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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.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 1929.

TWINKLES

Another thought about Governor Gardner's revelation that there are no high school graduates in the State prison: Perhaps the boys with sheepskins are too slick to be captured and convicted.

One more week of play for Shelby children, one more week of turmoil for Shelby mothers, and one more week of rest for Shelby teachers—School opens Monday week.

Mark Twain lived before the day of the endurance tests, yet his theory was that the earth is used for an insane asylum by the other planets. He might have to improve on that statement were he living now?

FORD RIGHT OR WRONG ON PROHIBITION?

THE MAJORITY of us will agree, or will want to, with Henry Ford in his statement that it will never do for prohibition to be repealed in this country. Mr. Ford in his declaration stated that he would cease to manufacture cars if the days of the old saloon were to return, and, to his own mind, perhaps, clinched his view by adding that "prohibition is now 99 percent effective."

Extreme statements seldom tend to convert others to your beliefs, and extreme statements and stands by dry fanatics have retarded prohibition enforcement just as much as extreme views by anti-prohibitionists have kept back the "temperance-instead-of-prohibition" they clamor for. Mr. Ford, more or less extremist in his views, is meeting with considerable criticisms, some of it deserving, because to be a dry does not necessarily mean that one must close his eyes to the facts and make statements difficult to prove. If as Mr. Ford says, prohibition is 99 per cent effective now, then perfect prohibition will be a sorry spectacle. Mr. Ford surely realizes that he can be a dry, as the majority of the leading citizens are, without shutting his eyes to the fact that prohibition enforcement is nearer 99 per cent rotten than effective. How can he make such statements if he knows his own Detroit, where thousands of speakeasies serve alcoholic drinks, and where now and then, a few of Mr. Ford's hundreds of workers must get a nip or two? Yet Mr. Ford would close down rather than try to work men who drink?

Continuing his views, the auto manufacturer, of whom it has been said that he can better autos than statements, says in meaning that a man who takes a drink is no good. It naturally follows, if this holds true, that a drinking nation cannot be a progressive, clear-thinking people. Mr. Ford might be wrong in that statement, also, as a minister, Rev. G. A. Schmatz, points out in a letter to the editor of the New York World. Talking up Mr. Ford's statement that drinking men, individually or collectively cannot succeed, Rev. Mr. Schmatz says: "I might remark to Mr. Ford that the Germans with their Bremen, their Zeppelin, their Diesel engine, prove that highest efficiency obtains without our absurd prohibition." That is a hard one for Mr. Ford, who doesn't believe highest efficiency can be reached by a drinking man or a drinking people, to answer. Perhaps none of the Germans who built the Bremen, fastest of all ocean liners ever took a drink? Or perhaps the genius behind the Graf Zeppelin and Dr. Eckener, the man who handles the awe-inspiring air liner, never take a drink. Perhaps, yes.

On the other hand the extremists who oppose prohibition term every known crime of modern days as the progeny of prohibition. They err just as does Mr. Ford. Solutions to problems, especially such a major problem as prohibition, are not reached by make-believe. Mr. Ford doesn't pitch a mass of iron, steel, tin and cog-wheels into a hopper then shut his eyes upon what comes forth as he makes himself and the buying public believe it is the finest car built. He and his engineers face the facts; if a certain portion going in fails to do its part, then it doesn't go. There is too much of the make-believe on both sides of the prohibition question. One side makes itself believe that it is being successfully enforced, while the other side forces itself, beyond the realms of better judgment, to believe that there is no good whatsoever to be obtained from real prohibition or temperance. So long as such sentiment exists prohibition will be a putrid sore in American government and society.

REPORTING THE TRIAL OF STRIKERS FAIRLY

PRACTICALLY all of the larger Eastern papers have their staff writers in Charlotte to report the trial of the Gastonia strikers charged with murdering Police Chief Aderholt. The Star, long of the opinion that the New York World is unexcelled in giving unbiased news accounts, welcomed the knowledge that the World had a staff writer there in the person of John J. Leary, yet in one of Mr. Leary's early accounts of the hearing we find what to us seems to be between-the-line writing making the drawing of deductions easy for the reader.

In listing the counsel on both sides of the case, Mr. Leary's list of prosecutors has one described as follows: "Clyde R. Hoey, silver-tongued orator of the State and a brother-in-law of Governor O. Max Gardner, who is largely interested in mill properties." Perhaps it was necessary to

so describe the Shelby attorney, but it appears as if it will be easy for the World reader back East, already of the opinion that textile barons are persecuting mill workers, to draw the conclusion that Brother-in-Law Hoey is merely in the case to see that Brother-in-Law Gardner's mill properties are well protected. Perhaps it was unnecessary to say that he was employed by the State to assist Solicitor Carpenter because he is considered one of the leading barristers of the section; and no doubt it was of no news interest that Mr. Hoey has defended more mill workers, and other defendants at the bar of justice in North Carolina, than he has ever prosecuted. And, of course, it was needless to include in the description that Mr. Hoey, a man of some means himself, has very little, if any, stock in textile plants. As for Governor Gardner's mill properties, which must be worked into the prosecution of the strikers: Admittedly Mr. Gardner owns mill stock, the most of which is in a rayon and silk mill with one of the highest wage scales and best working conditions of any such plant, but it is a 4 to 1 wager that the majority of his wealth, of which he has quite a bit and earned it himself, is invested in other than mill properties. Fact is, it is this paper's opinion that a very small percentage of the Governor's wealth is tied up in the textile industry. It is peculiar that some of the most zealous about criticizing the State for injecting such useless information as belief or non-belief in God into the trial should themselves insert innuendos that the strikers are not being prosecuted by State-employed lawyers but by attorneys of the mill interests.

But so goes newspaper reporting at times, even in our most unbiased papers. It reminds us of the Rafe King case, more of local interest. A recent South Carolina visitor to Shelby, discussing the King case, said "Well, it's true, is it not, that his (King's) father is very wealthy?" Immediately we recalled the usual lead line of the news reports from the King trial, including those of the reliable and esteemed Associated Press: "Rafe King, scion of a wealthy Shelby family." Mr. King, the father, may be "moderately well off" (that's a North Carolina term for the New York writers to rub off) but there are many Shelby people more so, and here in Shelby he is not considered wealthy. Yet it is easy to get the state of mind brought on by "wealthy Shelby family" description, if you care to analyze the query of the South Carolinian noted above. When worthwhile evidence is brought in for a defendant who has been termed "wealthy" the average reader immediately decides for himself that it isn't true because it is only purchased evidence resulting from the defendant's wealth. Just how much, if any, influence the purported wealth of the King family had to do with his trial we dare not say, but we do believe that it caused the average reader, not cognizant of the actual facts, to discount in his or her mind actual evidence which was of a beneficial nature to the defendant now awaiting an appeal from a death sentence. Newspapers are too much inclined to add the word "wealthy" or "prominent" to the description of a defendant in court, and in thus making better color for the news item sentiment is created against the defendant, because the average man wants to see the wealthy person fare just as he (the average man) would before the bar of justice—something he seldom sees when actual wealth is on trial.

With Mr. Hoey being described in Mr. Leary's style it is easy to comprehend that readers back East, when, and if, Mr. Hoey makes his appeal the conclusion will be that his zeal and swaying oratory were only employed and worked up to keep labor organizers from getting Brother-in-Law Gardner's "mill properties" from slipping into the non-profit class.

NOBODY'S BUSINESS

GEE McGEE—

(Exclusive in The Star in this Section.)



The government's cotton crop estimate for the current year was just about what the speculators knew it would be. In fact, they had already found out how many bales the south would make: the private estimators had told them. You see, it's this way: The government gets a few opinions from Tom, Dick and Harry, but the private guessers do just the reverse: They get a few opinions from Harry, Dick and Tom, and thus come forth the so-called estimates.

The government evidently has some extremely good guessers on its payroll. Some time around the first of July, the boys assembled in meeting in Washington, D. C., and told the world that the United States would make just so many bushels of wheat, but a gluten rug began work on the golden harvest a few days later, and it forgot to rain in Idaho and those thunder clouds in Wyoming proved to be only a boomerang, so Uncle Sam's smart guys had to meet and do all their guessing over again. They reduced the estimate by something like 267,765,876 bushels. They put wheat down 32 cents a bushel in 3 weeks and turned around and put it up 66 cents a bushel in 3 weeks.

Now, folks, we have decided to put in a "private estimate" machine, and we will need help from friends all over the cotton belt. We will appreciate any information that a person might decide to submit regardless of whether he ever saw a stalk of cotton or ever wore an outing night shirt. We will assemble our information, and then "let it loose" to Wall Street

every few days. We feel sure the bears will pay us something if we are not too bullish. The following letters have already been received.

flat rock, s. C., Aug. 22, 1929.
Mr. gee mcgee, private gesser, anderson, s. C.
dear sir:—

the cotton craps is off '85 in this section. the boll weevil has bit off the squares and the sharpshooters has shot off the leaves and it ain't rained a drop since i was a little boy. it is so dry, around here that that old beak don't slobber none after he has just et up my patch of clover where my wife had hoped to get 3 bales, i and she won't make over 200 lbs. of seed cotton. please rite the farm bored to send us some monney or fashions at once, and foam me if you can give me a job ansoforth.

yores trulie,
Mike Clark, rfd.

Athens, Ga., Aug. 23, 1929.

Dear McGee:—
Crops going back fast account dry weather and will probably prove a great disappointment to Mr. Ford and Mr. Chevvyly. Corn is way off and gardens simply ain't. Government estimate at lease 2,450,000 too high.
Yours truly,
I. M. Ruim.

Whats Place?

New York.—Coastless men are forbidden to ride in the elevators of the Garment Tower, a skyscraper devoted to wholesalers of women's wear.

FORD ALL WRONG ON LIQUOR ISSUE, SAYS DR. BUTLER

Columbia President Declares Prohibition Greatest Friend The Liquor Traffic Has.

N. Y. World.

Henry Ford is all wrong on the prohibition stand, he has no real understanding of the problem and his views would really aid the liquor traffic, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia university and advocate of repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, says in an answer to Ford's ultimatum that he will quit making cars if rum returns. "If Henry Ford really wishes to diminish the evil effects of what he rather familiarly calls 'booze,' he ought to exert himself to get the Eighteenth Amendment repealed and to substitute for it a sound, an American, a moral and a Christian method of dealing with what is a vitally important social problem," Dr. Butler declares.

"Mr. Henry Ford," Dr. Butler says "appears to live in a land of dreams and to be wholly oblivious to the realities which surround us. He does not seem to have grasped the fact that the question of prohibition has little or nothing to do with liquor or the liquor traffic, but that it is a question of government, of social order, or public morals and of common sense.

"The Eighteenth Amendment has to all intents and purposes, endowed the liquor traffic throughout this nation and has set it free of all tax.

"Prohibition is the most powerful friend that the liquor traffic has ever had. Prohibition is the most resourceful enemy that the temperance movement has ever had to face."

On the other side of the argument F. Scott McBride, general superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, announces that the statement by a manufacturer "employing more than 200,000 is the most potent yet made on the question."

"The effect of booze on the laboring man's work," Mr. McBride states, "the poverty caused by booze in the workingman's home, the effect of booze on the brain, are enough to lead any outstanding manufacturer to say 'If booze ever comes back I am through with manufacturing, assures the Eighteenth Amendment and forestalls any repeal.

"But one thing remains to do. It is to bring about observance and enforcement."

Although unable to read or write, Rees Davis of Cardiff has sung the leading tenor role in more than 175 oratorios, operas and cantatas.

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