

### STATE DEMOCRATS UP AGAINST IT FOR FAIR

Woman Suffrage, Constitutional Convention and Farmers Union

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Raleigh, March 28.—State Democrats two weeks before their convention in Raleigh, April 10, are wondering if the woman suffragists are embarrassing the Republicans as much; the Farmers' Union Council as capable of harassing and the constitutional conventionists as impotent with their opponents April 9 when the Republicans meet in Greensboro.

These are the three things that are giving Democrats trouble long before they reach the bridge that must be crossed. The woman suffragists are ready to carry before the Democrats the question of equal suffrage in the platform. Already the women are boosting their advisory member of the National Executive Committee. A party that is planning to have a woman on its executive committee is in poor shape to shy at suffrage and in much worse shape to deny it entirely. In other words, the Democrats who are putting a woman on their committee will have to face the actual issue of suffrage.

Every Democrat with the exception of Zebulon Weaver in the tenth is vulnerable. Senators Simmons and Overman are opposed to it, no matter how easily they become reconciled to things that have claimed their lifetime opposition. Nine other Congressmen either have no records or embarrassing reputations on suffrage. Some of them have been marked by the National body many years. George Hood hasn't any bad record except a sort of slacker in the late fight. He wasn't there. He does not say much about it.

The Republicans appear to be more friendly to suffrage than the Democrats. That will hurt the dominant party. It realizes that suffrage is bound to come, but like education, health, money and other good things, the damnger gets in on these benedictions and it is always dangerous to have anything good in the country where the damnger can enjoy it. The damnger man and the damnger woman will vote eventually; therefore go slow.

That's hard luck No. 1. The Democrats must face it. The men in charge are not very long on facing things. They have been able to face sidewise, backward, any old way. But they must meet this issue. The women are not going to be put in the attitude of being recognized abroad and ignored at home. They will ask indorsement, they say.

Then comes the council of the Farmers' Union. Men who have never been long on finance are insisting that the war be financed hereafter as it is fought so that posterity miss paying for the limbo which ancestry bore to save the future. The council lets drop to your correspondent, by accident quite, that it is going to ask the convention to pass resolutions urging Congress to issue no more bonds but to pay "as we go."

That will bring the Democracy squarely before the bulk of its voters. The general belief here is that the thinkers of the Democracy will tell the council to go to hell. If Henry Page is here, and he likely will be, he will do that himself. The Union is now constituted in more Republican than Democratic, say State officials, and indeed, its attitude on the war indicates that. There is a story out that the Union is losing members more rapidly than the Germans are losing troops, and partly for the same reason. That can't be verified, but it seems true. The Republicans may be asked to pass this resolution for the Farmers' Union council. The minority party has a chance a way ahead.

The third trouble is that constitutional convention on which Harry Stubbs has been working since 1916. Mr. Stubbs goes everybody to vote for it last year and it is to be submitted this year, but just as "we go to press" it is discovered that there is no primary machinery for pulling off this great function. The men would be voted for in the general election, but there can be no candidates voted for them unless they have gone through the primary. The act simply devours itself.

That is the worst of many shortcomings discovered in this act, but found out too late. There is other machinery which does not satisfy, but the pathetic struggle of Mr. Stubbs for a convention was of such nature as to blind legislators to simple detail. Now, when the chance of getting it over is so good the thing may consume itself.

There is another awful argument against it. The country is in the war and the country's spokesman, Mr. Wilson, is now suggesting that party slogans may be worth nothing hereafter. A war which will change so much of the world will likewise make any fundamental alterations in the written law risky business now. It is not unthinkable that a 1918 constitution would be as ancient as the 1787 convention, which was the beginning.

But whether the instrument is to be changed or not it is said by good lawyers that there is no way to send delegates. The convention can be called but they cannot answer. They cannot start toward Raleigh. And the Democracy will in all probability be asked not to call this convention.

This is the third embarrassment before the body—the calling of its proposed constitutional convention. The chief reason is the unseasonableness of the convention. The next reason is the lack of machinery for electing delegates.

The women, the farmers and the smart alecs of the law will give the convention of April 10 trouble. Democratic curiosity somewhat to understand why it must worry more than the Republicans.

### STATE ASSOCIATION FORMED WEDNESDAY

Meeting Held in Fayetteville to Promote State's Waterway Facilities

(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Fayetteville, N. C., March 28.—The business session of the Greater North Carolina Association was held here yesterday afternoon, following the calling to order and the welcoming addresses by Mayor McNeill and President Hale of the Chamber of Commerce. At the opening of the afternoon session, the committee on organization filed its report through Chairman R. A. Parsley, of Wilmington. Major E. J. Hale was asked to become president of the organization, but he declined on account of being in the government service, whereupon Col. S. A. Jones, of Waynesville, was elected president. D. S. Hollings, secretary of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce, was made secretary-treasurer of the association.

Colonel Jones presented four resolutions which were adopted. The first of these resolutions was "that we most respectfully ask that as a national and an economic war measure the Director General of railroads of the United States be directed to at once declare Fayetteville, Wilmington and Southport harbors ports of entry and rate-basing ports, that through rail and water rates from all points throughout the United States and South American and foreign countries may be made through these ports for commerce throughout the world."

The second was, "that the President of the United States be respectfully requested to direct the Secretary of the Navy, the Honorable Josephus Daniels, of North Carolina, at once in co-operation with the Director General of railroads of the United States, to begin an inquiry into the construction, equipment and putting in operation as a national war economy measure, of a naval coaling station on Southport harbor or at some equally available place on the Cape Fear river."

The third resolution in the resolving clause reads: "That in pursuance of the wishes of the people of the State of North Carolina and other States co-operating with North Carolina, the President of the United States be requested to direct the postmaster general to direct that all mail for all the east ports of South America emanating in the United States, be routed via Wilmington, North Carolina, and the per mile pound rate now allowed for carrying the same and allowed for carrying other foreign mail, shall be allowed to any line of ships that will arrange to make regular schedule time between Wilmington, N. C. and the ports of the east coast of South America and the West Indian and European ports."

The fourth resolves "that the Governor and the council of State of North Carolina be requested to cooperate in every way possible and by the use of all the machinery of the State of North Carolina in securing rate basing ports and a United States naval coaling station on the waters of the Cape Fear river."

In the first three resolutions a clause urged the members of the North Carolina delegation in Congress to lend their whole influence toward putting through the provisions of the resolutions.

The following committee was named to prepare a brief to be forwarded to Washington along with the resolutions: A. J. Maxwell, of Raleigh; J. T. Slatter, of Columbia, S. C.; M. R. Besman, of Raleigh Chamber of Commerce.

Another meeting of the Association will be held at a time and place to be selected by the organization committee.

**Service for Young People.**  
The service at Grace Methodist church tonight will be especially for the young people. Rev. M. T. Plyler, the pastor, earnestly desires that every one of the younger members of the congregation be present.

### PASSED EXAMINATION.

Captain Monroe is Advised of the Success of His Son.  
Capt. W. P. Monroe, assistant chief of the fire department, received a telegram this morning stating that his son, W. G. Monroe, passed the examination at Fortress Monroe, Va., for second lieutenant in the United States army and will be sent to Pensacola, Fla. Lieut. Monroe was a member of the old W. L. I., now 8th Company C. A. C., Fort Caswell. He was sent to Fortress Monroe from his company in January, being the only one to take the artillery course for the regular army. He is to be congratulated upon his promotion and his many friends here will learn, with pleasure, of his success. He is a graduate of the Wilmington High School and the University of North Carolina. Capt. Monroe has a young son, James C., some where in France with the 115th Machine Gun Battalion.

### CASES NOT PROCEEDED.

Mr. Peschau Was Unwilling to Ask For Conviction on the Evidence.

The cases charging Dick Lassiter and Dock Baker, white, with vagrancy, were not pressed in Justice John J. Furlong's court yesterday afternoon upon request of George Peschau, Esq., employed to prosecute, while the continuance asked for in the case charging Clarence Hall with a similar offense was granted. Mr. Peschau stated that no evidence was introduced as regards Baker and Lassiter on which he could ask for conviction.

Yesterday's trial clears up the recent vagrant cases, the swearing out of warrants having resulted in the departure of several young men for parts unknown and the city will see no more of them for the coming two years at least.

### ANOTHER SOCIETY FORMED.

Colored Residents of Acorn Branch Show Fine Spirit.

There was a meeting held at the Acorn Branch colored school last night and a war savings society was organized, every member pledging to do his part in selling stamps, raising food crops, and doing his bit in winning the war. Addresses were made by Messrs. J. A. McNorton, W. A. McGirt, E. H. Freeman and John R. Morris. Mr. J. O. Brown and Dr. F. W. Avant organized the society.

There was a large number of colored people present, and they seemed very enthusiastic over the organization. The society will be called the "Willing Workers". The colored people of the county are organizing "sugar cane clubs" and expect to raise their own syrup to use in place of sugar.

### No Change in Services.

Rev. Dr. William H. Milton, rector of St. James' Episcopal church, will hold services next Sunday in accordance with the new time, or in other words, at the same hours as in the past, although actually one hour earlier. This is the carrying out of the law enacted by Congress, which becomes effective next Sunday morning at 2 o'clock.

Father Dennen, pastor of St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral, said that services at this church would be moved up an hour Sunday. First mass will be held at 8 o'clock and the morning service will be at 11:30.

### Secretary Branch Appointed.

Mr. Howard B. Branch, secretary of the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, has been appointed as representative of the national labor placement and distribution machine, which is being set up by the United States employment service. The government made this appointment in order that the local Chamber may keep in touch with the Federal labor bureau to help its members secure labor when needed and to furnish such information and data as may be collected from time to time. The small salary of \$1 a year goes with the appointment.

### GOOD FRIDAY.

Friday, the 29th, being Good Friday—a holiday—the banks of this city will not transact any business on that day.

WILMINGTON CLEARING HOUSE ASSOCIATION.  
THOS. E. COOPER, Secretary.  
(Advertisement.)

## THEATRE

### AUGUSTA LIKED IT.

Concerning the United Southern Stock Company, coming to the Royal next week for an engagement, the press of Georgia, Virginia and the Carolinas is unanimous in praising its worth. The Augusta Herald, under date of March 5, has this to say: "The United Southern Stock opened a week's engagement at the Grand last night and proved to be the strongest acting company that has visited Augusta in years; even better than many of the high-priced attractions. Each and every member of the fourteen proved up artists in the true sense of the word."

"The play, The Eternal Madgalene, is an unusual drama and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Many were the expressions of enjoyment and satisfaction on leaving the theatre, thus testifying to the adage that it is rare to find ability in so-called popular price shows."

"Mabel Paige, who was a great favorite here a few years ago, renewed her popularity. Mabel Gypzene also won favor by her clever comedy work C. D. Peruchl has been recognized through the South for years. Edouard D'Oize is an actor of rare ability, seldom seen even with the big one-night attractions. The specialties were received with rounds of applause."

Tonight's offering will be The Forbidden Path, termed a modern Romeo and Juliet; recommended as particularly pleasing to the ladies. The people of Augusta will make no mistake in visiting the Grand this week; they will enjoy good, clean, classy entertainment at prices within the reach of all."

Seat sale for the opening attraction "The Eternal Madgalene" will open Saturday morning and seats for all sections of the house may be reserved in advance, thus avoiding disappointment such as occurred with the Pickert's engagement.

### "THE SAVAGE"

Once in a generation there flashes upon the theatrical sky a star of such tremendous power and engaging personality—as to immediately become a new factor to be reckoned with by producers and the public alike. Such a personality is a real, not a made star, and after his initial presentation makes such tremendous strides into the affection of the public as to require no outside influence to become a leader. Such a star is Monroe Salisbury, appearing with beautiful Ruth Clifford in "The Savage," a wonderful melodrama of a Canadian half-breed in whose savage breast a timely chivalry was born in time to save the beautiful girl from degradation worse than death.

"The Savage" is a Bluebird super-act, an unusually powerful drama. A half-breed torn between his white and savage natures, portrayed by the magnetic star Monroe Salisbury, directed by Rupert Julian, will be one of the greatest attractions of the week, at the Grand tomorrow.

### AROUSES GREAT ENTHUSIASM.

George D. Hopkinson, manager of the Hamlin Theatre in the residence district of Chicago, had just concluded a unique experiment in testing the temper of a motion picture audience. "For the Freedom of the World," the great Ira M. Lowry story of love and war, was the medium of the experiment.

The storm of applause that greeted the stirring patriotic scenes in the production the first night it was shown at the Hamlin gave Mr. Hopkinson the idea for the test. He resolved to see for himself by careful "clocking" just which scenes most stirred the spectators and which got the most applause. The test led him to the incidental observation that never before had he seen a picture which aroused an audience to the degree of audible enthusiasm engendered by "For the Freedom of the World."

It was about a stand-off, Mr. Hopkinson determined, in the volume of applause for the night battle scene in which the American flag goes "over the top" for the first time in the trenches; the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by a regimental band of the 97th Canadian Overseas Battalion (American Legion), in the course of which the Stars and Stripes of the young heroes who couldn't wait to fight, and the actual scene showing the arrival in Paris of General Pershing and the first contingent of the

American troops fighting for liberty and democracy.

"For the Freedom of the World" is the attraction at the Grand next Monday and Tuesday.

Johnny Evers' fast workout with the Red Sox shows the veteran second sacker still has considerable pastime in his system.

Owner Charles Comiskey is giving his White Sox champions the up-and-down during their practice stunts at Mineral Wells.

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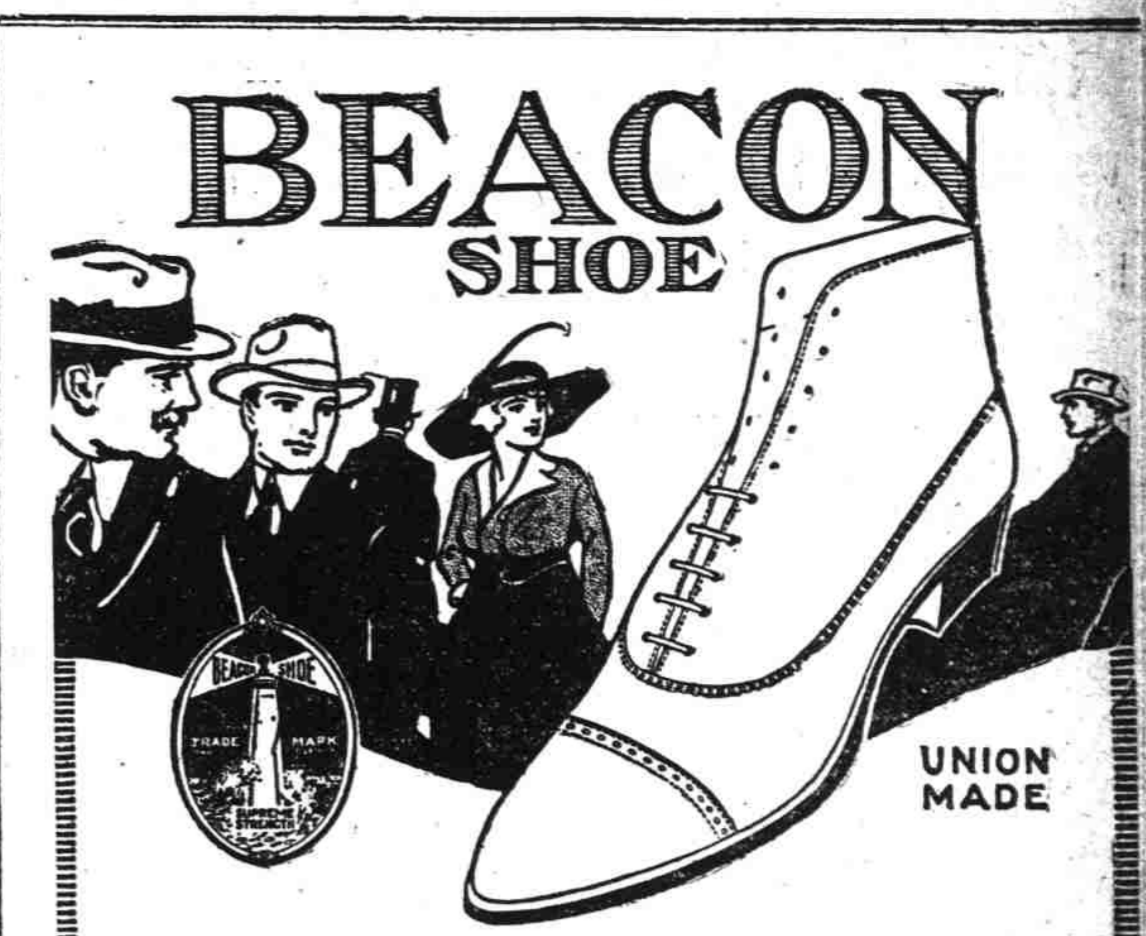
Monday and Tuesday—"The Eternal Madgalene"  
Wednesday and Thursday—"A Full House"  
Friday and Saturday—"Under Cover"

Advance Sale Saturday 9 A. M.—Seats for all Sections of the House May be Reserved.

PRICES—MATINEE  
Lower Floor: Orchestra 30c;  
Parquet 20c  
Balcony: First 3 rows (reserved) 20c; General Admission 15c.

PRICES—NIGHTS  
Lower Floor: Orchestra 50c;  
Parquet 30c  
Balcony: First 3 rows 30c;  
General Admission 20c

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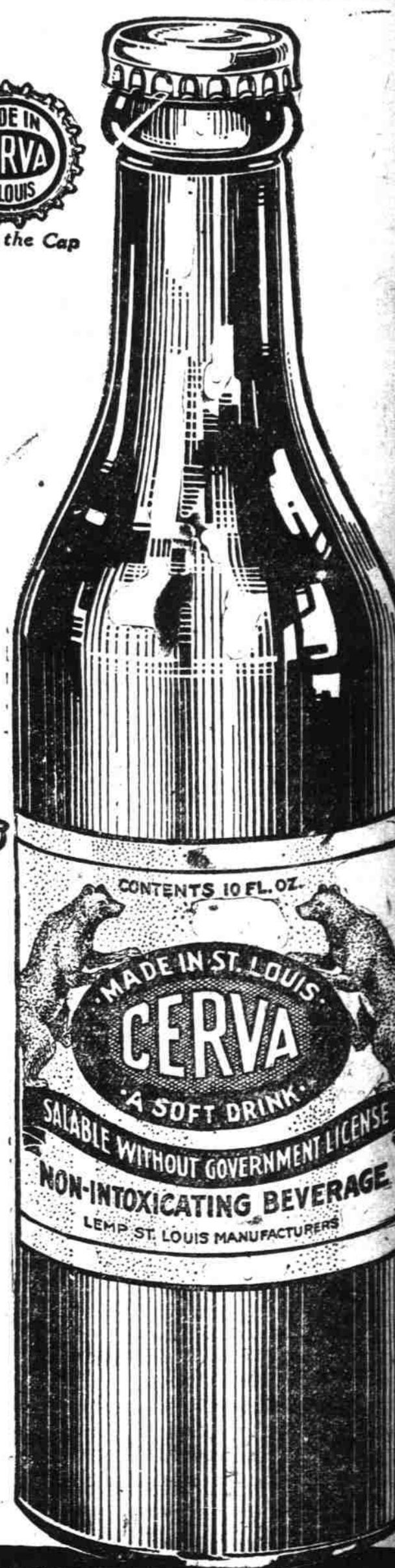
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