

The Cleveland Star

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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, JAN. 27, 1932

TWINKLES

The end of the world, suggests a contemporary, can't be far off, not if congressmen cut their own salaries.

Physicians say the present-day death rate is caused by the fact that we do not walk enough, and we add or fast enough when crossing a street.

It is The Nation which suggests the following slogan for the Hoover campaign: "Don't swap toboggans in the middle of the slide."

North Carolina's contest for governor has one thing that neither of the major political parties has to be troubled with in their presidential affairs, and that is a dark horse of the Jo. Daniels calibre.

It is a good thing that Al Capone will be in jail when the Democrats and Republicans hold their conventions in Chicago. If he were not, he might decide to take Hoover, Roosevelt, Dawes, Smith, Baker and others to a ride and run both rackets himself.

Charlotte, Carolina's chief city, is having plenty of entertainment these days. Two of the country's most colorful figures, Gov. Alfalfa Bill Murray of Oklahoma and Senator Huey Long of Louisiana visited there in the period of one week. And judging by the newspapers, neither one disappointed by refusing to talk.

Sure it pays. In the last issue of The Star there was a news item telling how Rutherford county farmers made a profit in cotton last year by growing a longer staple and a better grade. Any number of Cleveland farmers did the same thing. Next year, in all probability, more will do so, for it is hard to figure out why all will not when the longer staple, which brings a premium price, can be reduced at very little more cost, if any, than the common grade.

AMERICAN CONSISTENCY

THERE ARE OCCASIONS when we are not surprised that other nations are perplexed by policies of the United States. As an example: In the next few months a young German, as Arthur Brisbane points out, will come to America and fight Jack Sharkey for the heavyweight boxing title, which, incidentally, he won from Sharkey on a foul blow. When he comes and when he leaves he will be cheered by hundreds of Americans. While here he will be received with open arms everywhere, and with him when he leaves he will take at least a quarter of a million dollars of American money. All of which is perfectly all right. But look at another picture, as painted by Brisbane; while we're welcoming Max Schmeling and handing him a quarter of a million we are slamming our doors in the faces of other foreign men who with their children desire to come to America to earn a livelihood, not millions. Why, in view of such things, do we become angered when a foreigner shrugs his shoulders and says "But you are uh! so peculiar, so inconsistent!"

GETTING FAMILY FLAVOR

WITH FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT barely in the presidential contest the Washington writers are already injecting the appeal of the Roosevelt family name. Out of Washington are coming such stories as this: "For the first time since the immortal Teddy began his Bull Moose adventure, the hat of a Roosevelt is in the presidential" Admittedly there is something about the Roosevelt name, something that recalls the Big Stick and the clenched-teeth grin which carries an appeal to the people of America, but is that touch of color, injected into the pages of American history by the Rough Rider, enough to offset partisan spirit? How many Republicans, or Bull Moose, we have often wondered, will switch over to the Democratic ticket just to cast another Roosevelt vote? Even when the votes are counted this fall, there will be no sure way of telling; if Roosevelt wins, the winning margin may be attributed to dislike of Hoover, or to Roosevelt's prohibition views, or to numerous other things. The proximate value of the colorful family name will remain undetermined.

CUTTING THE DEBT

THE ECONOMICAL business management of Cleveland County officials and commissioners again shows itself in something worthwhile. This month the county stepped out and bought in \$32,000 worth of outstanding county bonds issues for road building and other public work years ago. These bonds were not due and some of them would not have matured for 10 years yet, but finding a little surplus at hand the officials, as was noted in A. E. Cline's report, cut off some of the overhanging debt. Such management is to be commended, especially in times like these when public business as well as private is finding it difficult to make ends meet much less reduce old debts. And every debt reduced means a lower operating cost, in the saving of interest if nothing else. The surplus came about, it is said, by running a little under the allotted budget for county operation over a period of years. It is worthy of note, in that con-

nection, to remind that the surplus was made over a period of years in which the county tax rate was gradually cut down, and certainly there is reason to be proud of a system of management that can operate within and below its budget when, at the same time, it has the second lowest tax rate in North Carolina.

WILL IT REDUCE TAXES?

ONE OF THE MAJOR ARGUMENTS advanced by those favoring the sale of Shelby's municipal light plant to the Southern Public Utilities is that the city taxes will be greatly reduced. Some reduction may be possible, many believe, if the plant is sold and the purchase price applied to the city debt, but there are many who are inclined to be skeptical about the opinion that the tax rate will be cut from \$1.15 to 48 cents. They, seemingly, have reason to be skeptical.

Say, for the sake of argument, that the tax rate can be cut to 48 cents by applying the sale price to the city debt, where is the money coming from with which to pay the S. P. U. for lighting the streets, pulling the motors at the city pump station, and lighting other public buildings? It must come, as R. T. LeGrand and others have pointed out, from a new tax levy. Figures advanced by the aldermen estimate that the city would have to pay the S. P. U. close to \$20,000 for street lights alone. To pay that sum would necessitate a new tax levy of 22 cents. That would put the tax rate back to 70 cents. But electricians and others, who have been consulted by those interesting themselves, as citizens should, in the details, say that \$20,000 will lack much of paying the S. P. U. for the light and power needed. In the course of the year, this faction argues, the city will have to pay the S. P. U. close to \$60,000 for street and school lights and for the motors at the pump station. That would mean a tax levy, for that purpose alone, of 66 cents, which added to 48 would be a total levy of \$1.14—just one cent less than the present rate. Citizens should be sure of their facts before anticipating any great tax relief by the sale.

Another pertinent point is that of future control. As long as the light plant remains the property of the city it is the property of the tax-payers and they may say what to do.

They can request changes in the rate and get action, if in no other way, by sending new officials into office to replace those who might not heed them. But once the plant is sold it is gone—gone from the hands and dictates of the people who patronize it. Their votes will no longer have any influence on the operation and the rate scale.

Above all, citizens should make careful study of the numerous angles before reaching a final decision. It isn't like a city election, for it is a far more lasting proposition. When a mayor and aldermen are elected they can be voted out of office the next election if they fail to please, but when the light plant is sold there can be no voting it back to the city, two years from now, four years from now, or ever.

"Dance Team"

The Humanest Picture
You Ever Saw

WITH THE

Stars of "BAD GIRL"

JAMES SALLY
DUNN EILERS

CAROLINA
NEXT MONDAY

Mt. Sinai News Of Current Week

Mount Sinai, Jan. 26.—There will be preaching services at Mount Sinai next Saturday and Sunday afternoon at 2 and 3 o'clock respectively. Sunday school will be at 2 o'clock Sunday.

The Broad river club met with Mrs. C. T. Ellis Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. After the business meeting Mrs. Wallace had charge. The club will meet next time with Mrs. Y. L. Putnam.

A surprise birthday dinner was set for Mrs. J. C. Bridges, by her children, at her home Sunday. A bountiful dinner was served on the lawn in picnic style. Mrs. Bridges was celebrating her 60th birthday. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Glee Bridges and children of Kings Mountain; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Bridges and son, of Patterson Springs; Mr. and Mrs. Erastus Williamson and children of Pineville; Mr. and Mrs. Joe Biggerstaff and children of Forest City; Mr. and Mrs. Reed Blackburn of Lenoir; Mr. and Mrs. Brainard Westmoreland and children of Blacksburg, S. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Durham Bridges and children, Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Bridges and children, Mr. and Mrs. L. Y. Putnam and children; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Ellis and children, Mr. Elmo Bridges and Mr. and Mrs. Bridges.

A surprise birthday party was given for Miss Rheamer Clary at her home Saturday night. A large number was present and enjoyed the evening playing games.

Miss Nora Ellis was hostess to a number of her friends at her home Saturday afternoon from three till six o'clock, complimenting Misses Edna and Dorothy Putnam, the latter of Shelby. Simple refreshments were served during the afternoon.

Mrs. W. W. Hardin, at the point of death. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Beam and daughter of Shelby and Miss Thelma Wilson of Cherryville were at her bedside during the week end.

Mrs. John Gold and Miss Minnie Gold of Zion, visited relatives in this section Thursday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ector Ledbetter and children of Flint Hill, spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Weaver.

Mr. and Mrs. Brosey McSwain and daughter, Pauline of McSwainville were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Ellis.

Miss Edna Putnam and guest Miss Dorothy Putnam of Shelby are spending a few days this week with Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Spurling near Boiling Springs.

Mrs. J. C. Bridges and Mr. Elmo Bridges visited Mr. and Mrs. Joe Biggerstaff in Forest City Monday.

Mr. Till Putnam of Shelby spent a few days last week at the bedside of his brother, Mr. L. C. Putnam. Mr. Putnam is improving some.

Mrs. Thurman Wilson of Cherryville spent several days with her mother Mrs. W. W. Hardin last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Hunt of Shelby were guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Putnam Sunday evening.

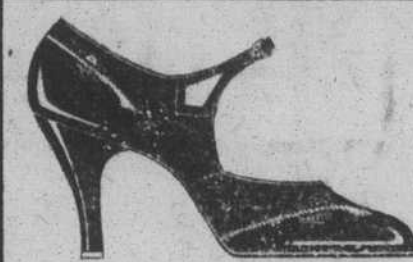
Mr. and Mrs. Thurman Hamrick and Miss Selma Hamrick of Poplar Springs community were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Harrill on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lovelace of near Boiling Springs spent several days last week with relatives in this section.

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Miller-Jones Co.

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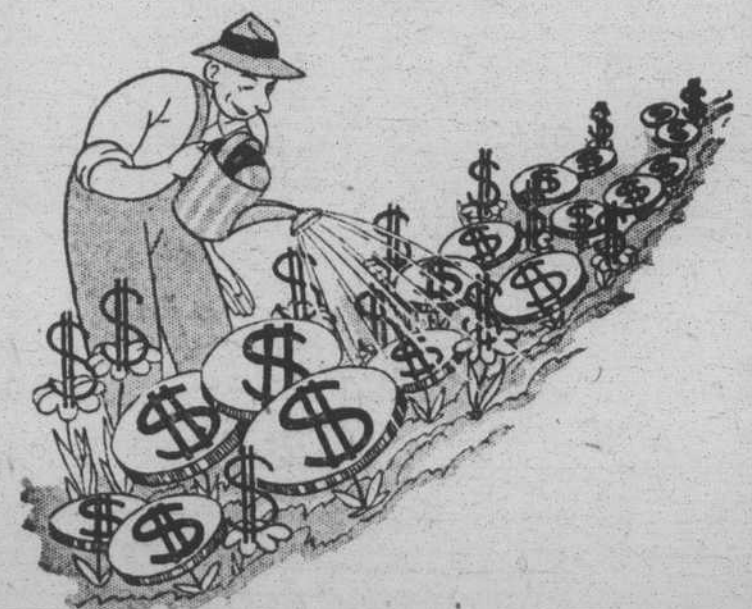
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