

DRIVING CLUB IN COURT

SEC. J. B. SIMS IS BOUND OVER.

The Manager of This Well-Known Charlotte Club is Bound Over to Court Under \$200 Bond in Each of Two Cases of Alleged Retailing of Liquor—Cases Grow Out of Branks on Club Liquor—Mr. Cooper Tells How Members Get Their Whiskey—Frequent Arrests With Order to Accommodate Them—An Interesting Story.

The spectators at the recorder's court yesterday morning had a more interesting session awaiting them than they suspected when L. G. Dean and Carl Cameron were arraigned for having been drunk. The outcome of the whole matter was the binding over to court of Mr. J. B. Sims, who is secretary of the Park Driving Club. The bond was \$200 in each of two cases, and the charge was of selling liquor to J. W. Cooper and C. D. Bliss. The substance of Cooper's testimony was that he secured the liquor in the manner common to the members of the club.

Mr. Cameron Morrison, who had charge of the prosecution, called Mr. Cooper to the stand. "Did you get any liquor from Mr. Sims on the 19th?" queried the attorney. "Yes, I got a quart." "How much did you pay for it?" "One dollar." "You may stand aside," said Mr. Morrison.

Mr. T. C. Guthrie, who represented Mr. Sims, then cross-examined the witness and asked him to explain how the matter got into court and all about it. One of Mr. Cooper's boarders, the latter replied, after having been sick and obtained some liquor from him for a dollar, overdid the thing, got drunk and was arrested. Then it was that Cooper was called up as a witness and subsequently bound over for retailing.

Mr. Sims was then placed on trial on the second charge, of retailing to C. D. Bliss. The latter, when placed on the stand, testified under direct examination that he had procured a quart of whiskey from Mr. Sims, paying for the same by giving him an envelope wherein was a dollar.

The defense introduced no testimony, and Mr. Sims was bound over. COURSE OF THE AFFAIR.

The course of the thing ran thusly: When Dean and Cameron were arrested Dean told the officers that he obtained his liquor from Cooper. The latter, thereupon, was indicted for retailing. On Dean's testimony, the judge asked Cooper for the liquor and the latter let him have it, Cooper was bound over to court in a \$200 bond. Cooper's testimony elicited by Mr. Morrison's examination was extremely interesting.

After the witness had stated that he had a standing order at the club for whiskey, obtaining it from Augusta, Savannah and other places, the attorney asked: "How do you order your whiskey?" "I give the order in written form to Mr. Sims, the secretary. He sends it off to be filled."

"How much do you order at a time?" "Generally I get anywhere from 10 or 12 to 20 gallons at an order," quoth the testifier. "Do you drink all of that?" asked Mr. Morrison. "A man can drink a good deal of liquor in a month, was the reply of Mr. Cooper. "I send in an order about once a month."

"In what form is the liquor shipped?" "It comes with the addresses of the individual members on each package. The bottles are packed in barrels."

Mr. Cooper had never seen a barrel opened, though he had seen barrels after they had been opened and about half the bottles taken out.

"I gave him a note to the secretary with my money Tuesday," said Mr. Cooper. "I also sent Oscar Stevens with a note and my money for liquor."

HOW MEMBERS GET LIQUOR. "When the members of the club want liquor they get it by coming to the club for it or by sending a note and \$12," continued the witness.

"Why do you belong to the club, anyway?" asked his interrogator. "Isn't it just in order to keep from paying the physicians 50 cents for a prescription?" "I guess it is."

"How did you get in the club?" "I came up with my \$5 and went in."

"Were you required to furnish a recommendation?" "No. They knew me."

MAKE IT A DISPENSARY

A Business Man of the City Hays That the Liquor Question is Changing—He Would Like to Have Money to Have the Streets Paved—A Strong Argument Offered for a City Dispensary—If Heighs Makes Money Charlotte Can.

"The people here have changed about on the liquor question," said a well-known club man yesterday. "How have they changed?" asked the newspaper man.

"Well, men who fought so strenuously against a dispensary for Charlotte several years ago have come to the conclusion that a dispensary is better than what we have. It is not a question of getting liquor, but getting money. The city needs more revenue. We must have better streets and better sidewalks. It takes money for such things. How are we to get the cash? A dispensary—a city dispensary managed by a non-partisan board of business men, who will have the accounts of the institution audited by a regular auditing company. Every caution should be taken against the possibility of a steal and a scandal."

"Look at Raleigh! There is a town that cannot drink as much as Charlotte. It has a revenue for the dispensary last year amounted to more than \$75,000. We could make \$100,000 a year and not half try."

"Are you in earnest?" asked the reporter. "Most assuredly I am. For a long time I fought against the dispensary proposition, but as a business man I am for it. Our city is poverty stricken and needs improvements. Thousands of gallons of whiskey are being consumed here every month and Charlotte is paying the costs."

"My idea is this: let us have two well-regulated dispensaries, with a non-partisan board of commissioners in charge, with the emphatic understanding that an auditing concern shall keep track of the business and make reports of its affairs."

"As it is, our young men and some of our doctors are being debauched. The temptation to make money on whiskey is so great that good men do things that they would not do under ordinary circumstances. Think of 400 whiskey prescriptions in one week."

The man who made the foregoing statement is in earnest. It is a fact that many Charlotte people, who were opposed to a dispensary, two, three and four years ago would be for it now. It would be purely a matter of business with them. They want to see the streets of the city put in up-to-date and decent condition. They see no way out of a bad situation, unless it be by means of a dispensary for revenue only.

A PROHIBITIONIST'S PROTEST.

He Thinks the Old Registration Should Serve as a Basis.

A leading prohibitionist of the city stated to an Observer reporter last evening that he thought that if the section drawn up by the city attorney, Mr. Hugh W. Harris, was not put in the charter of the city, that it was robbing the prohibitionists of their just and equitable rights.

"Mr. Pharr," this prohibitionist said, "stated in his platform that he was in favor of the existing prohibition laws. The present prohibition law is the present registration. The prohibitionists of the city won on the present registration and they ought to be allowed to keep the present registration, which can be done by the section prepared by the city attorney. The section is the spirit, if not the letter, of the Wills law. No registration at this time would be impairing the rights of the prohibitionists, and not treating them fairly and justly. The board of aldermen, feeling that the provision was fair, unanimously passed upon it. The charter committee unanimously put it in the charter, and now emergency people are informed that it has been taken out of the charter! Is this fair to the rights of this large body of citizens? As a Democrat, who has never voted anything except the Democratic ticket, and as a man who believes in good government, I desire to protest and call the public attention to the matter. I believe that our Senator and Representatives are honorable and just men, and I believe that they will not allow this registration provision left out of the charter, as the board of aldermen has unanimously approved it."

AT TRYON STREET M. E. CHURCH John A. McTae to be George Washington.

Those who are to receive at "Washington Party" at Tryon Street Methodist Episcopal church to-night are: George Washington, Mr. John A. McTae; Martha Washington, Miss Lucy Smith; and Miss Mabel Nuttal; Miss Mattie Hightower; Miss Norma Hightower; Mr. Stimpson; Miss Kate Smith; Mrs. Scott; Mr. H. S. DuVal.

In the dining room: Miss Pinkney Smith; Miss Annie Grier; Mrs. Duval; Mrs. Elizabeth Duval; Misses Clara Warlick; Hattie McTae; Bessie Boyer; Wilson; Bass; Ada King; Lillian Boyer; Joe; Smith and Patricia Kull.

The following programme will be given in the dining room, sketch of life of Washington, by Mrs. Pratt; instrumental music, by Miss Barr; recitation, "Grandmother's Chest," by Miss Weller; song, "Mr. H. Overcash," recitation, by Mr. Owens; musical story and contest, by Mrs. Annie Webb; and "Cutting Down the Cherry Tree," by those who never told a lie; refreshments: cutting the cherries from the tree, which will contain one's fortune; green cherries for the men and red ones for the ladies.

COL. SAVAGE'S VIEWS

He Thinks Well of Proposition to Establish National Theatre.

Harry S. Daniels, representing Henry W. Savage, was in the city yesterday arranging the details for the engagement of "The College Widow" at the Academy on Friday night, March 1st.

Colonel Savage is just now the principal topic among musical lovers owing to an interview with a Cleveland correspondent of one of the New York dailies, in which Colonel Savage freely advocates the national or subsidized theatre. From time to time agitation favoring such a scheme has been rife but never before has a manager of Mr. Savage's prominence expressed himself favorably to it.

Mr. Daniels said last night that he had no doubt that the interview was authentic. "Mr. Savage believes in the American singer," said Mr. Daniels, "and the roster of his companies shows that this interest has taken substantial form. As he points out in his interview, our native singers, naturally the greatest in the world, must go abroad to find the musical atmosphere and experience necessary to round out their education. A national theatre or conservatory such as is conducted in France, with a liberal government subsidy, would in time undoubtedly bring America into that prominence in art, which she now enjoys in nearly every other field of endeavor."

Speaking of the present theatrical season, Mr. Daniels was not backward in asserting that the one great production of the year is Colonel Savage's presentation "Madam Butterfly," which happily has enjoyed a pecuniary as well as a brilliant artistic success.

"Among the lighter dramatic works," said Mr. Daniels, "there is no attraction before the public that can match the record of 'The College Widow' which Colonel Savage will present for the first time next week. I attribute this to the fact that Mr. Ade in 'The Widow' has written with wonderful fidelity to American life and character types."

Will Soon be Rid of Smallpox.

The 10 Seaboard Air Line men who have been detained on suspicion of having become infected with smallpox were yesterday discharged by City Physician F. O. Hawley. No one of the party showed the least signs of infection, and the time set by the medical profession had expired. Dr. Hawley states that the man who has been ill with the disease for some time is still confined in the pest house, but is doing very well. He is expected to be entirely well in a very few days. His recovery will make the city entirely clear of the disease. There has been but the one case during the last year.

LUCKIEST MAN IN ARKANSAS.

"I'm the luckiest man in Arkansas," writes H. L. Searley, of Bruno, after the restoration of my wife's health after five years of continuous coughing and bleeding from the lungs, and I owe my good fortune to the world's greatest medicine, Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, which I know from experience to be the most certain cure. My wife was cured in 10 days. My wife improved with first bottle and twelve bottles completed the cure. Cures the worst coughs and colds or money refunded. At all drug-gists. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottle free.

MEM PAST SIXTY IN DANGER

More than half of the men over sixty years of age suffer from kidney and bladder disorders, usually enlargement of prostate gland. This is both painful and dangerous, and Foley's Kidney Cure should be taken at the first sign of danger. As it corrects irregularities and has cured many old men of this disease, Mr. Rodney Burnett, Rock Fort, Mo., writes: "I suffered with enlarged prostate gland and kidney trouble for years and after taking two bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure I feel better than I have for twenty years although I am now 64 years old." R. H. Jordan & Co.



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