

# The Cleveland Star

SHELBY, N. C.

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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.

WEDNESDAY, APR. 10, 1929

### TWINKLES

By the papers we see that Lindbergh recently tried his hand, or his swing, at golf and in the attempt he swung four times before hitting the ball. The dispatch failed to say just what Lindbergh said after fanning the air, but we've always believed the boy to be human.

### POLITICS AND POLICE

AUGUST VOLLMER, an expert on such things, was called to Kansas City to make an investigation of the police force and find just what was wrong with the city's bluecoat organization. To make it brief, Vollmer found that the Kansas City force was not up to par because of political interference, or so it is related by The Asheville Citizen, which added that that paper had so maintained for a long time.

It perhaps didn't take an expert to determine what was wrong in Kansas City, for it is apparently discernible to every one in Kansas City and elsewhere that political interference is responsible for the increase of crime throughout the country, but the expert is to be congratulated upon his report which has set the public to talking.

Here there and everywhere we hear repeated demands from the general public for more strict enforcement of the law. But does the public really want that which it asks? At times, pessimistic occasions, we presume, we are inclined to doubt it. Take Shelby as an example. Some time back an officer of the Shelby police force was elevated to the rank of chief and in recent weeks the new chief has headed one liquor raid after another. Already now that he has been active one hears rumbles in certain sections of the town that threaten political disfavor to city officials for the elevating of the new chief, or for his retention as chief. Why? Well, the new chief is closing down too strenuously on law violation. This paper doesn't think that such will happen in Shelby and does not insinuate that action of the type will follow the elect of whoever may be the victorious candidate or candidates in the approaching municipal election, and it is to be hoped that the time will never come when a police officer, or any other officer of the law, is turned adrift in Shelby by higher powers because that particular officer does his duty in enforcing the law rather than "play up" to any class of law violators for the sake of political votes.

Such action, as the expert in the Kansas City investigation says, is the underlying trouble with police forces and law enforcement in America today. Too many officers are turned adrift, or, rather, not employed at all, because they do their best to enforce the law instead of going about back-patting to obtain votes and supporters for higher-ups who see that they get jobs. Policemen, or other officers of the law, who are excellent vote-getters are seldom good officers. They may be popular in a manner of speaking, but not such officers as they should be. And therein the trouble burrows deeper: If the back-patting officers, who keeps one and all in good humor with him, is so popular while the real officer has many digs and thrusts come his way, could it not be that the trouble is with the people who clamor for, but often do not really want the law enforced?

Anent the vote-getting officers, The Asheville Citizen says:

"Under such conditions, why does anybody wonder that so many criminals take to the tall timbers of safety and go about their queer amusements unmolested and unhandcuffed? The wonder is that anybody is so dumb as to wonder about it at all. If dentists were awarded their licenses on the basis of their vote-getting records, the populace would be going about with many aching teeth in their heads."

### STEP UP, GENTLEMEN

IN SHELBY, beginning May 6, there will be openings for five good business men, who are interested in the welfare of their city and community. Which is to say that the city next month will be faced with the problem of electing an entirely new school board.

School affairs in Shelby, even when you view them through optimistic eyes, are in a bad way. In less than a month, unless something unforeseen turns up, the Shelby schools will close, and close a month earlier than the average town or city high school in North Carolina. If several banks had failed in Shelby, if industry was at a standstill, or if the boll weevil or some other pest had played havoc with our major agricultural crop, it might be that we could explain to curious outsiders just why the youngsters of Shelby are this year, and perhaps other years to come, to lag behind other children of North Carolina in educational advantages and opportunities. But such is not the case in Shelby. Scores of new homes are going up, the business section is growing steadily, manufacturing plants with big payrolls are operating full time, and round about Shelby are the farmers who produced the biggest cotton crop in North Carolina and are picking up considerable extra money with their poultry, eggs, butter, cream, etc. If the title "Prosperity" could be written over any community in the South, it seems as if such might be inscribed above this city on the financial map. Regardless of which the city schools are to operate this year only eight months, just a month less than what the average town and city high school operates

each year.

But to get back to the original thought—Monday four members of the city school board announced through this newspaper that they would not be candidates for the school board again. Several days prior to their announcement a similar announcement was made by the chairman of the board.

Five important posts to fill, posts which mean much to the future of Shelby and to the more than 3,000 youngsters now enrolled in the city schools.

With no idea of wise-cracking, for the situation has become too serious for such as that, it is recalled that back during the special school tax election period there were numerous citizens in Shelby who could tell you just what was wrong with the city school system, and also just how it should be operated, and how they would operate it. Now is a good time for them to come to the aid of their town, if they meant what they said and knew what they were talking about. Destructive criticism is worth about as much to a community as a night bug is to his family by butting into the windshield of a passing automobile.

As far as this paper is concerned, and many citizens of Shelby, we believe, concur in the opinion, the school board which will not stand for reelection was made up of some of the most honest, most loyal, and most economical business men in Shelby. They merely feel that circumstances being as they are that they should get back and let others take a hand at the wheel. In passing The Star would take occasion to thank them for itself and also for the community. The man who has never held such an office never realizes just what it entails—attending meetings, working out budget figures, trying to keep expenses down and at the same time attempting to give Shelby children decent educational advantages, and for it all, just as it is with other public offices, little reward but criticism. The members of the school board receive no remuneration for their services or for the time they take away from their own business.

Somewhere about Shelby we sincerely hope that there are five men loyal and patriotic enough to fill the empty berths. Let them be economical and prudent, let them save the taxpayer every cent they possibly can; but let them be men who are mindful of the future, men who realize that the greatest thing the generation now in power can hand on to posterity will be educated young boys and girls properly prepared for the life ahead of them. Critics and friends of the Shelby school system should strive to interest such men in offering for the board, for regardless of the differences among us on school questions it must be apparent to all that things cannot go on as they are now.

Prosperous Shelby cannot afford to stand on the corner with a blind man's cup and ask those who pass to contribute, for the sake of charity, to the education of our children.

## "Ghosts" Stalk At Midday To Demand Freedom For Ireland

Dublin—"The ghosts" have come to life in Ireland. They are stalking the highways and the moors. Warnings appear mysteriously in cities and villages. Pistols spit fire in the night.

Officially the "ghosts" are branded as malcontents. To many thousands of Irishmen, they are, however, super-patriots, the militant section of the pro-republican party, whose aim is the complete freedom of Erin. But the republican party, whose chief is Eamon de Valera, has absolutely disowned the "ghosts."

**Blackmail Charged.** The government of Ireland declares that the "ghosts" are living on blackmail and extortion. Individuals call at lonely farm houses or gentlemen's residences and demand contributions. It is further known that the "ghosts" are des-

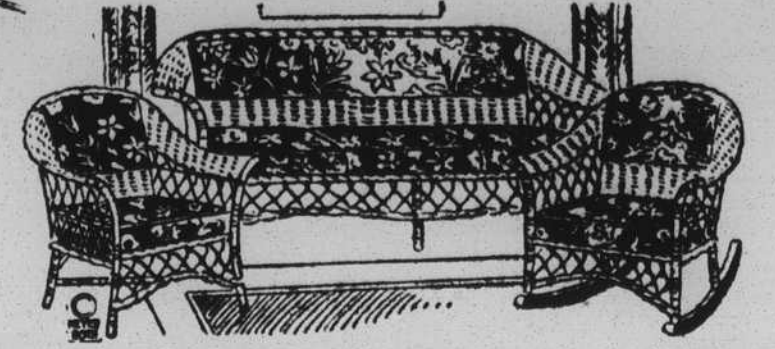
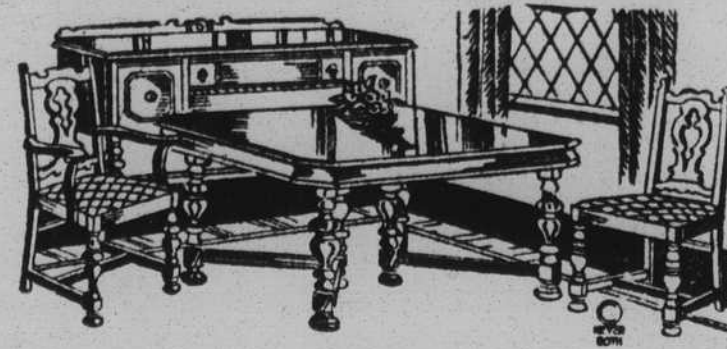
perate men, who have an army of drilled and expert shots under their command.

They are also greatly aided in their secret terrorist activities by the Irishman's inborn loathing for anything approaching "informing." That is the reason why several murders were recently committed in Ireland in broad daylight, in full view of scores of spectators, and no one has come forward to denounce the perpetrators of the crimes to the authorities.

So alarmed have the Free State police become over the depredations of the "ghosts" that the matter is to be discussed in parliament. The entire city of Dublin and other towns in the interior of Ireland are in a complete state of demoralization. General distrust prevails and uncertainty of life is paralyzing commerce and agriculture.



MISS BETTIE EDWARDS HOLLOWAY  
Popular leading lady with Milt Tolbert Players, appearing in Shelby week of April 15th. One lady free with each paid adult ticket on Monday night.



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