

The Charlotte Observer

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Curtis R. Johnson, President.
Wade R. Harris, Editor. J. A. Farham, Mng. Editor

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MONDAY MORNING, MAY 14, 1928.

WIT AND PHILOSOPHY.
"Was it a butterfly?" asked Ben Franklin, and he says his own answer. "At best he is but a caterpillar—dead—the Gaudy Pop is his picture just."

"Are you a clock watcher?" asked the employer of the candidate for a job. "No, I don't like inside work," replied the applicant, without heat, "I'm a white lie waiter."—Dallas Hurry Back News.

Figures are mighty interesting things. They show that unemployment was wide-spread and gasoline consumption increased 12.4 per cent in 1927.—Nashville Banner.

THE LONE ENEMY PAPER.

Statement made by the Federal Trade Commission in connection with its investigation of the public utilities companies is to the effect that in the two States of North Carolina and South Carolina, "only one newspaper out of 300 is unfriendly" to these interests.

The fact that only one paper in the States of North Carolina and South Carolina is antagonistic to the utilities companies is the best indication one would want that these companies operate to the benefit of the people.

The entire escape of a large acreage of land from the tax books is due to the lack of tax maps and to the lack of a full-time tax supervisor who is constantly endeavoring to perfect the tax roll.

There is no worry about a "convention hall" ample to take care of the veterans' reunion. The people at Little Rock pressed the hall at the fair grounds into use for the occasion.

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THE TAX ASSESSOR.

The North Carolina Club at the University was assembled last week to hear a talk on the particular matter of the tax assessment system in North Carolina.

It has been a long-standing complaint. The people talk about it, but do nothing in the way of remedying the situation. We are to make exceptions on one point, however, in favor of Mecklenburg, where efforts to balance the taxable properties have met with considerable degree of success.

It is to be admitted that without any standard to guide them, assessors will almost invariably assess properties of small or moderate value at a higher rate than the more valuable properties.

A study of several counties in Pennsylvania showed that in nearly every case a small farm was assessed higher relatively than a large farm.

It is also generally true that valuable land yielding a large income is not taxed as high in proportion as land which yields a small income.

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THE TRAGEDY OF FORGETFULNESS.

Sunday was a day of tragic forgetfulness at the crossing, the striking of a truck load of children by an Atlantic Coast Line train.

It was a plain case of heedless driving on the track in front of an approaching train. Then there was the racing incident in Pennsylvania, when two automobiles filled with sporting parties, tried to beat the train to the crossing.

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The Open Forum.

An Editorial Pad for the People.
Accepted contributions to this department of less than 400 words are assured of expeditious publication.

THE PISTOL LAW.
A Hickory Contributor Wants to Know What Has Become of It.
To the Editor of The Observer:

What becomes of the penalties of violating the law in pistol "toting" in the several tragedies of recent years? In Washington, D. C., the penalty is \$200 and if there is any "gun play" the first thing they take care of is that penalty and you have to pay it or go to jail till you do.

You will then see a lessening of crime, tragedies and other losses. We recently lost a very valuable trained pet Boston bull dog, through some thoughtless pistol toter who probably was unaware of the dog's value.

Smith Forgotten, but Evidently for a Moment, Only.
To the Editor of The Observer:

I have read and reread your exquisite prose- poem, entitled "The Warm Weather is Coming." After reading much of the sad and sordid happenings of the day, it did my very soul good to think rather on the beauties of Nature and the goodness of God.

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Sights We Hope To See

"ROTTERN! AS USUAL!"
A cartoon illustration of a man in a suit and hat, looking down at a small figure on the ground.

A GOLFER WITHOUT AN ALIBI
A cartoon illustration of a golfer in a suit and hat, standing on a golf course.

Just Folks
BY EDGAR A. GUEST.
UNCHANGED.
What was of yesterday is dead.
What science thought was true
Now from the realm of fact has fled.

OUR CONVERSATION CORNER.
Her Idea.
I am a girl just past 19 and go out a lot. I like fellows and can't see the harm in kissing people you like, whether they are men, women or little kids.

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THE WEALTHY POOR.

By Wickes Wamboldt.
A woman called on her rich brother to try to get him to help another brother.

"Slim's in bad shape," she said. "He had that fall, you know, and he's been laid up ever since; he can do no work and he has no money, as you know."

"No, I can't help him," he said shortly. "I'm not to blame if he falls up his affairs; I've got troubles enough keeping my own straight. It's up to him to run his own life and not expect me to run it for him."

"Yes, I am rich," she said hotly. "And my husband's rich—richer than you. We are rich enough to give Slim and his wife and children food and shelter such as it is; we are able to do that because our hearts impel us to do it."

"I like to recall an interview I had with a teacher in a school I visited. There was an air of expectancy in the class as if the lesson of the day was an occasion of special interest."

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