The Times Dispatch

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1913.

NEW USES FOR MOVIES.

When a city official disappeared from New York arrangements were made with one of the weekly news film companies to flash his photograph on the screens of some 10,000 moving-picture theatres in the hope that his whereabouts would be revealed by some one who saw his likeness. The Municipal Journal, in discussing the increasing use of moving-pictures in city work, suggests that criminals might be traced in the same way. Identification of a man from a picture where he is shown actually doing something would be easier than from a mere photograph such as is kept in the rogues' galleries. Such handbills would also reach an infinitely wider audience than any published description and picture.

The Journal also points out that the heavy task of educating voters is being made easier by the employment of the screen demonstration. In Italy, as a result of a new suffrage law, the electorate was recently increased from about 4,000,000 to over 8,000,000. Vast numbers of the newly enfranchised persons knew practically nothing of how to vote. They were taught partly by the exhibition of pictures showing the actual process of receiving the ballot, marking it and depositing it in the box. An interesting sidelight is that the political parties adopted this method of instructing their adherents on the right way to vote. The film helped out the spellbinder.

We can think of countless ways in which the education of the people, both in public duties and private needs, could be helped by the film. In Richmond, we would like to have the theatres show a few pictures of how to move up in front of the car to permit others to get on at the rear. Similar suggestions about public health, putting waste paper and fruit rease in trash-boxes and the use of common drinking-cups and towels might be put out by the city authorities. The average citizen is a good imitator. He also remembers what he sees longer than what he hears. This is a hint.

GOOD ROADS FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

Wise the policy of the American Automobile Association, now in session in Richmond, in stressing and encouraging the diverse interests bound up in the development of good highways! If all these numberless forces could be federated, their co-operation would soon transform this from a nation of bad roads into a nation of good roads.

Despite the ever-increasing flood of publicity as to the benefits of improved roads, there is yet in the public mind too little conception of the economic and social value of such agencies. The idea of the good road as the profit-multiplier, school-developer and community-builder has not been impressed sufficiently upon the average man.

It seems to us that two of the best sorts of arguments for a good roads system are to be found in a late statistical statement of Director Logan W. Page, of the United States Office of Public Roads, as to the direct bearing of roads upon school attendance.

In the good-roads States of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Ohio, Indiana and Connecticut the average percentage of enrolled pupils attending schools was 77.11 in 1909. The average percentage of improved roads in those States was 64.92. In the bad-roads States of Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, South Dakota and Georgia, the average percentage of enrolled pupils in attendance was but 59.16. The average percentage of roads improved was 3.65.

A strong economic justification of good roads is to be read in the further statement that in twenty-five counties, chosen at random in twelve States, the population from 1890 to 1900 decreased at the rate of 2.711 per county, as a total for the twenty-five counties of 77,775. The same counties gave an average of but 1.3 per cent of road improvement in 1904. Twenty-five other counties chosen in the same States, where 40 per cent of the roads were improved in 1904, gave an increase in population of 777,855, or an average of 31,904 for each county.

If we once put into the mind of the average American the facts that good roads increase population, increase individual profits, decrease the individual cost of living, uphold the schools and accelerate community progress, we then shall have placed most of the way to a national system of improved highways.

The boycott on eggs by 20,000 Chicago housewives will probably be a success, since the eggs have already boycotted the housewives.

Chicago's municipal Christmas tree is to be put on the Lake front and sprayed with water, so that it will be a spire of glistening ice. With free presents, however, there is no danger of a "frost."

Mexican politics right now is a game of "tag," with Vera Cruz as base.

Proceed with your Christmas purchasing with all possible punctuality.

THE NEW NAVAL PROGRAM.

Secretary Daniels wants a navy that shall be "adequate and well proportioned." For the present year he recommends two Dreadnoughts, eight destroyers and three submarines. This amounts practically to halving the increase of naval strength urged by the Navy Board. The latter believes we should have a fleet of forty-eight Dreadnoughts by 1920, if we are to maintain our rank as a world power.

We think the country as a whole will approve of Secretary Daniels's "middle course of wisdom." No matter what sentiment for peace may exist in the United States, we have to deal with a condition and not a theory. The maintenance of the Monroe Doctrine, the protection of the Panama Canal, the prospect of increased responsibilities in the Western Hemisphere, and the need for supporting the prestige and dignity of the nation in the Far East force upon us a sensible recognition that now is not the time to permit our naval power to become so weak as to hamper our efforts to promote international welfare as well as international peace. We may believe that immense naval expenditures are folly, but until the rest of the nations begin a policy of reduction, we are forced to seek the golden mean for self-protection.

If the announced program of the secretary, which we must assume is that of the Wilson administration, goes farther than the one ship a year idea of the last Congress, it still wisely avoids the extreme of the forty-eight battleships by 1920 ideal. It points out the significant fact that each of these new ships now costs about $15,000,000. It will take much argument to convince the nation that we need to expend forty-eight times that amount in six years.

Indeed, the advocacy of leadership for a reduced naval program, beginning with Winston Churchill's so-called "naval holiday" of a year, is more in keeping with the temper of the time and of the nation. We are admirably situated both geographically and politically to begin such a movement. No nation can afford to attempt this naval reduction alone, yet the lessons of increased budgets in Europe is driving the great naval powers to a serious consideration of what can be done to stop the mad race for battleship supremacy. It is not visionary to anticipate a conference led by the United States to agree upon some sane plan for relieving the nations of this tremendous drain. Even a single year's intermission would enable this country to put, say $10,000,000, into good roads or the fight against disease. It is hard to imagine a return after that to anything like the previous expenditures.

In all, Secretary Daniels has presented a program that shows he has ideas, originality and courage. It will probably satisfy the country as one preserving our strength without inviting extravagance.

A MOCKERY OF CLEMENCY.

Few acts of the administration of Governor Blease, of South Carolina, have attracted more general condemnation than his pardon of an even hundred convicts in order that they might return to their homes for Thanksgiving. Depopulation of the penitentiary is going ahead at a rapid rate, but just what reasons of public policy move the executive to such sweeping clemency no one seems to know.

This last time Governor Blease pardoned one man who had been dead two years. He pardoned another man for the second time, and this man has a record for murder, alleged robbery and murderous assault upon a sheriff. A third, whose case was pending in the State Supreme Court, was freed, although while a rural policeman on a single occasion, he shot one man, beat another over the head with a pistol, assaulted a third man and his wife, cursed and abused another woman and finally fell down in a drunken stupor.

Yet it was Governor Blease who at the Richmond Conference of Governors indignantly resented the question of Governor Carey, of Wyoming, when the latter asked him if as chief magistrate of South Carolina he had not sworn to uphold the law of the land.

It now turns out, according to the Chicago Record-Herald, that when Francis Sayre and Jessie Wilson were being married at the White House, a second happy pair, also Francis Sayre and Jessie Wilson, were being made one at Orange, Texas. We do not know whether this is a coincidence, or a premeditated effort of the Lone Star State to keep hold of the limelight.

Judge Jeremiah Smith, of Massachusetts, is the last actual Son of the Revolution alive. At the time of his birth, his father, Jeremiah Smith, Sr., was eighty years old and a veteran of Bunker Hill. The lives of father and son outspan the history of the United States by some years, and to reckon by British chronology, include the reigns of George III, George IV, William IV, Victoria, Edward VII, and George V.

Charles Brickley says he still has much to learn about drop-kicking. A word to Yale should be sufficient.

Some people say seven is a lucky number, but a Kentuckian has just been shot dead by his seventh wife.

We don't think the sun-worshiping cult will spread very fast in Richmond this weather.

Pennsylvania has forbidden the use of the common shaving brush in barber shops. How about the common saw with which so many barbers carpenter a man's face?

The Columbia State says: "The ordinary intelligent man has a sort of visiting acquaintance with, say, 5,000 words." But he needs only about five of these to express a vivid and accurate opinion of South Carolina politics.

General Villa has adopted a policy of "intervention" in Mexico.

TWO BUILDERS OF THE SOUTH.

Fairfax Harrison takes up the work which last week William Wilson Finley laid down. Throughout the great region for which he wrought so much, there is profound lamentation over the death of him who for seven years so wisely and farsightedly directed the affairs of the Southern Railway, a mourning that is tinctured to-day only by the thought that his successor is a close and trusted counselor who served for seventeen years under him. The South could wish no more heartening message from President Harrison than "I am in entire accord and sympathy with the policies of Mr. Finley. I hope to continue to build the Southern as he built it, by promoting and enhancing its usefulness and its cordial relations with the people of the South."

To bend the bow of William W. Finley is no ordinary man's task. We whom he served have just begun to measure the man and his achievement. It has been said of him that "he put his whole soul into the development of the South, probably doing more for it during the past fifteen years than any other man." He perceived that the Southern's problem was to develop the territory along its lines. He made it the policy of his road to carry on an extensive campaign for the improvement of agricultural conditions in the South, and the cause of the new agriculture in this section found in him a powerful apostle. He himself went to the people and pleaded not in vain for closer co-operation between shipper and carrier. He shaped the policy of his road to fit in with the new public policy as to railways. He widened in many ways the public service of his lines. He fashioned the course of the Southern to meet the new conditions of rate-making and of regulation, and to accede as far as possible to the sudden and general demand for safety appliances—and these things he did, in spite of apparently insuperable difficulties. He discharged with ability and with vision the overwhelming duties of his place, and he died a master builder.

So it comes about that for his successor is set an uncommon standard of capacity and constructive ability. Those who know President Harrison, however, are confident that he will fill the most exacting requirements of his post. His years of service in the legal and administrative departments of the Southern, his grasp of the problems of railroad finance, transportation and operation, his intimate knowledge of conditions, his experience as a railroad executive, and his recognized administrative ability support the general opinion that the man and the task have met.

Virginia, knowing him best, vouches for him to the South, as it vouched for his younger brother, who, likewise facing a great opportunity for administrative service, now governs the nation's vast dependency.

ON TIME AT MUSIC.

Madame Gadski, at the Auditorium on Thanksgiving night, had to wait by the piano for almost fifteen minutes while the ushers seated late-comers. Twice after she began her program, she had to stop for similar interruptions. The fault lay first of all with those few careless people who had consideration neither for a great singer nor the rest of the audience who came on time. It was a demonstration of that supreme ill-breeding which selfishly spoils pleasure for others under cover of an anonymous social gathering.

Secondly, the fault lay with the managers of the concert, and the neglect of certain precautions as to seating late-comers is so frequent at Richmond amusements that a word of remonstrance is not out of place. The remedy is simple. Ushers should be instructed not to seat any person after the set time at which the program begins. All those who enter after that time should be kept in the rear of the house, until such an intermission in the program as permits of their being seated without noise and confusion, that ruins the attunement between audience and performer.

It is not only the brief interruption that counts. More important is the break in that mysterious spiritual and emotional harmony between actor, or singer, on the one hand, and audience on the other. The artist feels that the offering is not appreciated. At the very opening of the program, there is a general sentiment of irritation. It is not fanciful to say that this results in a poorer performance.

We have praised the work done by the Philharmonic Society of Richmond in educating musical taste. We trust they will extend their educational work to the manners of the audiences. The first concert was rudely broken by ushers slamming down seats during piano-violin measures. Hereafter we expect strict enforcement of the rule that keeps thoughtless people out of the way until they cannot spoil the music or the tempers of both the audience and players.

Remember to do it early.

The Army mule certainly got the Navy's goat Saturday.

The Columbia Record is inclined to criticize Secretary Bryan for going out on the Potomac the other day to shoot ducks, with his small grandson, but every hunter of ducks knows that there's many a slip 'twixt the hunting and the killing thereof.

Why not give the Nobel peace prize next year to the man who invents a popular substitute for turkey hash?

This is the month when the family knocks pa's bank account into a cocked hat.

Lead pencils have been banished from the schools in Suffield, Conn., because they spread diphtheria. Everything in schools seems catching these days save knowledge.

WHAT WAS NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO

Reprinted from This Newspaper,

Theatrical.

At the New Richmond Theatre tonight: "The Angel of Death." In rehearsal: "The Wrecker's Daughter."

Affairs on the Rapidan.

Expectation of a general engagement between the armies of Generals Lee and Meade is disappointed.

The enemy is still feeling our position, reluctant to make an assault. General Lee wired the War Department yesterday that "the enemy opened their batteries on our lines yesterday." Some skirmishing took place, but no attack.

Passengers by the Fredericksburg train yesterday afternoon report that heavy cannonading was heard at Hamilton's Crossing when the train left.

One hundred and ten prisoners captured in Friday's engagement were brought to Richmond yesterday on the Central train. The more intelligent of them express the belief that it is the intention of Meade to winter in the vicinity of Fredericksburg. They say his army numbers about 75,000 effective men.

A Native Virginian.

J. W. C. Watson, the new Confederate Senator-elect from Mississippi, is a native of Albemarle and a graduate of the University of Virginia. For a short time he practiced law in Charlottesville and Abingdon.

Natural Bridge Property.

The celebrated Natural Bridge property, advertised to be sold on Thursday last, was bid in by the owners for $39,000.

Confederate Sympathizers in England.

On the 16th the Southern Club of Liverpool gave a magnificent banquet. Mr. Beresford Hope, M. P., offered an eloquent and highly laudatory toast to President Davis. A silent toast was drunk standing to the memory of General Stonewall Jackson. Mr. Hope prophesied that "the cause of the South would be crowned with a glorious success."

A Confederate Heroine.

"When Miss Emma Sansom volunteered her services to General Forrest and rendered him valuable assistance in the capture of the Yankee raider, Streit, in the vicinity of Rome, by showing him the nearest routes and the most accessible fords through Northern Georgia and Northeastern Alabama, she little dreamed, perhaps, that she was on the road to fame. Her name will be handed down to posterity as one of the heroines of this war. We notice that a bill has been reported from the select committee in the Legislature of Alabama for donating this heroic girl a medal and a section of land for female heroism."

Good Work.

The second-class militia now doing guard duty around some of the prisons are most efficiently serving.

Libby's Commandant Promoted.

Captain Thomas P. Turner, who has had charge of Libby Prison and its dependencies for many months past, was yesterday promoted to the rank of major.

Fair Races.

"The races at Broad Rock commence to-day, and we are assured that the sport will be unusually fine. For the two-mile purse three of the finest colts of their age are booked to start, and the friends of each are sanguine of success. Their owners have always contributed liberally to the comfort of soldiers' families, and the winner to-day will be sure to give to the helpless and needy a liberal slice of his good luck."

More Prisoners.

Twenty bushwhackers and spies brought from Atlanta were yesterday consigned to Castle Thunder.

Libby Prison yesterday received 566 Yankee prisoners from Atlanta.

Remember the Blues.

Contributions of clothing for the R. L. I. Blues, now present in service in South Carolina, must be sent to headquarters by Saturday, so that the representatives of the Blues in the city may take such supplies with them on their return.

Weather.

Monday night was desperately cold. Water in the hydrants was frozen so that heavy applications of hot water were necessary before the pipes yielded.

From the Army of Tennessee.

All quiet in front. The enemy is fortifying at Ringgold. General Wheeler captured in East Tennessee $200,000 worth of dry goods, which is being sent South.

Great fear is felt for Longstreet. Three thousand of the enemy are advancing toward Knoxville from Cleveland.

Our forces are still falling back, sternly followed by the enemy, and firing was going on all day yesterday.

From Lee's Army.

Our artillery opened on the enemy Monday morning quite spiritedly. The enemy responded briskly and an artillery duel was kept up during the day. At intervals there was some infantry skirmishing. The enemy have thrown up fortifications along their front. Up to 5 o'clock Tuesday only one or two discharges of artillery had taken place, and but little infantry skirmishing.

Our losses in Monday's artillery duel were slight. Captain Raines, of Lynchburg, member of the artillery, was killed.

From Charleston.

The Yankees fired thirteen shells at the city Monday night. Little firing on Sumter.

From the North.

It is rumored that Chief Justice Taney, of the United States Supreme Court, has resigned, and that Secretary of the Treasury Chase has been appointed to the vacancy.

Personal.

"The unknown lady who kindly presented to another lady on Broad Street, Church Hill, a pair of gold bands to be appropriated to the relief of the poor of that district is informed that the bands have been sold for $65 and that the sum has been applied as the kind donor desired."

Views of the Virginia Editors

Awake!

Opportunity knocks at the door of the farmers of Mathews to-day. They cannot afford to ignore it. Already progressive men from other sections are acquiring our lands for agricultural purposes. If farming in Mathews can be made profitable to them, why not our own people?

Are we less intelligent or more indolent than they? We think the latter, and it is high time that we awake.—Mathews Journal.

The Higher Love.

There are some beautiful pictures in the world, and they are not all on the walls of the art galleries, either. While out walking with a number of gentlemen last Sunday, we saw through the window of the Presbyterian School building a little five-year-old orphan boy kissing and caressing his seven-year-old sister as only lovers can. The death of the mother has only made their love for each other stronger, and as they darted away when they discovered we were watching them in reverential admiration, most of the men in the crowd, including our Christian judge of the courts, instinctively lifted their hats. No man can set a price on what the above named school is doing for little red-blooded children like these.—Sandy Valley News.

Killed a Buck.

Mr. J. B. Cuningham had the good fortune to bring down a fine buck last Saturday. Some half dozen have been taken home this season. The woods are full of them.—Warminster correspondence James River Clarion.

Game Protection.

It will be good news to all advocates of proper game protection in Virginia to learn that Delegate Hugh A. White, of Rockbridge County, one of the most prominent and influential members of the House of Delegates, will introduce in the next House a model game bill prepared by Captain Jennings C. Wise, of the Virginia Military Institute, and modeled on lines similar to the Moncure-Rutherford game bill, which at the last session passed the Senate, but wasn't reached on the House calendar in time for a vote. Both the Moncure-Rutherford bill and the new Wise bill are almost exact copies of the Alabama law, said to be the best game law in the United States. We are deeply interested in the success of the bill to be introduced by Mr. White, and bespeak for it the cordial support of the Senators and Delegates from this section. The conservation of our diminishing game supply is a matter which admits of no further legislative delay.—Fredericksburg Star.

Public Opinion and Education.

The News feels that the teachers of Virginia do not receive their full deserts, either in compensation or in the disposition of the public to appreciate the value of their work—or to understand the difficulties with which they are confronted. The News feels that the people at large are not only remiss in this, but that they are too little inclined to pause and consider for themselves the needs of public education in Virginia, and lend their moral support at least to movements designed to remedy. Virginia public opinion cannot claim ignorance with respect to these matters—for enlightenment is constantly being afforded, and in such measure that only the wilfully blind can fail to see and understand. It can only defend its lack of militant insistence for obviously demanded reforms by pleading indifference and lethargy; but surely to make such excuse is but to enter plea of guilty. The country school, for example, is handicapped with terms entirely too brief; their teachers are in many instances not even paid living salaries, and so the child of rural Virginia suffers prejudice and injustice at the hands of this State. We all know this. We all admit the defect. We all will agree as to the gravity and exasperating significance of the defect. The press of the State is constantly seeking to create a state of public opinion that will demand sufficient enlargement of expenditures for rural school purposes, to meet the imperatively demanded, fully deserved requirements which are thus constantly knocking at the door of the State's conscience. But as yet public opinion has been all too satisfied to let things drift, to witness in mood of sleepy placidity the heroic labors of those who are toiling in the field of education, who in the very sweat of their brow, and out of all that can be realized from heart-consecration and mind-coinage are seeking to so improve the soil they till that the harvest of one year may be richer than that of the year before, and that one of these days Virginia will take proud place among other Commonwealths who stand acquit of dereliction as to the debt they owe their people, to afford all reasonable educational facilities for children who have right to claim them as a matter of just inheritance.—Lynchburg News.

A Graveyard Opossum.

I see from the papers some one from the far South has presented Miss Jessie Wilson with a "graveyard" opossum on the eve of her marriage. This reminds me that thirty years ago the flat woods around Dublin were alive with opossums and coons, and Dr. John Vermillion, Dr. J. C. Darst, H. G. Wygal and myself caught hundreds of them. Being principally after coons, we only kept the finest specimens of opossums. Out of the greatest quantities we and others caught I never heard of but one "graveyard" opossum. This Albino was caught near the residence of Mr. H. C. Wysor, close to his spring. He was snow-white and twice as large as any common opossum I had ever seen. Have any of your readers ever seen one of these "freaks" of the species?—James D. Stearnes, in the Southwest Times.

The Fireplace.

Notwithstanding all the modern inventions for heating, we tell you there is nothing so full of geniality and sociability as the old-fashioned country fireplace. The neighbors were to come in for a winter evening of sociability. In the middle of the afternoon, in the best room in the house, some one brought in a great back log, with great strain, and put it down on the back of the hearth. Then the lighter wood was put on armful after armful. Then a shovel of coals was taken from another room and put under the dry pile, and the kindling began, and the crackling, and it rose until it became a roaring flame which filled all the room with geniality and was reflected from the family pictures on the wall. Then the neighbors came in two by two. They sat down, their faces to the fire, which ever and anon was stirred with tongs and readjusted on the andirons, and there were such times of rustic repartee and story-telling and mirth as the black stove and blind register never dreamed of. Meanwhile the table was being spread, and so fair was cloth and so clean was the cutlery they glisten and glisten in our mind to-day. And then the best luxury of orchards and farmyard was roasted and prepared for the table to meet the appetites sharpened by the cold ride. We heartily wish for a return of the old fireplace. Our readers, whose locks have whitened by the frosts of many winters, know that this pen picture of the fireplace is true to life.—Free State News.

News That Was.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch is getting in a very fresh lot of news. This "intelligence" is only fifty years old, and was published originally in the Dispatch. It is zweibach, so to speak.—Charlottesville Progress.

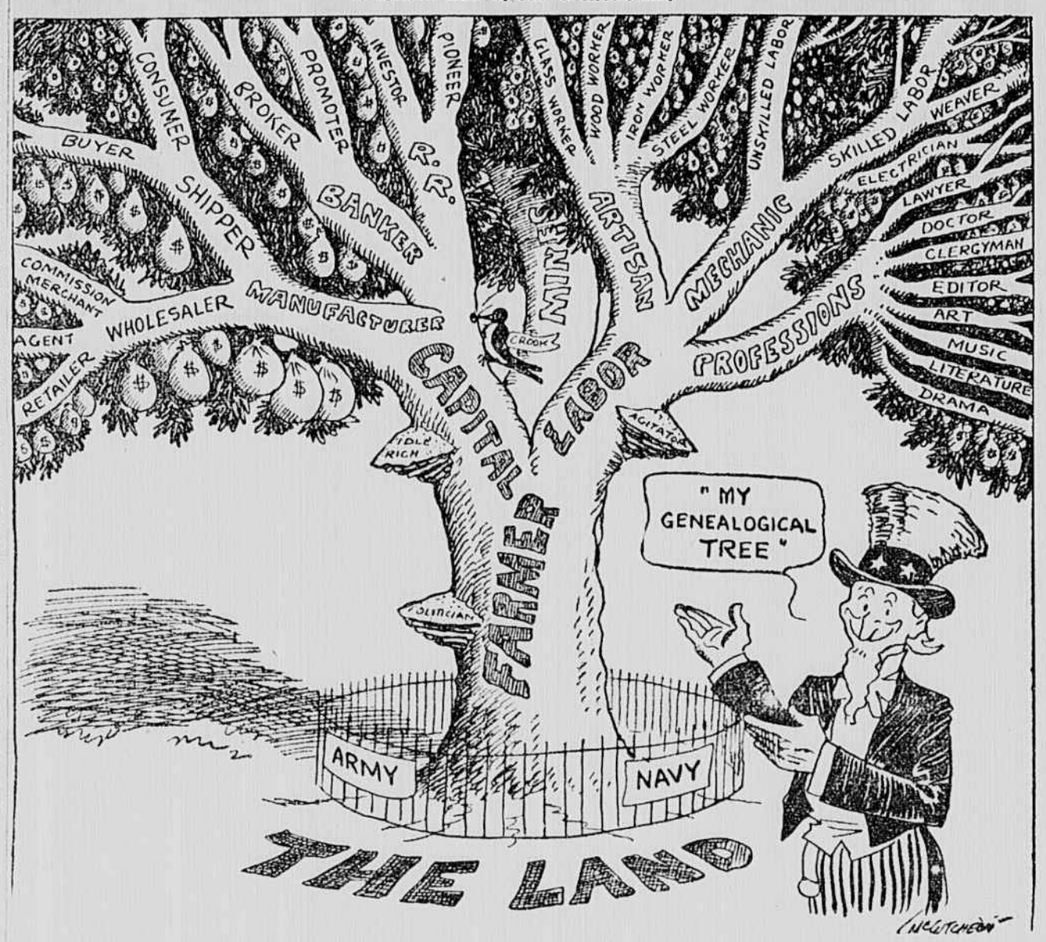
Abe Martin

It used t' be a common sight t' see a feller in ordinary circumstances greasin' his saw with a bacon rind. A house divided again' itself is bad enough, but a skirt is th' limit.

UNCLE SAM'S GENEALOGICAL TREE.

By John T. McCutcheon.

[Copyright, 1913, By John T. McCutcheon.]



Voice of the People

Criticizes School Conditions in Amelia.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Having read the different articles in your paper regarding the non-attendance of children at State schools, may not the present school system and the administration of school funds be partly responsible? I at present am a patron of Promised Land School, Giles District, Amelia County, the same being a rural school, the patrons of which have shown their appreciation of educational advantages in a practical way, as well as having their children attend school.

But I am sorry to say that their efforts have not met with that support and encouragement from the State educational authorities that a person would expect they should, from reading your article in the issue of 23d instant.

Until last term this school was held in a building and lack of buildings which was a disgrace to any community.

After several meetings of the district board and patrons, it was agreed to erect a school of two rooms, and that two teachers be engaged—a condition being that the patrons pay a substantial amount of the cost of the building.

The new school was opened last term, and two teachers engaged. However, shortly afterward, owing to an outbreak of measles and whooping cough, the attendance fell away, and one of our teachers was removed to the high school at the courthouse.

Now this term our board has only supplied us with one teacher, who is unable to do justice to the school because of the number of scholars of different grades. Lack of funds is the reason given for not engaging the second teacher, but our subscription was given and accepted on condition that the school should have two teachers.

The patrons of this school have become wearied of the chronic paring process of our board, which we fall ever to see applied to the high school, an institution no doubt of great value to those situated fortunately enough to avail themselves of its advantages.

However, if its advantages are to be gained at the financial and physical expense of the less favored country patrons, then it defeats the purpose of the State, which I assume is to see that every child of the State gets an elementary education.

Why not let the local control of such school be given to a board of trustees elected from the patrons of that particular school, subject to State supervision? This would both interest and educate the patrons in educational affairs, and their school would not be subject to the will and pleasure of their district board, whose members may have their personal interest centred in some other school, as I think it is too much to expect of human nature to place any three men in such a position and expect the administration of its affairs, as each school is entitled to.

PATRON.

Amelia Courthouse.

Good Schools Before Compulsory Education.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—In a late issue of The Times-Dispatch you quote at some length from the Virginia Journal of Education about "Virginia's Ignorant Children." The Journal says: "The next Legislature should provide by constitutional amendment a stiff, State-wide, compulsory education law."

Permit me a few words as to this. I have a very firm belief in the strong, good, common sense of the people of this Commonwealth, that they need no compulsion to the education of their children, if really good education is put within their reach. It is generally admitted that much of the schooling now offered them, especially in the country, which is a very large part of Virginia, is not good. It is as good, I think, as can be expected from it, considering its cost; but the outlay for it is too small to get such teaching as we ought to have. Therefore, let us first make the schools really good schools—all of them, in town and country—and see if the parents then decline to send their children. Try this plan first before you use compulsion. Of course, this means more taxes, but I, for one, and many others, I am sure, will gladly pay more, if by so doing we can remedy the evil, though I now pay about a tenth of my income in taxes (State and city). Let us not try compulsion, except as a last resort. The Virginians are hard to drive. Witness what it cost to force them back into the Union in '61-'65. They should be "humored and not drove," as the pieman said to Tom Pinch, of the meat-pie, which Tom was trying to force into his pocket. I firmly believe they will, nine out of ten of them, use the schools and profit much by them, if the schools be made what they ought to be—places where good citizens are made. Where the children learn to do their duty in that state of life to which it shall please God to call them.

The plan of forcing them to use the schools reminds me of the story current during the Spanish War (I do not vouch for its truth), that the commissary-general of the United States Army, when he heard that the soldiers in Cuba would not eat the "embalmed" beef served out as rations, said: "D—n 'em, they shall eat it."

BERKELEY MINOR.

Staunton.

A Suitable Gift

can always be satisfactorily solved by opening a savings account in favor of the person to be remembered. Such a gift is certain to be appreciated, and, furthermore, continually increases in value by reason of the interest which accumulates upon it year after year.

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