

# 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, APR. 8, 1931

## TWINKLES

Even the driest of Democratic regulars in the South will agree with that part of the Raskob statement wherein the Democratic chairman "flayed the failure of the Hoover administration."

After six consecutive rainy week-ends somebody bobs up with the disheartening, nerve-racking idea that maybe it'll not quit raining until legislature adjourns. Dig up Noah's boat plans!

Husbands who desire to start another argument in the household might remind their better halves that arguing is a natural feminine trait, and prove it by showing her that the boys in the recent triangular debates in North Carolina high schools were outnumbered by the girls.

Pity poor Gov. Bilbo of Mississippi: Too many misses are getting him entangled. Both his wife and his secretary are figuring on running for secretary of State. And no matter which wins, Ye Twinkler has an idea that, as an exception to the customary system, the secretary of the state will tell the governor when to head in—and when not to head in.

Quoth The Greensboro News: "Attorney General Brummitt has been invited to deliver the commencement address at Shelby high school. It'll be real news, however, when the lieutenant-governor is invited to speak in the Governor's home town." Yeah, but a blonde young fellow with a captivating smile, Ehringhaus by name, from Elizabeth City has already been here. Two rivals in a political contest should be enough, maybe, for a town with Shelby's enthusiasm for political frays.

## THE UNFAIRNESS OF IT

WHEN HE DECLARED his stand against luxury tax or a sales tax Governor Gardner was accused by proponents of those taxes that he contradicted himself in opposing those measures because he had favored a tax on gasoline. That view will not hold water.

The tax on gasoline goes to build and maintain the highways. The man who burns the most gasoline and uses the most pays the bill. Seems altogether fair. Take the other side: a man who smokes a package of cigarettes or chews a plug of tobacco a day may not have any children in school but he will be helping, by the tax on so-called luxuries, to pay the school bill. There may be another man who has a half dozen children in school but he does not use tobacco in any form or any of the other articles under the so-called luxury head. He does not pay a school bill if all school expenses are taken off land and placed on such articles.

It's all bosh, one-sided argument, to say that the general luxury tax is as fair as the gasoline tax. The luxury tax would make the mill boy who smokes pay as much tax on his cigarettes as the multi-millionaire on his, but by the gas tax method do not the Cadillacs and Lincolns consume more gas than the flivvers and, therefore, does not the big car owner pay more.

Take this example: In Shelby there is a banker who has considerable real estate holdings. In the city, too, is a manufacturer and business man who also owns considerable property. If the ad valorem tax for schools were removed, these men, able to pay, would not pay anything to school upkeep, certainly not to any big extent, because they do not smoke or attend picture shows.

Think it over.

Likewise, there is no justice to the man of sound reasoning in the general sales tax. Say it will shift some of the burden from the shoulders of the poor, if you will, but neither will that argument hold water. As Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer says, "a tax on general sales will include the baby's milk, the patient's medicine, the cripple's crutch, the mechanic's tools, the farmer's plows, the school-boy's books, the tenant's clothes, the day laborer's bread, the minister's Bible and the widow's shoes."

Governor Gardner never made a fairer or abler address than that in which he opposed those two taxes, designating them as "a tax on poverty."

## PLANT PLENTY OF WATERMELONS

WITH THE GASTONIA GAZETTE we thoroughly agree with an agricultural expert who urges that plenty of watermelons be planted this year. As The Gazette says, nothing tastes better or is more inspiring to frazzled nerves on a sizzling hot July or August afternoon than a big red slice from a cold Watermelon. Continuing the Gastonia Gazette says:

And, so we want to see a lot of good Stone Mountain, Kleckley, Bradford and Crawford melons raised in this county this summer. Watermelon is the supreme summer delicacy. It even outranks peaches and fried chicken. Plant plenty of watermelons. There will be ready sale for them if this summer is hot and dry.

Watermelons are neither difficult nor expensive to grow and few food products produced on North Carolina farms are so delicious. In addition, they contain some

of the well known vitamins which the nutrition people say constantly are necessary for health.

"The important thing to do," says C. R. Hudson, practical farmer and veteran extension worker at State College, "is to get some melon planted as early possible and then plant more every three weeks until the first of July or later. Properly manured melons of the later crop will keep over until next Christmas if put into a refrigerator or handled without bruising and kept in a cool well, ventilated place.

"When a man is tired, hot and thirsty, few things will give him so quick and satisfying relief as a good watermelon. The thrifty farm woman often makes pickles and preserves of the rind, and hogs and poultry will consume the seed with relish."

Mr. Hudson says any well drained, sandy loam soil, containing some organic matter, will produce good melons. Simply lay out the rows six or eight feet wide, make checks across about the same distance apart, and at the junction of these rows put in two shovelfuls of stable manure and a handful of complete fertilizer. Mix this well with the soil; throw up low ridges and put the seed in the ground about one-half to one inch deep. A little nitrate of soda stirred into the soil just before or after planting will give the vines a good start.

A little hoe work around the hills and the same thorough and frequent cultivation given other crops will result in good yields. Don't disturb the vines after they begin to run and plant some cowpeas in the middles at the last cultivation to give the vines something on which to cling. For bigger melons, pinch off some of the runners, he advises.

## IMPROVING COUNTY COURT

TWO THINGS HAVE taken place in recent days in connection with the Cleveland county recorder's court that are deserving of mention and commendation. Both developments should, if properly handled, tend to improve the court by removing from it so many two-by-four, nonsensical spite cases, and also by eliminating those cases which at times take on the appearance of "fee-splitting" or "drumming-up-business" cases.

In Raleigh, first of all, Senator Peyton McSwain introduced a bill—and it is sure to go through that portion of the assembly where Representative Edwards represents this county—which provides that those who cause certain warrants to be issued may, in the discretion of the court, be forced to pay the costs. Recorder's court here in recent years, due to Shelby's spread, has grown into a big thing. Court is now in session almost every day. Yet hardly a week passes unless there comes on the docket a small, frivolous affair that bears all the earmarks of a "spite" case, something far too trifling and unimportant to delay the grind of the court. Somebody has thrown a rock at somebody's prize sow and the second somebody has retaliated by giving the first somebody's impolite young son a slap. In court they come with their lawyers, everyone stirred up as if a big murder trial was about ready to open. In another case a father-in-law may have said or done something that the son-in-law thought none of the old man's business. A few words were passed, and here they come to court to settle minor difficulties they could have adjusted at home. All these matters when boiled down under the eye of the court prove to be matters that should never have been brought to the court room. The new regulation about such cases provides that the first one to start action shall pay the costs if the court finds that the cause of the action was malice, or was in any other manner frivolous. A good move!

The other development that should help came along at the meeting of the county commissioners this week. At this meeting the board recommended to Sheriff Allen that he urge his deputies not to bring minor and frivolous cases into the court, and that they also discourage the starting of such cases. The commissioners reminded that they were not cultivating any weakening of law enforcement of the county, but their suggestions intimated that there might be such a thing as bringing too many petty cases into court. Congratulations are in order to Messrs. Cline, Lattimore and Weathers for that move, and the fact that he was re-elected to office the second time indicates that the citizens of Cleveland county people believe that Sheriff Allen is—and he is—an officer of the type to bring benefit from those suggestions.

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## America Entered War 14 Years Ago

Only Woman In Congress Then Sobbed "No" Against Going In.

Greensboro News.

Fourteen years ago Monday. Do you remember the occasion, the formal entry of the United States into the World War?

The declaration against Germany was anticipated; there had been a gradual accumulation of grievances, a growing realization that it was inevitable as the Central Powers themselves seemed to sense in their provocative actions and the hopeful allies beckoned in statements and propaganda which could not be misinterpreted. Four days before, April 2, President Wilson, his efforts to maintain neutrality a recognized failure, had delivered his war message to congress.

The hours that followed were momentous in world and American history. The panorama of congress unfolds in memory, the 17 hours of debate which preceded the formal vote. Outstanding, his courage accentuated as one calmly considers the wave of popular sentiment and feeling which he combated, is the stalwart figure of Claude Kitchin, the fiery North Carolinian and Democratic leader, battling to the end for peace. Symbolic of the suffering to which womanhood is always subjected by war stands the compelling picture of Miss Rankin, the only member of congress at that time, as she sobbingly votes "No."

But the die had been cast. After the debate came the ballot and adoption of the declaration of war 373 to 50. That was a few minutes after 3 o'clock on the morning of April 6. At 1 o'clock that afternoon President Wilson signed the formal resolution and issued a war proclamation to the American people. The United States was in it. Out of the quiet suspense which had hung over the nation for months steadily mounted a wave of feeling, a sweep that gained the full force of hysteria as bands played, orators swayed multitudes, and every known

propaganda device was put into play to generate the hatred, the loathing of an enemy, upon which war thrives and Mars receives his sacrifices; enlistments, training camps, debarkations, trenches, casualty lists.

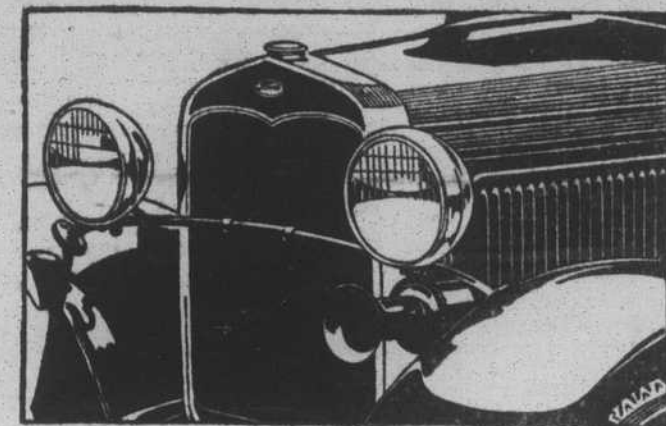
Fourteen years ago, a war proclamation on Good Friday, the anniversary of the crucifixion. The reason for recalling and reciting the details of that memorable day? There is none, other than to wonder what progress has been made toward world peace during the interval, how near the problems involved in the war have approached solution, how moves the spirit of hatred in the hearts of men and of nations after the ordeal which April 6, 1917, precipitated, what hope has come with the passing of these Easter seasons and the thoughts which they have kindled in the human breast.

Fourteen years ago, the war. And what now?



The Flavor is just Right

## ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF FORD VALUE



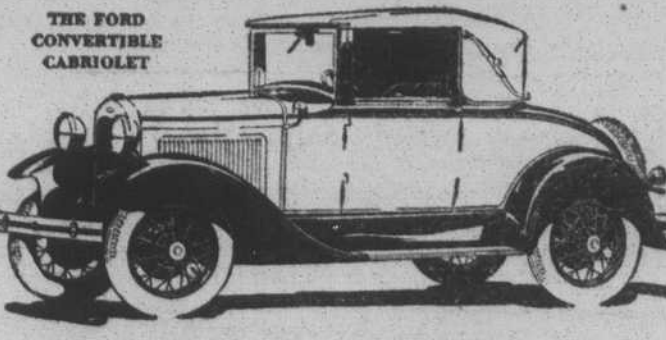
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## SPECIALS FOR THIS WEEK ONLY

One Model 71 Majestic Electric Radio—Former price \$175.00, slightly used, will go for \$50.00.

One Stromburg-Carlson ten tube (New), regular price \$265.00, to go at \$165.00.

One Atwater Kent Electric Radio, slightly used. Former price \$135.00, to go at \$40.00.

One Earl 8 Tube Electric (New), regular price \$129.50, to go at \$50.00.

One Sonora 9 Tube (New)—price \$179.50, to be sold at \$85.00.

One Victor (10 Tube) Demonstrator and only slightly used. Regular price \$189.50, to be sold at \$80.00.

Two Victor Radios (10 Tube) Highboy Cabinets and beauties, both new. Regular price \$245.00, will sell them for \$125.00 each.

Two Victor-Kolster Combinations in console Cabinets with 8 Tube Kolster Radio sets in each. Regular price \$385.00, to go at \$125.00 each.

Victrolas, all models (New), to go at HALF the original price.

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