

# The Cleveland Star

SHELBY, N. C.  
MONDAY — WEDNESDAY — FRIDAY

### SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

By Mail, per year ..... \$2.50  
By Carrier, per year ..... \$3.00

THE STAR PUBLISHING COMPANY, INC.  
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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, FEB. 4, 1931

### TWINKLES

Another job, and without remuneration as might be expected, for the unemployed will be that of keeping check upon the groundhog's ability as a weather prognosticator.

The Einstein theory, say those who proclaim to know just a little bit about it, deals with space, and solves some puzzle thereof. Well, if it deals with parking space, it must be admitted that Old Man Business Depression cleared up that problem far better than the theory of any scientist.

The trial this week of a series of cases developing out of Rutherford county's six bank failures will attract almost as much attention in Cleveland county as in the neighboring county to the west. First of all, a Cleveland county jury will pass on the charges, and, secondly, the interests of the two counties have always been closely allied. Both sides of the affair seem to have an even break in one respect with a Cleveland county jury and that break is that each side has a Cleveland county attorney employed.

### CONTEMPLATING POLITICAL SUICIDE

THE CARDS, an inside rumor from Raleigh has it, are stacked against Governor Gardner's plan to reduce salaries of public workers in North Carolina. Maybe they are, but our idea is that those who do the stacking, if they are stacked, will realize before the year is over that Governor Gardner isn't the only one favoring that measure.

Back home, in the home counties of every representative and senator in Raleigh, the majority of the people, hard-pressed farmers and harassed business men, are for a reduction in State expense. It is pretty generally agreed that about the only way to cut is to cut salaries as the Governor proposes. The income of farmers, the income of business men, and the salaries and wages of practically all working men and women back in the home counties of the law-makers have been cut. Why blame them, then, these people who are already feeling the effects of the times, if they are inclined to be riled if the Gardner economy program is throttled in a committee room, lobbied to death in some smoke-filled hotel room in Raleigh, or voted down on the floor. The citizens of North Carolina—and by that expression we mean that great group of average, hard-working people, the salt of the earth—will be wanting to know and demanding to know, we believe, the names of the men who kill that measure, if it is killed. And once they know the goose of others may be cooked as seems to be that of the lieutenant-governor and would-be governor who is already classed as bucking the Gardner reduction plans.

Expenses cannot be cut without cutting the overhead. Cutting hurts, but back home the cuts have already been made, and back home the people are saying that those who work in, out of, and as a result of Raleigh may as well get ready to take their medicine. It's only fair.

### MORRISON GETS ATTENTION

THE ACTIVITY of Senator Cameron Morrison, since taking his seat in the Senate, in behalf of a dry Democrat for president in 1932 is attracting considerable attention to the first new senator North Carolina has had in Washington in three decades.

The North Carolinian, as would naturally be expected, is being given strong support and encouragement by dry organizations and workers. On the other hand, he is coming in for a certain amount of criticism, one Washington political writer going so far as to say that repeated statements may make Mr. Morrison as frantic as was Tom Heflin.

This writer, Carlisle Barger of the Washington Post, had the following comment in his paper about Senator Morrison, according to H. E. C. (Red Buck) Bryant, Washington correspondent for the Raleigh News and Observer:

"Indeed, there is reason to believe that he may, as the months pass on, become as frantic as the late Tom Heflin."

Referring to what he termed the "Simmons-Overman Dynasty," the writer said of the candidates to succeed them. "Of them, Mr. Morrison is most fortunate in being named to succeed the late Senator Overman. But as soon as he took his seat, even before, he got into a stew. He split with the regular organization which had honored him by supporting the confirmation of Frank R. McNinch for the Federal Power Commission."

The writer continued: "Mr. McNinch is anathema to everything that is regularly Democratic in North Carolina. He was the anti-Smith leader in 1928. And as near as I could gather, Morrison's reason for supporting him was that they belonged to the same church."

Mr. Barger concludes: "This wavering back and forth on the part of Mr. Morrison is bound, sooner or later, to make him dizzy and the prospects are that his dizziness will be reflected in the Senate."

### THIS NEW SCHOOL BILL

NORTH CAROLINA seems to have a Wickersham report of her own in this new legislative bill which provides for State-supported six months schools. No one seems to know

definitely just what it means, how many, if any, teeth there are in it, and where the money will come from to finance the plan. There are, however, many people, particularly in the industrial Piedmont, who fear they know where the money will come from.

Opponents of the measure, or, rather, those who are opponents of it until they are sure industry coupled with a sales tax will not have to pay the bill, see, they say, behind the movement an attempt to saddle off some of Eastern Carolina's indebtedness upon the industrial interests of this section. One Raleigh correspondent, commenting upon the bill after it had passed both the house and senate, declared that it was the belief of many that the passage of the bill would not mean that the State would support all six months schools, but that, instead, it paved the way for an enlargement of the equalization fund whereby the smaller counties would get more money from the fund with which to operate their schools. That would mean, of course, that the larger and wealthy counties would be placed in the position of extending more aid to other counties.

When the measure was in the house and senate it was opposed by practically all representatives from counties in the Piedmont area. Some of these men were not set against State-supported schools but desired to know the method of financing first. Representative Edwards, of this county, opposed the measure because he could not be assured, he said, that the industry of this section would not have to foot the bill. Senator McSwain, of Cleveland, and Senator Clarkson, of Charlotte, were among the few senators in the Piedmont area who voted for the measure. In doing so Senator McSwain explained, in a communication to The Star, that he would be opposed to a sales tax method of financing State supported schools.

In Mecklenburg Senator Clarkson is coming in for some criticism for supporting the measure while all the county's representatives in the house opposed it. The Clarkson attitude says The Charlotte News "is not the view of his constituency. We should imagine that at least 90 percent of the people of this community," The News continued, "are against the measure. . . . It is somewhat surprising that he should give his favor even to the principle embodied in the bill."

The editor of the Ivey store news takes this slant of the school measure:

"That school tax row over at Raleigh last week ought to make all those who live in the industrial Piedmont feel pretty proud. They are the only people who have anything that's worth taxing and it looks as if they are going to have to practically support all the schools and build all the roads from now on.

"We wonder if this is why our own Senator Clarkson left his own camp and voted with the agrarian east.

"Well, the next thing we expect to see 'em do to us is stick on a luxury or sales tax and have the whole State labeled 'pauper.' As we have said before, no business person can rest easily while that Legislature is in session."

One thing certain about it, this section of North Carolina will be worried no little bit until the tangle is straightened out.

## Around Our TOWN Shelby SIDELIGHTS

By RENN DRUM.

Punishment should be sure, certain and severe for film-liam artists who take advantage of the superstition of colored people.

Last week a gypsy fortune teller robbed a Shelby colored woman of more than \$300. That was outright robbery, but it wasn't the first time the same household had been hit. The money stolen, incidentally, was the savings of the colored woman's daughter, a school teacher.

Some years ago, this department hears, a negro man, thought to have reposed in him some of the mysterious powers of a witch doctor, approached the same colored woman who was robbed of \$300. He informed her, the story has it, that some enemy had "cunjered" her, or had cast a spell over her, and that harm would come to her or her family unless she did something to throw off the hex. In telling her about the "cunjering" she found out that she had \$100 savings hid about the house. When the worried colored woman asked him what to do to break the spell over her and her family, she was told that she should let him have the \$100 so that he might place it in a can and bury it under the front doorstep. If it remained there for 10 days, he said, without her even looking about it, the spell would be broken. She turned over her money without suspecting a trick. The next day her fears about her money got the best of her superstition about the ill consequences of being "cunjered," and she looked under the doorstep. The tomato can was buried there, but the \$100 was gone.

Scores of such tricks, a commercialized, crooked play on superstition, are worked among the colored people of Shelby each year. The colored people could soon break it up by reporting all such things to police headquarters.

Shelby Shorts: Frank Hoy, who for many years was never seen in public without a cigar in his mouth, has started smoking a pipe. . . . There is in Shelby a charming married woman who, L. H. tells us, once played leading roles on the New York stage and has appeared in the movies. . . . Dick Dudley, the student aviator home from Texas, would like to organize a flying school in Shelby. But we are going to grow cotton, y'know, out where the airport was. . . . A well-known Shelby man, believe it or not, takes his dip of snuff twice daily. . . . A. D. J., who thinks less of cold weather than Tom Heflin does of the pope, says that the groundhog made a punk prediction Monday. There'll be no more really bad weather until fall, he says. We'll be seeing. . . . The showing here of the Birth of a Nation in a sound film had a certain psychological effect; it caused one man to say to himself, "I guess I haven't much right to kick about conditions after seeing what the Southerners of those days lived through." . . . He's right at that, but had you noticed that after you've spent one of these new undersized dollar bills leaves just as big a hole in your pocket as did the spending of one of the big ones. . . . "Maybe," says a sophisticated young Shelby stenographer, "they started this Austin automobile business so that miniature golf players might ride from one hole to another." . . . The death of Junius Auten, former Shelby high grid player, brings back memories of a football team that was a man-sized outfit.

Write this one down in your record book, unbelievers: In the last 12 months a Shelby man made a long distance telephone call to a well known New York chef to inquire just how lamb chops should be cooked. . . .

them for his patrons.

The topic of beautiful women is a popular one, more so, perhaps, with men, but with women, too.

Recently a reader declared that a certain young lady, M. W., was the most beautiful in Shelby. The statement started the curious guessing and quite a number of young men to applaud. Today a man with the same initials—M. W.—lows as how a student nurse at the Shelby hospital is a close competitor for the other young lady named. He refused to give her initials—perhaps he's going to tell her privately some of these evenings. And, really, that must be the most pleasant way of doing such things.

A former Shelbyite, who lives in another state and has lived in other countries, tells us that in six homes of Shelby natives who now live elsewhere he has seen clippings from this column filed away. They all had to do with the "remember whens" about Shelby of other days. "Those of us who once lived here and remember the old burg as she was in other days and the people as they were then could hardly wait for the next series of reminiscences."

We'd like very much, kind sir, to keep them going, but we've begged and begged the old folks and lately they've refused to send in a single list of "remember whens." If some of them do not come across pretty soon, we may start stirring memories ourself by going over to the court house and finding out from the old records whose granddads were hanged for stealing horses, or fined for making blockade liquor without license, or were in trouble for this, that and the other. Consider that a threat, you folks who once helped us stir up Shelby's musty but very entertaining past.

For that matter, this column can blame near remember when only two local people knew how to play golf. One was John Schenck, sr., who drove to Charlotte each week for his game, and the other was Federal Judge Yates Webb who remained in congress just a year or two longer than he had planned to so that he might pummel that little white ball about the links up there.

Walter Winchell tips 'em off in his column about the new games as well as the new babies in New York, so it's only fair, we suppose, to pass along the word that the latest favorite game, one that is growing in Shelby is "Michigan." It's played with the same cards as bridge, set-back—and poker.

### This Jurist Slaps A Fine On Himself

Evanston, Ill.—When Police Judge H. Porter called his court to order Judge Harry H. Porter was the only defendant present.

The magistrate picked up the only arrest sheet, given him by his desk, and, addressing the vacant chair, charged Judge Harry H. Porter with parking his automobile too long in one place. Porter then stepped back to the bench, sat down, and pronounced the verdict, "guilty." Opening the court records, he made an entry, took \$1 from one pocket and put it into another, wrote "paid" opposite the entry, closed the book, and went home.

### Must Plant Gardens.

Though farmers of 13 North Carolina counties may make applications for loans from the drought relief fund, no loan will be granted to any person who will not plant a garden and grow the feed for his livestock this year.

### All The Same.

A man and his wife were having tea in a fashionable restaurant.

"Shall we dance?" asked the husband, rising from his chair.

"That wasn't the orchestra playing," replied his wife. "The waiter dropped a tray of china."

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