaders or, what amounts to virtually the same thing, if he is filling even now the office of spokesman for the next state administration.

Be that as it may, the fellow townsman of the next governor is quoted as expressing the belief that the present educational burden is too heavy for many of the counties, that the state will likely give greater aid toward the six months term but that the eight months term is unlikely to come now. Mr. Mull may be right, and then again this may be a political move to cater to some of the counties which are grumbling. Our opinion is that so long as any burden whatever is imposed, there will be grumbling from some source. None of the counties appears to have broken under the weight of educational costs. If the state is

to provide additional funds, those funds can go to no better purpose than to provide more months of school for North Carolina children rather than to quiet a few counties which may be squalling now.

Which will pay greater returns, we ask, better educational opportunities for North Carolina children or a few cents shaved off county tax rates? Certainly one cannot claim a penny saved when it is saved at cost of less adequate and unequal educational advantages.

Our hope is that in this particular instance Mr. Mull is wrong.

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PLANE REFUELS WHILE 2,500 FEET UP IN AIR
Dallas, Texas, Dec. 20.—Two hundred gallons of gasoline were transferred to the army tri-motored Kokker plane Douglas O— 2,500 feet above Dallas today and the transport with the Douglas O—

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