

Around Our TOWN Shelby SIDELIGHTS

By RENN DRUM.

How the years flit by! New names, new enemies, new everything, yet nothing new. When the 92-year-old General Weyler died the other day in Spain the majority of us learned, from press dispatches, for the first time that he was the hard-boiled dictator who had much to do with bringing on the Spanish-American war. To add to the memories Josephus Daniels, in his Raleigh News and Observer, recalls that the favorite refrain of that day was "Hang General Weyler to a Sour Apple Tree."

That's how time gets by you. When we're just getting of age to join in with the barbershop and quilling party quartets the popular way of singing it was "Hang Old Kaiser Bill to a Sour Apple Tree."

Guess America has been hanging her enemies to sour apple trees since 1775. Wonder who will be the fellow the boys of this generation will be hanging to a sour apple tree as they reach the age of adventure and soldiering? It might be the Prince of Wales, Mussolini, anybody. Who knows? New faces, same old tune, same old enmity.

Some philosopher ought to dissect that sour apple tree ditty and see what there is in it that makes young men get charged up with hate and the desire to be cannon fodder.

But what does all that have to do with strolling about Shelby?

W. G. Spake, one of Shelby's cigar and cheroot salesmen, says that there is a cigar on the market in the Lincoln section under the name of "Hard Times," and he wonders if that's the favorite smoke of Lincoln's congressman.

The recent Democratic rally here certainly clicked when it recognized "Uncle Jake" Anthony, Gailther Higgins, and Cicero Patterson as Democrats as are Democrats. But what about the Hoyle family, J. A. Smith, J. Frank Harris and others? They'd rather have the seven-year scratching pestilence in their homes than anyone not of Democratic faith. The Frank L. Hoyle family, including his brother Bob, are as

active at campaign time as they get. The youngest son, John, is already serving as usher at Democratic speakings and getting a big kick out of it.

Shelby may think she is growing up in the city class and about large enough to be stepping out with boy friends at night, but had you noticed that it is still such a small town that not a single divorcee has been dared in any of the uppity-up families about town?

The town hasn't as yet outgrown the size where everybody knows all about it the next morning if a man is seen out with a woman other than his wife, or if a married woman is seen with another man who pays the luncheon check. Divorcees and accompanying gossip are rather embarrassing in a town of that size—and maybe that's why we don't have them, and perhaps, of course, it may be that everybody is getting along just fine, thank you.

Well, it seems as if the old columning professional is on the up and up. Mr. Coolidge, first name Calvin and former president of these United States, has developed into a columnist. Welcome, sir, Mr. McIntyre and the rest of us are glad to have you with us—and can you change your own typewriter ribbon without calling on your wife's assistance?

A young married man of Shelby hesitated before the display window of a ladies shop, turned to his friend and said: "Dad told me when I got married that I wouldn't have anything like as hard a time as he had when he married. But I notice that corsets are coming back in style, and that may mean that soon I'll be following in dad's footsteps as I help the family strap up every Sunday morning."

Maybe that should have been entitled a fashion note—or, better still, left out altogether.

SHELBY SHORTS: Report is that George Allen, Kings Mountain police chief and brother of Sheriff Irvin Allen, had quite a bit to do with solving the recent bank truck

robbery in Charlotte, but we've failed to see where he has been given a word of credit for his help. . . . McIntyre doesn't write book reviews, but we've noticed that Shelby people always go out shopping for the books he mentions, and it's our bet that he sells more for the publishers than any of the professional reviewers. . . . Frank Cline, one of the county's most ardent sportsmen, came down to the Boiling Springs football game last week and while talking to several fellows along the sideline dared them to spell properly the name of a dog which most people refer to as "fist." Can you spell it correctly without looking in the dictionary? Go ahead and try it—is it "fist," "feist," "fice," or "fyst"? . . . The old way, and presumably the proper way, of spelling it was "feist," since then, however, the modern dictionaries have informed that it may be spelled either of the ways given above. So there! . . . A radio loud speaker spouting out stock market figures on a Shelby street just as the uptown workers are dashing home for lunch. Here and there in the hurrying crowd two or three people throw a disgusted look in the direction of the radio, then start whistling, seemingly with the idea of drowning out the methodical voice. One wonders, and don't wonder. . . . Automobiles piled full of colored people hurrying to the fair grounds. Wonder how long the pay for a day's cotton picking lasts along the mid-way concession booths and fish stands? . . . Did you ever see Dr. Tom Gold, the eye man, uptown during the day without his head mirror perched on his forehead? . . . Charlie Lattimore, the cowboy, isn't going back to his Arizona ranch until the winter season is over. It snows so deep out there that a fellow has to stand on his tiptoes and lean backwards to see out. . . . The most popular automobile drive in the evening about Shelby used to be around the Cleveland Springs hotel circle; now it's around the golf course roadways. . . . An Albemarle man and a Gastonia man come to Shelby nearly every week-end to play golf—not because Shelby has the best golf course in the section, but because, they say, that Shelby people are the "chummiest" to be found anywhere. That's saying a lot for a man when he can be described as chummy and friendly after digging around for 20 minutes or so in a sandtrap trying to get his ball out and on the carpet.

Now while you're roasting your feet by the fire before going to bed, here's one you might work out. Bert Houser and L. U. Arrowood, the lumberman, were figuring on it at

Ebeltoff's the other day—
—If lumber is selling for \$30 per thousand and you had \$3,000, how many thousand feet could you purchase?
Go ahead and see if it's so easy.

Tra-ja-in.

Kiwanis Speaker



Roe Fulkerson, editorial writer for the Kiwanis Magazine and a syndicate writer for newspapers, will be one of the principal speakers at the Kiwanis convention to be held in Raleigh, Nov. 6th and 8th.

It Would

Medicinescience has reduced our death rate 50 per cent since 1900. Now that we all may expect to live longer, it would be nice if some one would do something about what on—
—Judge.

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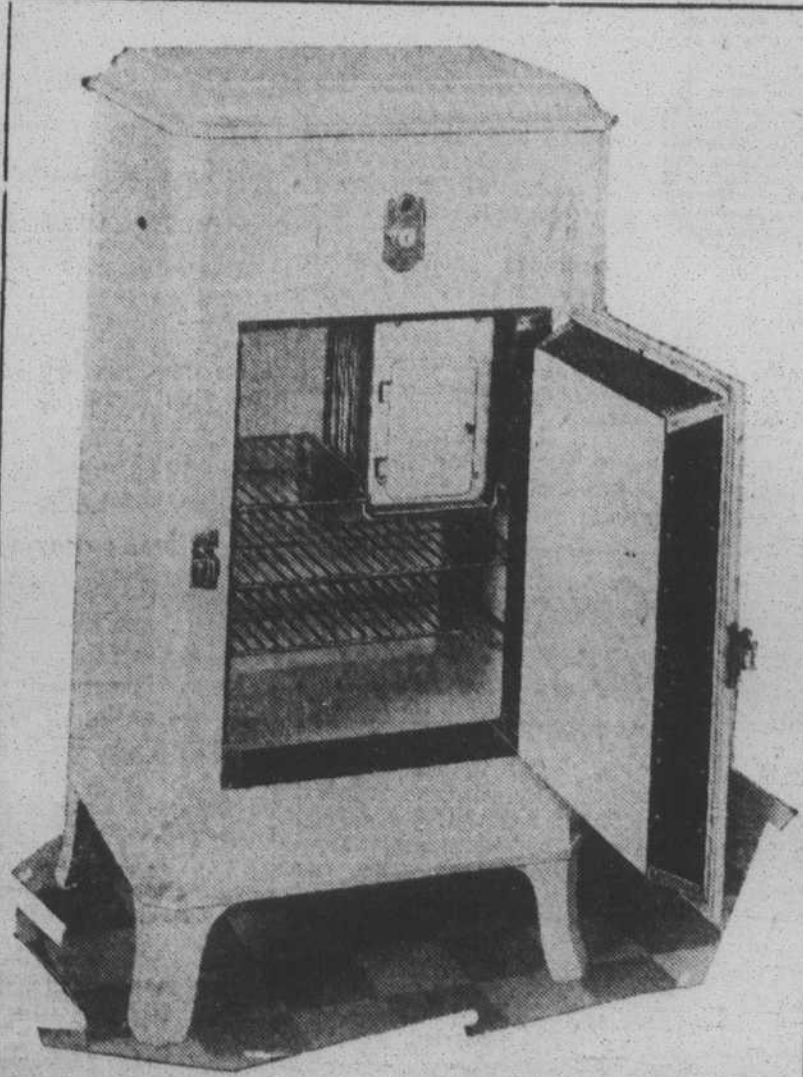
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