

The Charlotte News

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1911.

FICTION MAGAZINE.

When tired and worn, my spirit leans upon those fiction magazines for such refreshment as I need. I read of many a gory deed, in cowboy camps or city slums, I read of tramps and toughs and bums. These are the gripping tales in which the fiction magazines are rich. And when I've read a few I seize some hatchets, bombs and snick-ersness, and run amuck and leave a trail of dead men in my native vale. I like good yarns that take the breath; I'm fond of blood and sudden death, but in the fiction of today, the gentleman who starts to slay is not the kind that I endorse; his work is often rude and coarse. O for the grand old musketeers we read of in our younger years! They killed so gracefully and well their victims blessed them as they fell! O for the yarns of Walter Scott, whose heroes kept their clay-mores hot, who stabbed and scragged in deadly hugs, and yet were gentlemen, not thugs. The fiction writer does his best, and gives us scraps of East and West, he gives us buckets full of gore, but something's lacking, evermore. The author's tale of pirate gold and fighting men but leaves us cold. Alas, the thrills of youth are sped, and "Treasure Island" days are dead!

WALT MASON.

(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams.)

HAIL TO THE GROUND HOG!

Lewis T. Moore, weather chief, and the great army of under-studies who circulate his atmospheric vagaries, is a minus quantity today. His prognostications upon listless ears fall. The nation stops a pace from feasting upon delusive forecasts to fix a thousand eyes upon his highness, the ground hog.

Before the goddess of chance elevated the weather man to quasi distinction, the ground hog was annually dealing out prognostications as true as the stars above. Countless plots have been conceived by envious weather dope disseminators to cast aspersions upon the woodchuck's veracity, but his word stands today unimpached. He refuses to join the Acanthis club of either the colonel or Mr. Moore. On the contrary he prefers to chuckle to himself over the discomfiture experienced by those who put forth forecasts conflicting with his own.

We respect his groundhogship. His sincerity, and the utter accuracy of his prophecies have long since won a deep place in our confidence. At the hour of writing, the skies are leaden, and there is no chance for a shadow. Which means that we are to be blessed with good weather. The dire eventually beheading the reflection of the ominous shadow would seem to have been passed safely, and again we drink a health to the prince of prognosticators, the only and original and never to be doubted dispenser of authentic weather dope.

BACHELORS IN BAD COMPANY.

Representative Ewart, who, by the way, appears to have contracted the habit of continuously introducing bills, has just proposed a measure which may result in his political in-cheration. He proposes to place a tax on "dogs, justices of the peace and bachelors."

This is not the first shaft aimed at the dog. As a matter of fact he is getting to be more in disgrace daily, and it is most probable that his liberties will be greatly curtailed by lawmakers.

Justices of the peace—a hard worked set whose labors are rarely ever appreciated—have thus far escaped the daggers of the lawmakers. And as for the bachelors—since time immemorial a lot of he women and she men have attempted to further burden down their souls—and minister the third degree, as it were. Instead of being fixed the bachelor stands out alone as in first need of pension. Mr. Ewart's in-

humanity is only surpassed by his utter recklessness in classing the last two mentioned species along with the first. A bachelor may lead a dog's life, metaphorically speaking, and at times the justice of the peace may consider his lot nothing short of beastly, but to put the two on a parity with the first mentioned is a punishment not deserved by them, as it is a recognition the dog has never really merited.

RECIPROCITY TREATY.

It is scarcely to be doubted that a tremendous majority of American citizens would vote in favor of the proposed reciprocity treaty with Canada if given such an opportunity. President Taft has taken a long step in the right direction in proposing such a removal of the resent tariff wall. Strength to his right arm in the fight which will naturally ensue with standpatters. It is almost too much to hope that congress will sanction his suggestions at this session.

The trade barrier between Canada and the United States has borne heavily upon consumers. Should the proposed treaty be put into effect a pronounced reduction in those commodities exchanged by the two countries might be expected. Grain, lumber, food products—many articles are affected by the tariff wall now in effect. The United States carries on a big business in exports with Canada, and vice versa. The removal of high duties on articles exchanged would work to the benefit of consumers of both countries. It is hardly to be expected, however, that protective tariff republicans will easily abandon their pet theories, and the ultimate decision on this matter will no doubt be long delayed.

From the number of petitions going up from counties all over the state near beer seems to be an unwelcome guest throughout Tar Heel.

Charlotte is to have a new 10 story skyscraper.

He did not see his shadow. Glory! High Point continues to insurge.

As to Near-Beer.

We believe that Mr. Kellum, in his efforts to have New Hanover county excluded from the operation of the state-wide near-beer bill, represents neither the majority nor the best of the public sentiment there on this question. It is generally recognized everywhere that "near-beer" is merely a subterfuge, a delusion and a snare, a cloak for the more open violation of a law on the statute books. Regardless of their convictions as to the advisability or the efficacy of prohibition, there can be no question in a good citizenship as to the respect and observance due the law, and anything that makes for law enforcement should receive the support of a patriotic people. The exclusion of New Hanover from the state law can certainly do no good and there are possibilities in it for continued great harm. The committee of the house did well in reporting the bill favorably. It ought to pass without further amendment or quibbling.—Wilmington Star.



SENATOR LUKE LEA.

The youngest member of the United States Senate, Luke Lea of Tennessee, who was recently elected to the legislature at Nashville. Mr. Lea is only 32 years of age, and although he has been prominent in politics for the past five years, he has never before been a candidate for office. He is a member of an old aristocratic Southern family, and a graduate of the University of Sewanee. Besides being a prominent prohibitionist, he is owner of the Nashville Tennessee and American, and is head of that wing of the democratic party in Tennessee opposed to ex-Governor Malcolm R. Patterson.

It is almost as bad to having a falling out with a girl in a hammock as to fall in with her while skating.

Most women are two-faced, to judge them before and after making up.

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Gentle Raps at The News

The Right Kind of Name. Charlotte retains her mint—and now we'll see what's in a name.—Greensboro News.

Keep the Change.

The News of that city says "Charlotte harbors more spankable timber than any other town in Dixie." We always knew the Homet city was great soot for something. Clever to tell us.—Durham Sun.

"Full Man" or "Man Full?"

When we said "full man," dear Patton, we meant it. If a transposition of the words suits your purpose better, we have no objection—go ahead!—Greensboro News.

Fast Members.

Since editor Clark, of the Raleigh Times, has proven himself to be both a resourceful and clever sleuth in his hookworm investigations, we name him as a committee of one to pass upon the color of hair effected by Editors Cowan and Wichard. Let the report be made at the Winston meeting.—Charlotte News.

Suggests a hookworm expert for our case, does he? We are beginning to feel like some peace-maker is going to get it in the neck, someone bystander is going to get shot, because even if Wichard, of The Reflector, does labor under the sad, crazy impression that our soft blonde tresses are a brickdust hue like his own top-knot, a hookworm expert can't pass upon the merits of the case. We'll be ding-busted if there is anything slow about either one of us.—Wilmington Dispatch.

A Red-Headed Contemporary.

Hear, ye this from the Raleigh Evening Times:

"What effect does the hookworm have on the color of the hair? Patton, of the Charlotte News, says it causes red hair, but Cowan, of The Wilmington Dispatch, resents the allegation and threatens to show, the allegator a thing or two. We also expect to see Wichard, of the Greenville Reflector, for obvious reasons, come to the defense of the red-headed man. Patton, however, has been making a special study of hookworm and may be able to defend his position."

Dog-rot it! There's that darn hookworm again! Of course, we know our position clearly, but have we got to insist on Dr. Stiles calling on Wichard? Its 'nough to make a fellow red-headed when he isn't.—Wilmington Dispatch.

A KING WHO LEFT HOME

set the world talking, but Paul Mathuka, of Buffalo, N. Y., says he always KEEPS AT HOME the King of all Laxatives—Dr. King's New Life Pills—and that they're a blessing to all his family. Cure constipation, headache, indigestion, dyspepsia. Only 25c at W. L. Hand & Co.'s.

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- 1 6-room house, W. Fifth St. \$20.00
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- 1 5-room house, corner Graham and 12th Sts. \$15.00
- 1 4-room house, East Oak St. \$12.50
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- 2 4-room houses, N. Brevard St. \$5.00

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