

The State Dispatch

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—By—
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Wednesday, Feb. 26, 1913.

Now is a good time to be vaccinated.

The Justice Primary bill for state wide Primary law has gone the way of all good things that has to pass through the State Legislature.

Good Roads.

Several months ago we offered a brief outline for a bond issue for the building of two hundred miles or more of sand clay road in Alamance County. This proposition brought forth many favorable comments with a few kicks.

The reason we made the suggestion that we did was we are very anxious to see our country traversed in every section by well graded, drained and finished roads so that the citizens living in the most remote section of our country may receive the same proportions of benefits from our road investments that the citizens living near the center of the county.

Under present conditions this wish can never be realized, because the Macadam Roads that we now have are worth very little in a direct way to the citizens of Morton, Faucette, Pleasant grove, Thompson, Newlin, and Patterson Townships; because a man can haul no larger load to town than the amount he can haul from his home to the nearest point on a macadam road.

We propose the issuing of 50 year, 5% bond taxable in Alamance County. Issue these bonds at the rate of 50,000.00 a year and we will give an opportunity for all of the work to be done by the citizens of Alamance County and when the contract for grading is let, have it a part of the contract that the party doing the work must take as payment the bonds issued. This will give the citizens of Alamance County an opportunity to increase their wealth at the rate of \$50,000.00 annually. There is many farmers in our county that spend the month of July and August, December January and February in going fishing, going to the mill, cutting fire wood and occasionally going to town.

Take for granted that he has only three months in the year to spend the time in hauling or grading on a piece of road. By this method he would have a better road, and the community a more useful citizen.

We are conscious of the fact there some people in the country who will not support this measure simply because we are advocating it, there others that are opposed to it on account of increased taxation and the remainder that is not for it are against it on account of indifference, unfortunately this class is very large and very difficult to reach; because they take very little interest in public progress.

Those who favor this plan see

the extension of our present macadam road system to the extreme point in every section of our county, and by its side better farmers and better farming, more homes and prettier homes with a happy and more enthusiastic people, with more money and increased opportunity for better and nobler things of life.

Our plan may fail and this suggestion be ignored but here and now we serve notice on you that in a few short years this plan or a similar plan will be adopted and in effect in Alamance County, and we simply ask; Why do you wait to be led rather than be a leader?

The opportunity and possibilities as a county are within your grasp and it is a question for you to decide whether for you to accept or reject, and we hope and believe that you will give serious consideration to this outline and finally adopt it in part, if not as a whole.

The Antis Win.

At a mass meeting held in the Mayor's office Monday afternoon to discuss a proposed charter for the city of Burlington. The chronic kickers, reactionaries and destructionists, with a few short speeches delivered by uninformed parties under the thread bare plea of patriotism and loyalty to city government. One speech was nothing more than Swan Song breathed from a derelict politician stranded upon the sands of a sinking municipality, breathing out notes of discord, words of discouragement and distorted facts.

This appeal caught the ear of the indifferent and careless citizens and they gloried in the failure of effort to rehabilitate our city government and bring success out of failure, and remove the conditions that is causing a deficit of Three to Five Thousand Dollars annually in our city government.

Many of our best informed citizens do not know that if present conditions continue and the present floating indebtedness continues to increase at the present rate, its only a question of time until a final adjustment will be forced upon the private owners. This is no idle dream or far-fetched, or unthoughted statement and is not made to arouse your interest in the welfare of our town and in ourselves.

There were many at the meeting who favor a commission government and we believe a majority of the town do, but they were of the opinion that the Chamber of Commerce was trying to railroad something through that was of personal interest rather than of public improvement. These same people have from time requested that a charter for a commission form of government be prepared and they would be for it; this was done at the request of many of Burlington's most prominent and influential people, but when the final test came they were deluded by the same snare that have caught many an innocent and honest man. It is no trouble to see the hand writing on the wall if you have studied carefully the situation in Burlington.

The triumvirate that controlled Burlington when we came, control the government still. They were not very well represented Monday evening but the work was accomplished by innocent lieutenants. If the leading opponents of this bill had something to offer as a substitute or would have been courteous enough to have revised and amended what was offered they would have had more of the true spirit of a patriotic citizen, but instead misrepresented the facts and cried out in bold terms; that they were "agin" it and would oppose it to the last, regardless of others wishes. And many of the opponents to the bill asked that it be submitted to the people and let

the people rule. This sounds strange when the hero of the hour was the same man that presented ring chosen democratic candidate for Mayor to a mass meeting as a candidate of the people, but when the people spoke the verdict was otherwise. We are forced to say; "O consistency thou art a jewel that has never adorned the crown of a chronic kicker!"

In this connection the words of England's great Kipling rings in our ears. "Great God of Nations be with us yet, Lest we forget, Lest we forget."

Commission Form of Government.

There is a bill pending in the General Assembly to permit any town or city in the state to adopt the commission form of government whenever a majority of the cities desire to do so. At present a special act of the Legislature is necessary. Mr. Long, of Alamance, has introduced a careful prepared general act, under which any town or city can secure this improved method of municipal government. It is framed somewhat along the lines of the excellent New Jersey act. To show how this system works in a Colorado city, the following special is printed:

Colorado Springs, Col., Feb. 24. —Ask the butcher, the baker or the candestick maker what he thinks of the commission form of government as it has been worked out for four years in Colorado Springs; then on top of these, ask the banker and law-year, the laborer and artisan; above all, ask the taxpayers and the answer from one and all will be the same.

"Colorado Springs, is regretting that it didn't adopt some such system thirty years ago instead of waiting all that time for political corruption, mismanagement of city affairs and incompetency of office holders to force the issue. Colorado Springs adopted the commission form of government May 11, 1909.

"Since then, Colorado Springs has accomplished so many things that it is fairly amazed at itself.

"The bondage indebtedness of the city has been reduced \$356,000, reducing the annual interest charge more than \$14,000.

"This is the showing of our years as against \$15,000 paid off in the preceding thirty years.

"The city now owns its water works. Its bonded indebtedness for this purpose is \$1,57,00, at 4 per cent and a sinking fund is provided. In 1912 this fund was \$66,000, and in 1913 is \$77,000. After doing this and providing the salaries, operation and upkeep the cost per year to the city of Colorado Springs for the maintenance of this department has been from \$3,000 to \$10,000 less than under the old system.

"In four years twenty blocks or asphalt paving have been laid for \$1.40 a cubic yard, which is from 25 to 33 1-3 per cent less than any city in the West ever for similar work.

"While the salaries and wages of the Police Department have been increased under commission government, the expenses of the department have been reduced. Patrolman who formerly received \$75 per twelve hours' work are getting \$80 for eight hours' work."

But we do not need to go to Colorado to find how well the commission form of government works. We have example in Columbia, S. C., and in Greensboro in this state. In both cities there have been real reforms, and nobody in either city would think of going back to the old plan of divided responsibility that lags superfluous on the stage in Raleigh.

Let the Long bill become a law. It means more than every bill introduced this session to improve government in municipalities. — News and Observer.

Francisco Madero Deposed Mexican President Shot Dead in Street

Mexico City, Feb. 23. —Francisco I. Madero and Jose Pino Suarez, deposed President and Vice President, respectively of the Mexican Republic, were shot and killed today when an attempt was made to rescue them from an automobile that was transferring them to the penitentiary.

News of the death of Madero and Suarez was confirmed by General Puerta. Previously it had been announced that the transfer from the Palace to the penitentiary had been made successfully.

Two of the party that attacked the automobile were killed in the exchange of shots.

Large crowds assembled at the scene of the killing. While women wept and there were signs of generally quiet. The guards at the penitentiary have been increased and no one is permitted to see the slain men. — Major Cardagas and two other officers who were in charge of the guard of rurales escorting the automobile, have been imprisoned pending an investigation by the Attorney General.

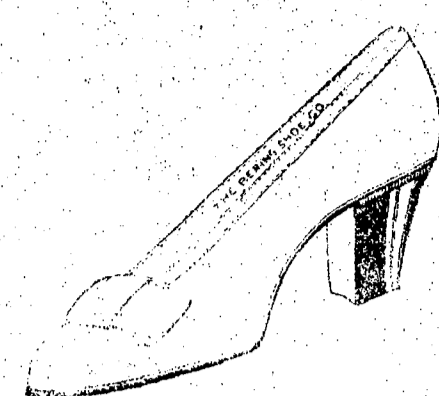
The bodies of Madero and Suarez are being held in the penitentiary. Relatives and friends are making efforts to recover them.

General Huerts in an official statement said that when the attempt to rescue them was made Madero and Suarez tried to escape.

"The Government" he continues, "promises that society shall be fully satisfied as to facts in the case. The commanders of the escort are now under arrest."

The attempt to rescue Madero and Suarez, the official version says, was made about midnight when the party escorting the prisoners was approaching the penitentiary.

What's What In White Footwear

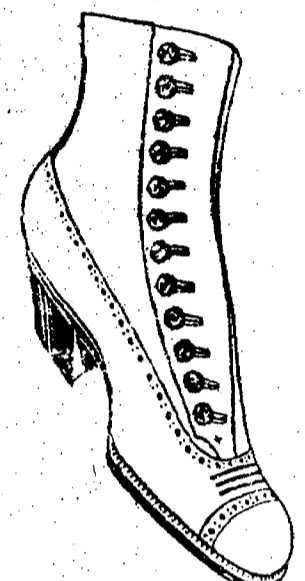


NO daintier, airier, or more graceful white boots imaginable than the models we are now showing for the Young Women, Misses and Children in white Washable Buck Sea Island and Duck with fancy buttons to match.

The only way you can appreciate the beauty and custom effect of these new white shoes is to come in and have the pleasure of trying a pair on.

Our Special display of white boots, Pumps and Oxfords now at its height. A good chance for you to see 'what's what' in footwear for Easter and early spring wear.

Remember that Easter comes early this year, March 23rd. We most cordially invite you to visit this display.



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