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PROFESSIONAL

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OLD NORTH STATE NEWS

Interesting Items of News Briefly Set Forth For Busy Readers.

The North Carolina retail Merchants association will meet in Salisbury June 21-22 and 23.

Cleveland county Democrats have nominated Capt. O. Max Gardner for the Senate and Rev. C. J. Woodson for the House.

Mr. S. S. McNinch, former mayor of Charlotte, was last week nominated for Congress by the Republican convention of the ninth district, which met in Shelby.

The state department of agriculture estimates corn acreage in this state at 3,200,000 as compared with 2,894,000 for last year. The estimate of the fruit crop condition is 110 per cent.; vegetable conditions 80 per cent.

According to the plans of episcopal visitation as arranged at Asheville, Bishop Wilson will hold the Western North Carolina Conference at Winston-Salem on November 16, and the N. C. Conference at Elizabeth City on November 30. Bishop Kilgo will hold the Kentucky, Louisville, North Alabama and Florida conferences.

The bids for the \$3,430,000 funding State bonds to be issued by this State were opened in Raleigh last week. There were 39 bids, ranging from par to 104 1/2. One was for a fraction less than par but this could not be considered. There were a number of bids from private citizens as well as from financial institutions in and out of the State. The bids aggregated only \$1,765,000. Bids will again be advertised for, to be opened on the 28th.

Since the election of Dr. Kilgo as bishop, there has been much speculation throughout the whole of North Carolina as to who will be elected the next president of Trinity. Several men have been spoken of as being among the "probables." Some of these are: Dr. W. P. Few, dean of Trinity college; Dr. Gilbert T. Rowe, of Charlotte, and James H. Southgate, chairman of the board of trustees. The president will be elected at the next meeting of the board of trustees on June 6.

Catawba County Mother Takes Her Own Life.

Hickory, May 19.—Resorting to three different methods to kill herself while her family was asleep around her, Mrs. J. H. Deal, who lives a little over a mile from Maiden, committed suicide this morning before day, saturating herself with kerosene oil and setting herself on fire.

Her husband was awakened by the flames from her dress and ran to her rescue but too late to save her. A razor and an axe were lying near her. She tried first to cut her throat and then to cut her head with the axe. Ill-health was the cause. She was 27 years of age and two children survive her.

The Southern Baptist Convention.

The meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Baltimore closed Monday night. The reports to the Convention showed a large growth in all lines of church work. The Convention embraces 824 associations with 22,438 churches and a total membership of 2,218,911. These churches have 14,093 Sunday schools which represent a membership of 1,131,981. The churches contribute annually to all religious causes a sum aggregating \$9,474,777.07.

Hate hurts the man who nurses it; all selfishness robs the mind of its divine insight and cheats the soul that would know.

BODY OF LORD BERESFORD AT LAST CLAIMED

Mystery Envelops Deal—Body Lay in Asheville Undertaking Shop For Eight Years.

Asheville, May 19.—The remains of Charles J. Asquith, alias "Lord Beresford," alias Sidney Lascelle, have at last been claimed. The body of Asquith or Lascelle, the man who died here in October, 1902, and which has remained in a local undertaking establishment ever since, was this afternoon shipped to Baltimore on affidavit of wife No. 1 that the body was that of her husband and the remains will be cremated in that city. The name of the wife No. 1 is withheld. Negotiations for the body were conducted through a friend, Mrs. T. J. Summerfield of New Jersey, who made affidavit on behalf of wife No. 1 that the body was that of her husband. The undertaker being satisfied as to the affidavit turned over the body upon payment of certain costs incident to embalming, etc., and this afternoon the body went to Baltimore for cremation on train No. 12.

MAN WAS NOTORIOUS.

That Asquith or Lascelle or Lord Beresford was a thief, a forger and a bigamist several times over is certain. It is alleged that he had been married fifteen if not sixteen times. He was known in Georgia, Colorado, Texas and other States, and bore an unsavory reputation.

The man came to Asheville in the September or early October in the year 1902. He was very sick at the time and, although supposedly well off, when his death occurred two or three weeks after his arrival here, it was found that he had no funds and apparently no friends or relatives. The body was embalmed by a local undertaking firm and in the absence of pay, and in the absence of information and advice from friends or relatives the body has during these eight years remained unclaimed at the undertaking place until this week when wife No. 1, through her representative, made claim to the body; made affidavit that the body was that of her husband and paying all expenses claimed and secured the body for shipment to Baltimore.

WEIRD STORY ENDS.

The shipment of the body of Asquith or Lascelle ends a most interesting and mysterious story. During the years that the body has remained unclaimed in Asheville, many hundreds of people—as a result of the notoriety that the incident attracted have visited the undertaking rooms and sought to identify the body. Several times it was thought that the body had been identified by one or more wives but always the identification proved a false alarm.

It is said that the man Asquith, whose body was today claimed by a woman who alleges that she was his original wife was married to the woman some twenty years ago in the "Little Brick Church" in New York; that they went to Europe and lived happily for a time and that then the man disappeared. That was the last that was seen of him by his wife. It is said that he was finally liberated and later appeared in Italy where he sold somebody's yacht and again "got in bad."

HIS CAREER CHECKERED.

His career was checkerred and just how he found his way to Asheville was never explained.

250 Men Thrown Out at Erwin.

The C., C. & O. shops at Erwin have suspended operation, thus putting 250 men out of employment. It is said that they will open up again about June 1.

Rumors have been afloat that this stoppage means the removal of the shops to Johnson City, but little credence is attached to these reports. An official stated to a Staff representative that there was no foundation in fact for such a report.

As soon as coal contracts can be made the shops will resume operations it is said.

CHAMP CLARK SOUNDS KEYNOTE OF BATTLE

Democratic Leader Prophesies Victory in Coming Election—Denounces the Tariff Law.

Washington correspondent of THE PROGRESS.

Washington, May 25.—The Payne-Aldrich-Smoot tariff revision was upward!

It was upward by approximately 1.71 per cent!

It has ALREADY resulted in increased prices all along the line! Thus did Champ Clark of Missouri, leader of the Democrats in the House of Representatives, thunder his reply to the speeches of President Taft and other Republican leaders who have attempted to feed the public on the assertion that the Payne-Aldrich bill "was the best tariff bill" ever passed.

Mr. Clark's speech had been carefully prepared. It was a complete and effective answer to the countless bald misrepresentations that have been manufactured by the Republicans, who are in desperate need of campaign material of any sort for use in the approaching Congressional elections.

The Minority Leader denounced the proposed appropriation of \$250,000 of the people's money for the purpose of enabling the Republicans to gather data with which to prove that the new tariff law is a God-send to the country.

He denounced the joker in the sugar schedule. He deplored a condition which permits the steel trust and other monopolies to sell their manufactured products cheaper to foreigners than to Americans. In short, Mr. Clark's speech will go down as one of the great Democratic keynotes of this session of Congress.

"It is true," admitted Mr. Clark, "that we reduced the duty on lumber, and that the lumber trust marked up the price of lumber \$1 per thousand feet before the last of us got out of Washington. And if the department of justice had done its duty it would by this time have filled the jails so full of lumber trust magnates that their arms and legs would stick out at the windows and the doors."

"Mr. Payne, the Republican leader, says that he and his cohorts will meet us in November. Glory be! glory be! I never looked forward to any day with such joy as I do to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November except to my wedding day and the days on which my children were born."

"My Democratic brethren, at last, after hard trials and great tribulations, thank God we stand here shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, solid as a stone wall, inspired by the hope of coming victory. Democrats are getting together everywhere, while the Republican party presents to the astonished gaze of men the appearance of a dissolving view."

"Oh, yes, my Republican friends; you will meet us in November, because you can not help yourselves. And when you do meet us in November you will receive the bloodiest licking you have had since 1892. 'Up, guards, and at them!'"

Crooked Creek News.

Crooked Creek, May 20.—Those who have been suffering with measles are improving. We have had only three cases so far.

We had a nice shower last night. The frost almost cleaned up things last week but the farmers don't seem to be badly discouraged. They are going right along with their work.

Mrs. Sam Bradley has been right sick but is some better.

Miss Mary Banning, who has been paralyzed for several years, was badly injured by a fall this morning.

We feel very much honored to have Hon. J. M. Gudger, Ex-Congressman, among us this week. We are glad he has not forgotten us and we won't forget him when election day comes around.

Some of the people here are thinking they will have to take an air-ship to reach the coast.

Born, to Mr. and Mrs. James Hogan, a daughter, the 18th.

The News-Herald says that Mr. John McDowell has been showing an egg this week which proves that the Halley comet has been getting in its work in Morganton. It was laid by one of his hens and has a tail about an inch or more in length. It is indeed a strange freak.

PEOPLE'S FORUM.

[This department is reserved for letters from the people on various topics. The Progress is not responsible for the views of its correspondents. All communications must be originally signed for our protection though the name may be withheld in publication.]

HERB REPLIES.

Having calls from Cupid, Janus, Queux and the Editor to come again, I will say in reply that I feel somewhat backward in venturing out so soon after being frost bitten. But no circus would be complete without a clown nor would a valley be complete without an Erb. But while I venture to reply briefly it will be understood that I will not try to ride a kicking mule as most clowns do. In the outset I must say neither of you are correct, the right pronunciation is Yerb. I feel quite sure that the trouble between Queux and Janus arose from an old patented churn of only a few summers, and now if you two will not quarrel over my name and drop this old churn grudge and make friends in the same way that Prof. William Moffitt made his pupils do way-back in the 60's and 70's by hugging and kissing, you may call me Peeter for all time to come. Furthermore, each of you is just entering the prime of life and no doubt would be noble sweethearts, could you only forget the old patented churn. Thank you very much Miss Queux for the compliment. I am the author of People's Forum, but I have only started the ball to rolling, and now I am ready to retire. I have no desire to but up against such highly-educated writers as Miss Queux and Mr. Janus, and there are but few subjects which I would try to write on were I urged out to write again. I have never studied women so you all know who know me; so I cannot write on woman's betterment, but I firmly believe that they are all good and better. Say, Miss Queux and Mr. Janus, are you not in sympathy with a poor Yerb who is struggling with the sod, rising and falling as the years go by? Now in case you two should make friends and your hearts should beat as one in the future, am I not entitled to one star in my old hat?

Young People of the County Should Have An Organization.

It's much easier to be critical than to be correct which perhaps accounts for Janus writing what he did some time ago on farm life, but it seems that the Greenlee correspondent has not only been critical but has succeeded wonderfully well in being sarcastic.

It would be imprudent in me, to say the least, to resent a little criticism, but sarcasm is something I don't like to accept, even from "Queux."

To speak truthfully my way of spelling herb was all a joke, but since Queux treated it so seriously, or seemed to at least, will say that he is getting far behind and will have to catch on to the band-wagon or get on the merry-go-round before he gets lost in the shuffle. To be sure I will have to confess I am uneducated but I learned enough in the "little brown school house" under the hill some twenty years ago to enable me to read and notice what the great busy world is doing—how it spells and what it's thinking about, and I find that the modern scholar is beginning to spell words as they are pronounced—cutting out some of the silent b's and leaving off the superfluous e's. Even President Roosevelt in a message to Congress not many years ago recommended a bill to revise our present way of spelling, and I imagine when he gets back from his "rhinoceros" and "elephant" hunt he will slap old Taft on the "nee," show his big teeth in that nine inch grin of his and say, "By George, Billie, we are going to cut out this long way of spelling." And I believe they could do it if there weren't too many educated Queux's in the country.

I certainly didn't mean to leave the impression that by keeping in

touch with me our social life would be a "howling success," but I do say that if the young people of this county were organized under some competent leader, and there is a leader in almost every community, the life in the country would be as attractive and interesting in a few years as it is in the city. For instance, if there was in each section a literary club to interest the young people and keep them in touch with the world and informed on current events, where they could discuss and debate timely topics of all kinds and at regular intervals have contests with the neighboring clubs and say once in a year have a "big" day by all the clubs of the county, such a thing would be of great benefit to our country boys and girls and they wouldn't have such a desire to get out into the world. It seems to me the time has come when we must keep some of our young people in the country and we can never do it as things are at present with nothing to break the monotony of "regular farm work." Of course some will have to go to the city as in a few years our city folk would be killing and eating each other.

I don't know whether we need a "woman's betterment association" or not. I hadn't thought much about it, but it seems to me that if all the women would spend their time in making their home as attractive as possible and rear their children as they should be, there would be no time to spend in an association of any kind. Of course such an association would be all right in a city where there are so many homeless and poverty-stricken people and especially since it's not fashionable to have large families, thereby enabling the city woman to spend much of her time in such work. I hardly think McDowell needs such an association unless they have a matrimonial bureau attached to assist our "Old Maids" and "School Marms" in

Methodist Conference Ends Its Labors.

Asheville, May 21.—The sixteenth quadrennial session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, came to a close tonight. The closing exercises were conducted by Bishop A. W. Wilson, who, as senior bishop, expressed the belief that in his opinion safe, sane and conservative measures had been adopted, and that it was his opinion that the church would in the next four years go forward in leaps and bounds.

securing a husband.
With best wishes to Queux and "erb" I am
Sincerely,
JANUS.

WOMEN DENIED RIGHTS

Methodist General Conference Adopts the Majority Report.

Asheville, May 19.—For the first time in the history of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a woman was allowed to speak upon the floor. By unanimous consent of the conference, Miss Belle Bennett, secretary of the woman's home mission society, was invited to address the delegates on the subject which has been considered one of the most vital questions before the conference, the right of women to sit in the councils of the Church and for equal rights with the laity.

For some time it was difficult to judge which way the conference would vote, but after many speeches the members voted to adopt the report of the majority of the committee on revisions which denied the women the right asked for. It was thought that the next action of the conference in placing ten women on the great missionary board was a little singular.

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