

The Charlotte News

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Announcement: The attention of the public is respectfully invited to the following: In Memoriam Notices, Cards of Thanks, etc.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12, 1911.

EXPERIMENTS.

These be times of fads and wrinkles, these be hot and rest-less days; something that new attracts us from the old, time-honored ways. And the customs of our fathers we, the children, have outgrown; and the wisdom of the sages seems to us a futile man.

—WALT MASON.

(Copyright, 1911, by George Matthew Adams.)

"I TOOK THE CANAL ZONE."

It begins to appear now as if congress will investigate the method by which the Panama Canal was secured by Uncle Sam.

In the course of an address delivered recently, Colonel Roosevelt took occasion to proudly declare, "I took the Canal Zone." Since congress is supposed to have a hand in the "taking" of things this instance of official usurpation of authority will be looked into, and it should be. The Baltimore Sun thinks it would be well to look into the affair:

"The investigation that Representative Rainey, of Illinois, proposes into the method by which the Panama Canal was acquired may give us the inside facts in regard to transactions which never have been thoroughly explained. Colonel Roosevelt's boast that he 'took the Canal Zone' without waiting for the consent of congress or anyone else throws just enough light on the matter to allow us to see that the secession of Panama and the purchase of the Canal Zone were marked by an irregularity that seems to have characterized all the proceedings in regard to the acquisition of the canal.

THE NEW ASSAYER.

The new act of congress makes it imperative that the assayer at the government mint be an expert chemist. Col. W. S. Pearson is a thorough gentleman, an accomplished scholar, a polished writer, an able lawyer—in fact he is an expert in almost any line except chemistry.

THE COMMISSION FORM.

As noted in yesterday's dispatches, Winston-Salem defeated the commission form of government.

The Journal, which supported the commission form idea, discusses the situation in the following reasonable and conservative manner: "The people of Winston voted yesterday to reject the commission form of government. It goes without saying that we regret it very much for we believe that it is the best system of city government that has yet been devised. We have never been so sanguine, however, as to believe that commission government would solve all the problems that a city is heir to. Far more important than the form of government is the spirit of the men who run the government.

"Now it is up to the people of Winston to see that the proper men are elected to office, men who will place the welfare of the city against personal advancement. A city government is safe usually so long as the people keep their eyes on it. The politicians get in their manness when the people are attending their own business and letting the city run itself.

"We know that the election yesterday was extremely valuable, even if 'our side' was defeated. It was valuable because it made the people think and talk about city affairs.

"Our plea now is that the people of Winston, regardless of their views on the best type of government, come together and see that good men are elected to fill our municipal offices. The safety of Winston lies not so much in the hands of the officers as in the hands of the men who choose the officers."

That is good after election advice. The men who cast the votes have as much to do in keeping a city upon the right course as the men elected to office, and the interest and co-operation of every citizen should always be in evidence.

As The Journal wisely observes, "Far more important than the form of government is the spirit of the men who run the government." A great many thinking men believe the commission form is the best form. Others conscientiously differ. No form of government can be well administered unless the best men are chosen to offices, and are then backed-up by citizens.

FRAUD IN ELECTIONS.

The very foundation of a republican form of government rests upon the ballot. When our elections become contaminated by bribery and fraud the very life of our government will be destroyed. Every step in the direction of corruption should be checked, and in this matter every honest citizen should be vitally interested.

The citizenship of North Carolina upon the whole is of a high type—made up of honest men who do not sanction bribery and corruption.

And yet in at least two cities there appears to be an incipient outcropping of political crookedness which should not be tolerated for one day.

In the Fifth Ward of Asheville it is alleged that votes were bought and sold.

From several sources charges have been openly made that corruption existed in the recent primary in our own city. Besides, from lip to lip rumors have passed of the use of money and liquor in influencing votes. Several men have made positive charges, and are therefore, we fancy, in possession of facts which would result in convictions. One of the best known and most respected ministers of the city has charged from his pulpit that all forms of corruption existed.

These are things which cannot be allowed to pass unnoticed. Numerous papers throughout this section are deploring the "fearful" conditions which they declare exist in Charlotte.

As stated before The News believes the entire affair has been exaggerated to the last degree, and yet if whiskey and money were used to buy one vote the matter should not be allowed to drop until it is thoroughly investigated and the guilty parties convicted. The work of the grand jury is clearly defined, and the work of those men who have been making positive charges of corruption is no less clear. As good citizens they should furnish

The Secret of Success

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Have you ever stopped to reason why it is that so many products that are extensively advertised, all at once drop out of sight and are soon forgotten? The reason is plain—the article did not fulfill the promises of the manufacturer. This applies more particularly to a medicine. A medicinal preparation that has real curative value almost sells itself, as like an endless chain system the remedy is recommended by those who have been cured, to those who are in need of it.

In an interview on the subject a prominent local druggist says "Take for example Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, a preparation I have sold for many years and never hesitate to recommend for in almost every case it shows results, as many of my customers testify. No other kidney remedy that I know of has so large a sale." The success of Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is due to the fact that it fulfills every wish in overcoming kidney, liver and bladder diseases, corrects urinary troubles and neutralizes the uric acid which causes rheumatism.

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The damning evidence in their possession, in order that there may be no handicap to a full and complete unraveling of the web.

This editorial from The Asheville Citizen should be of particular interest here:

"The charges of fraudulent voting in the recent commission election will come as a matter of surprising news to our citizenship. Such conditions have been generally discussed since the day of the recent election, but now that substantial citizens have openly charged perjury and fraud, and that these charges will be backed up by what is claimed to be substantial evidence, it is the duty of the respectable citizenship of Asheville to see that these charges be relentlessly investigated by the next grand jury. Disregarding entirely all questions of political gain or loss, the fair name of our city must be preserved. Asheville must not be held up as a seething center of political debauchery.

"Appealing for relief from alleged unbearable and disgraceful conditions ten reputable men who move in our circles of everyday life have affixed their signatures to an open statement wherein it is charged, that shameful conditions have featured elections in the Fifth precinct for years and they call upon the decent manhood of Asheville to aid them in wiping out the political juggler who brazenly boasts of his prowess in pushing through the illegal voter.

Each succeeding year makes stronger the appeal for the Australian ballot and the leaders of the dominant party in North Carolina, if they are alive to the future salvation of the party in this state, must see to it that the day of bribery and corruption, of falsehood and debauchery, of perjury and fraud shall end. The democratic party has nothing to fear from the Australian ballot; rather has it everything to gain, for no party which knowingly stands upon questionable foundations can long endure. The conditions which are alleged to have existed in the Fifth precinct would not be possible under the form of ballot which intelligent communities in a majority of the states have adopted. We repeat that it behooves the best element of the party to get behind the movement which looks to the establishment of the Australian ballot in North Carolina."

EDITORIAL JOTTINGS.

One more week, and the girls of this town will make Solomon in all his glory and the lilies of the field look like crayon sketches, or else we won't know Washington.—Washington Post.

"Shipwreck de luxe," the rescued passengers of the Frigates Irene called their experience. We shall yet hear of railroad collisions a carte.—New York Tribune.

If the comic supplements were done away with in the Sunday newspapers, it would not be the children who suffered, but father.—Charleston (S. C.) Post.

"Americans will pay \$7,000,000 for coronation seats." And just to see England reaching out for that hand across the sea.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

No doubt the Colonel would be heartily in favor of the recall of himself.—Richmond News-Leader.

It is said that the men who do the most kicking over bills for Easter hats spend the most money for cigars.—Petersburg Index-Appeal.

There may always be room at the top, but most of those who start out for "Pike's Peak or bust" bust.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

\$10 AND \$12.50

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is one of our great Easter specials this week. This is the entire sample line from one of our regular manufacturers, who makes nothing but high-grade merchandise. Skirts are made by men tailors; each Skirt cut separately. The regular selling price of this lot (about 50) is \$10.00 and \$12.50. Special this week..... \$7.50

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