

Mebane Leader

J. O. FOX, Editor and Owner

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CORRESPONDENCE

We wish correspondents in all the nearby post offices. Write at once.

Thursday, March 23 1911

CHARGED THAT COCA KOLA WAS A POISON.

A case was heard in the Federal court at Chattanooga last Thursday in which it was charged that Coca Cola contained poison. The charge was made by Dr. Lyman Kebler, chief of the bureau of Chemistry, citing many eminent authorities in proof of his statement that caffeine is a poison and referred to a number of deaths reported as being caused by its use. One of these reports was a case where four and one-half grains of the drug had produced death, and he declared that about three glasses of Coca Cola contained this amount of caffeine.

This seems wonderful news and people will stop and stare open eyed as if there was something new in charging that Coca Cola contained caffeine.

The fluid extract of the Kola nut contains caffeine, a nerve stimulant, the extract of Coca leaves contains a certain per cent of cocaine. It is pretty generally understood what effect cocaine has upon the system. The Coca Cola company adopted a name for their beverage that would express pretty clearly the principal ingredients of it. Coca Cola is a stimulant, and a narcotic. It does not require very long for one to drink the decoction before they acquire a habit of loving it.

Six years ago Professor Holt of Oak Ridge one of the Principals of the Oak Ridge Institutes wrote a number of articles deploring the fact that this drink was doing such serious harm to those addicted to it, and begged that a law might be passed to investigate the effect of these soft drinks. No attention was paid to Prof. Holt's article, and the thing kept on. There are thousands of slaves to the Coca Cola habit all over this country, and we believe an investigation would demonstrate the fact that in a milder form it is just as insidious as cocaine. There is evidently some kind of drug in it that takes hold of the habitual user and holds him secure once it gets fastened on its victim.

Now since the Government through its pure food law has taken up the matter, there may be something done, but we believe that when the cocaine and caffeine has been interdicted the sale will drop off.

"United States District Attorney James B. Cox and Special Assistant Attorney W. B. Miller put the doctors through a long line of questioning at the trial in Knoxville Tenn.

Dr. John A. Witherspoon, professor of medicine in Vanderbilt University, Nashville, testified that from his observations he had known of from 30 to 40 cases where people have become addicted to the coca cola habit and that at least three of them had been taken to hospitals. He said they suffered from nervousness, sleeplessness and indigestion. He declared that the whiskey habit was easier to break than that of drinking coca cola."

Frank Jay Gould, multi-millionaire and sportsman, who has just emerged victorious from an encounter with the "interest" has declared war on the Standard Oil Company, according to the American.

Encouraged by his preliminary victory in the election of the directors of the Missouri Pacific Railroad Mr. Gould who has just entered his thirties, has announced that he will tell the public just how the Standard Oil Company fights its enemies when it is trying to get control of another concern and will tell his experiences of the past few weeks while contending single handed against the most power-

ful money power in the United States.

We wonder if he could get a certain Judge "somebody" in Raleigh to listen to him when he tells how the Standard Oil Company fights its enemies?

MR. MANNING RETIRES.

It is a pathetic valedictory that Mr. Thad R. Manning of the Henderson Gold Leaf gives us upon retiring from that publication. For more than 29 years he has been connected with the paper, and during that period he has given to his readers a publication that has won a high place in the field of journalism. Mr. Manning tells us that failing health unfits him for the arduous duties required of an editor, and he must lay down his faber with which he has transmitted to his paper so much wisdom, and works of interest.

It is a sad commentary upon the mutability of all things earthly, but as the evening shadows gather, and the twilight deepens, let us hope that the soothing, consoling thought may ever cheer his declining days, that he has made a faithful fight for humanity and did his work well as he knew it.

One of the attorneys appointed by Judge Adams at Wilson to defend Lewis West made the plea before the court that West killing of Mumford lacked the elements of premeditation, and therefore was not murder. When West stood over the fallen, helpless, paralyzed Mumford, with an automatic pistol in his hand and remarking "damn you I thought you were dead, if you are not I will kill you" and then fired the bullets in his brains he manifested all of the premeditation and malice that the courts of our country presume is necessary to constitute murder in the first degree.

THE WAR GAME.

It is stated that the mobilization of the United States army on the South west border of Texas ostensible as a military movement is really at the behest of John Rockefeller, the Guggenheimers, and J. Pierpont Morgan in order to protect the oil interest, the copper interest, and the financial interest that these men hold in Mexico, that might be threatened by the present revolution. Whether this be true or not, it is quite sure that the concentration has not been accurately announced from the proper source. It is again insisted that Japan has been secretly negotiating for a coaling station on the West coast of Mexico, and is prepared, or preparing to defend such a transfer. In accordance with the oft proclaimed policy of this government this could not be permitted.

If it is a war movement Uncle Sam is engaged in, it would be futile for him to attempt to fool the power whose interest he would antagonize, and since evidently the class of people who might be deceived would only be those of this country, we are not prepared to except of any misleading announcements as evidence of wisdom.

While Uncle Sam might not undertake to protect the interest of one of his humble citizen that was threatened, or endangered in a foreign country with that alacrity he would one of these captains of industry, it would be nevertheless his duty to do so, and it is none the less his duty to protect the interest of John D. Rockefeller, J. Pierpont Morgan, or the Guggenheimers. To abandon these peoples property to destruction, or confiscation because they were rich would be none the less a proof of national imbecility, than to do so if they were poor.

Every day promises a revelation as to this military movement, and it may be made before this article reaches our readers, it is however one of some moment, and until correctly stated will excite more than passing interest.

Thou hast crushed a flower,
The root may not be blighted;
If thou hast quenched a lamp,
Once more it may be lighted
But if upon the troubled sea
Thou hast thrown a gem unheeded,
Hope not that wind or wave will bring
The treasure back when needed.

—Hemans.

Defending Guilt.

(Ohio State Journal.)

It is the venerable doctrine of the law that out of the contention between lawyers on either side of a case the truth is apt to appear, and this view is taken by a prominent New York lawyer to justify an attorney in taking up the cause of a client whom he knows to be wrong.

That may be the correct view when the conditions are equally balanced. For instance, when a man has plenty of money to hire a big lawyer, who knows every possible recourse of law strategy, or when one has no money or very little and can only employ weak talent, how can truth come out of such a contention? It can not do it; and yet that is the situation most of the time.

Sometimes happens, too, that a lawyer, especially in a criminal case, can work up his feelings out of all proportion to his knowledge and, by hot and tearful appeal, wreak a verdict from a jury. Would such a contention be in line of public duty or of private conscience? Would a lawyer who knows his client is guilty be justified in working himself into a spasm of eloquence and chasing out knowledge with emotion get a verdict against the law and the evidence? That is done many a time, and quite enough to overthrow the doctrine that it is a lawyer's duty to defend guilt.

A Cradle Song.

Child with those questioning eyes,
Where will thy mother be
When thou hast grown more wise,
When life has answered thee?
When future hopes and fears,
Built up of youthful dreams,
Nourished by happy years,
Fade as the sunset gleams?
Child with those questioning eyes,
Where will thy mother be?

Child of the tender heart,
Where will thy mother be?
When thou hast played thy part
In life's brief tragedy?
When through rare days of joy,
Shouldst thou be forced to learn
That love is but a toy
To cherish, then to spurn,
Child of the tender heart,
Where will thy mother be?

Child of my life and love,
This is my prayer for thee:
May thy faith strongest prove
In worst extremity—
And may thy smallest need
Of counsel love or praise
To me thy footsteps lead
Through life—and death always,
Child of my life and love,
Thine to Eternity.

—Julia W. Sawtelle, in 'Aises' in Magazine.

Large Bequest to Tuskegee

Tuskegee Institute of Tuskegee, Ala., will eventually benefit to the extent of several thousand dollars by the will of Emmet Denmore, a millionaire manufacturer of New York, died last Thursday in the surrogate office. To the institute is directed to be given, after various life estates created by the will have lapsed, all the testator's property or as much as the law will allow to be given for such purposes. The estimate is very large.

The "Hello" Girl.

(From Commercial Traveler.)

Telephone girls are sweet things who have got into the habit of saying "Line busy" by the reason of having their pearly teeth stuck with chewing gum. They can say it with the unction of a country girl sucking cider through a straw; its sibilant hiss has driven many a hurried man to drink and the "Willies," and their name of "hello girls" was derived from a few million men who cut the final letter of that word while in line of communication with them. The first thing a hello girl does after reaching her office is to drink before the washroom mirror until the clock chimes the last stroke of her duty hour; the next to shift a few plugs, whisper "Is that you Artie?" in a trickling molasses tone, and all the helpless subscriber gets for the next ten minutes is "Line busy." But if "Artie" was late on the line and an ancient spinster gets it on a gossip quest, Dan Cupid does the coaxing. The only out about that complication is the hurried man never knows it, and so loses a sweet revenge on the hello angel.

A Nobler Character.

There is a loftier ambition than merely to stand high in the world. It is to stoop down and lift mankind a little higher. There is a nobler character than that which is merely incorruptible. It is the character, which acts as an antidote and preventive of corruption. Fearlessly to speak the words which bear witness to righteousness and truth and purity; patiently to do the deeds which strengthen virtue and kindle hope in your fellowmen; generously to lend a hand to those who are trying to climb upward; faithfully to give your support and your personal help to the efforts which people are making to elevate and purify the social life of the world—that is what it means to have salt in your character. —Henry Van Dyke

Kills A Murderer.

A merciless murderer is Appendicitis with many victims, but Dr. King's New Life Pills kill it by prevention. They gently stimulate stomach, liver and bowels, preventing that clogging that invites appendicitis, curing Constipation, Headache, Bileless Chills, 25c at Mebane Drug Co.

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