

The Cleveland Star

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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.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 28, 1929

TWINKLES

Higher education to the majority of boys is snagging forward passes on their college football eleven.

"Spanking Breeze Aids Zeppelin," informs a headline. No, the big craft is just being paddled along?

Robert Quillen wants to know why they have life-savers at a beach. Our idea is that they have them there to attract the girls who attract the boys and the older boys.

Some of the critics declared that Cleveland county's 15-cent tax cut was only paper talk, but now it is an actuality, and some folks are just so built that they will seek something new to criticize instead of expressing pleasure at lower taxes.

The young man who is going to marry Ruth Elder, or is engaged to her, is referred to by the newspapers as "Walter Camp's son." Now, if he marries Ruth Elder, past experience indicates that the only recognition he will ever get will be as "Ruth Elder's husband." Poor cuss never to have an identity of his own.

The American Legion convention is on in Raleigh and the News and Observer in welcoming the ex-service men says "Raleigh is yours. If you do not see what you want, ask for it." And it may be that some of the boys will ask the Old Reliable editor to point out one of those autos at which a fellow crooks his finger and immediately gets a short pint, or whatever quantity he desires. That was the method, as we remember the News and Observer description, by which Raleigh, that part so inclined, secured its kicking beverage some time back.

AN AMAZING TALE

THE CURRENT North American Review prints an interview with the well-known Al Capone, in which Chicago's alleged vice king is quoted as saying that he and his gang leaders have been spending no less than \$30,000,000 a year in Chicago to bribe legal authorities and political higher-ups.

In his Pennsylvania prison cell Capone has denied the authenticity of the interview—a not entirely surprising move, often indulged in by more reputable public characters.

If the interview, however, was authentic, it is one of the most amazing things in recent history. If one gang, in one city, uses \$30,000,000 each year for bribery, corruption and misrule in this county crime must be infinitely more prevalent than we had dared imagine.

MONAZITE TALKED AGAIN

A LONG COMES the state geologist with the opinion, differing with that of the university professor, that monazite deposits in the Carolinas are larger than any others in America and might be profitably mined with the proper tariff and assurance that a market could be found. The latest information, we believe, developing from Congressman Jonas' investigation into the monazite industry was that very little monazite from anywhere is being made into monazite products. Such being the case it is somewhat like being all dressed-up with nowhere to go. Plenty of monazite which would sell for a good price, provided a buyer could be found. Yet there may come a demand again some day for monazite and with that optimistic outlook in mind it is at least pleasing to know that we have it, much of it, hereabouts.

A MEMORIAL TO GORGAS

THERE ARE MEMORIALS and memorials. Some men get statues with their names carved on them—and those are fine memorials. But other men, who don't get statues, sometimes get something better; living institutions that stand as ever-present testimonials to their wisdom, heroism and knowledge.

That thought is provoked by an article in the current issue of the Red Cross Courier discussing the late William Crawford Gorgas, the famous army surgeon and health expert. It points out that Gorgas will never lack for a monument as long as the Panama Canal continues in operation. And, when you stop to think about it, what finer memorial could a man want?

What Gorgas did is worth reviewing. Too often we give fame and wealth to men whose services are highly insubstantial. Gorgas was a genuine benefactor of the race, and his work should be familiar to everyone.

Spanish-American war, during which he served in the medical corps, Gorgas was sent to Havana as a health officer. By 1902 his studies of yellow fever had practically rid the Cuban islands of the pest. His work was so spectacular that in 1904, sent to the Panama Canal

to protect the French from completing the canal, he insisted that at least 4 per cent of the canal be owned annually. Considered one of the great men of the world, Uncle Sam mobilized his forces to protect his death list of around

1400. So Gorgas, who had discovered at Havana that yellow fever is carried by the mosquito, got busy.

So well and so thoroughly did he work that a scant year after his arrival Gorgas was offering \$50 to any person not a member of the health department notifying him of a case of yellow fever in the canal zone. And there is no record that that offer was ever claimed. Gorgas' triumph was complete.

So the canal was built; and it stands today as a great monument to the medical genius who made it possible. It ensures his fame forever.

ABOUT SCHOOL TEACHERS

THE RURAL school child in North Carolina does not have equal educational advantages with the city school child because the latter, the Charlotte News points out, has better prepared teachers. In setting for this view The News says: "In terms of scholastic preparation for their work, teachers in the public schools of North Carolina have spent on an average of 2.3 years in college.

"The average training of the rural white teachers is 1.94 years in college, whereas city white teachers have an average training of 3.35 years in college. In other words, there is nearly a year and a half difference between the teachers of rural and city schools.

"The results of this study show that these better trained teachers receive on an average the better salaries. As a consequence, the per capita cost is greater in city systems.

"Currituck county leads the rural system in having the highest average salaries. Currituck county pays the highest average salaries. Naturally, the cost in Currituck county is among the highest in the state.

"This same statement might be said of Asheville as it relates to the largest city systems.

"This shows with fresh emphasis the disadvantage suffered by the rural school child of North Carolina. It is entitled to the same grade of teaching as the urban child, of course, but it is evidently lacking a lot when it comes to getting it."

NOBODY'S BUSINESS

GEE McGEE—

(Exclusive in The Star in this Section.)



Uncle Sam wants John Bull to destroy 54 cruisers already afloat so's he can stop building a like number to even up the 5-5-3 ratio. Now why wouldn't it be more sensible for Uncle Sam to buy some of John Bull's ships and thus equalize the holdings that are essential to the maintenance of the Kellogg Peace Treaty?

This is a day of bare heads and bare legs and bare backs and sunburns and cigarettes and salad dressings and card parties and divorces and gangsters and racketeers and mergers and combines and paints and powders and puffs and such like, but with all of these distractions and diversions, I don't suppose the world is much worse off morally than it was before the advent of modernism.

But what gets my goat is Uncle Joe's Sammie. He went up north to some kind of training school last summer and he came back home with a head crammed full of the kind of sense that ain't sense at all. He found out while away that there isn't any God and it's all a joke about a hell or a hereafter and the Bible is a book of myths and he and all the rest of mankind evolved from the monkey and he likes to laugh at religion. If I were called on to hold an autopsy over his remains, I'd look for his brains in the neighborhood of his gall bladder, and I realize now that I would have to send to the Lick Observatory for their big spy-glass to find the speck of grey-matter that his carcass might contain. Sammie is related to me, but I don't want the monkeys to find it out.

A Bermuda naturalist has discovered that radium is a most wonderful fish bait. He knows. He tried it and caught something. Now, boys, you can get a nice little piece of radium the size of the eye-ball of a fish worm for exactly \$76,564.88 in cold cash, and by assuring yourself that Mr. Fish don't grab your radium and run off with it, it is possible that you might catch as much as 5 or 10 pounds of mullets and horney heads and other members of the finny tribe. We are indeed thankful for this information. Mr. Naturalist.

The lucky dog was a poodle. The early bird was not a jay. The stitch in time was taken on a silk hose. The rainy day was the day after the funeral with no insurance. The apple a day was a horse apple. The wise old owl went blind. Let Henry Ford take care of your dollars and your dimes will take care of themselves at Woolworths. Beauty is now painted deep and knee high. All is not gold that glitters said the old woman when her old man tried to pass the buck. Good night.

Uncle Joe says he has a friend who lives in another state who knows how to make whiskey and how to sell whiskey and possibly how to drink whiskey. And from

EIGHT HUNDRED AT ELLIOTT REUNION

(Special to The Star.)

Recent mention was called in your column to a time-honored event of annual occurrence. Reference is of course made to Elliott reunion which is featured 14 miles northwest of Shelby, three miles from Polkville, and some twenty miles from every where else, except Charlotte and Gastonia, which places, as usual had representatives. The visitors were estimated at from 700 to 800, and were present and accounted for. Enough human provender was on a table 120 feet long to feed 1,000 of the famishing, and enough left over to feed 300.

The weather was ideal until 2 p. m. when a refreshing shower fell. This region was in toils of a drought of 20 days, which was relieved by a very refreshing shower on Friday afternoon, and its salutary effects re-enforced by the one of Saturday afternoon.

The only wind-jamming permitted on these pleasant occasions, are announcements to spread the dinner, and some ministers present to say grace over meal before taking and after taking. These short and reverential invocations were pronounced by Rev. John Hoyle and Rev. D. M. Lowman.

Representatives of the homecoming instinct were present from Shelby, Lattimore, Ellenboro, Rutherford and Forest City and Cliffside, with Gastonia and Charlotte and the states of Alabama, Georgia thrown in for the gaiety of nations.

Please permit me right here to make a candid statement. Some people are inclined to criticize anything a decent and intelligent white man does or says, and hence charge exaggeration in reports of attendance on these meetings. My claims are supported by others, and the critics are invariably from persons very economical with the truth.

Among celebrities present, may be mentioned Aunt Eliza Elliott, a former slave, aged 90; and for altitude, J. C. Elliott, aged 84 and towering 6 feet, 4 inches, Plato Elliott, registering 6 feet, 6 inches under-army standard—and Sam Elliott, of color, towering into the ether blue to an altitude of 6 feet 5 inches.

Of course the occasion would not have been complete without Capt. A. M. Lattimore, not so tall, but a comrade of Capt. J. C. Elliott in the fateful sixties and of practically same age.

MELVIN L. WHITE.

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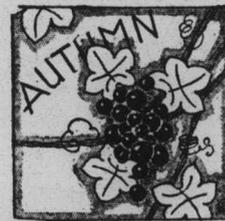
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