

The Charlotte Observer

F. CALDWELL, Publisher. D. A. TOMPKINS, Editor.

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MR. HOLT'S REMARKS AT THE COSMOPOLITAN CLUB DINNER

We are in receipt of the following letter from Mr. Hamilton Holt, managing editor of The Independent:

To the Editor of The Observer: My attention has been called to an account in your issue of May 24 of the Cosmopolitan Club dinner in New York City in which my remarks, published in the New York American, are maliciously misrepresented.

I enclose a clipping from the New York Times of the second day after the dinner which states the facts as far as I am concerned, and also an editorial from The Independent.

Those present were decent and self-respecting men and women, and absolutely nothing occurred which would justify the sensational reports sent out by me or anyone else defending the intermarriage of the races in any way.

I think it is only fair that wherever such misrepresentation has appeared the correction should be as fully made.

Very truly yours, HAMILTON HOLT, Managing Editor.

The parts of The New York Times story, referring to Mr. Holt, follow: "By a single exception the white members of the Cosmopolitan Society who attended the dinner in Paek's restaurant, 140 Fulton street, on Monday night, at which the negroes of both sexes ate side by side, expressed themselves yesterday as opposed to mixed marriages."

All agreed that reports of the speeches supporting to make Hamilton Holt, managing editor of The Independent, declare in favor of mixed marriages were utterly erroneous. Mr. Holt, who mentioned intermarriage in his speech as one of the four ways suggested of dealing with the problem, utterly rejected the charge that "he was bringing about in due time the respect of one race for the other, was the only solution possible."

equalities is of itself unseemly in the highest degree. Before quitting the subject we must make another citation from The Times story, which we assume to be correct throughout, since Mr. Holt does not indicate the contrary:

"Yesterday the sole white diner who did not contemptuously sneer against intermarriage was Andre Tridon, a Frenchman connected with Williams' Magazine, and treasurer of the society."

"Marriage," said he, "is a thing that in each given case concerns largely and almost solely the two persons involved. I would by no means frown upon a marriage between a colored woman or man and a member of a white race. I think that if such a marriage were to be contracted by two members of the club that all of the other members of the society would go to the wedding. But no such marriages have taken place in our society."

And yet another: "Miss Mary White Ovington, daughter of Theodore T. Ovington, a wealthy merchant of 214 Fifth avenue, who was one of the white women at the dinner, said that there had been nothing out of the ordinary there. She saw no harm in negroes and educated whites dining together. But she certainly did not believe in intermarriage."

There is no disputing about taste but to discountenance intermarriage after countenancing inter-racial dinings is a vain thing. The talk of the Cosmopolitan diners points one way; their dinings lead the other.

THE SUNDAY OBSERVER

The Observer will begin publication Sunday of a series of timely articles that should appeal to a large class of readers. The series, which is drawn from the pen of Rufus Rockwell Wilson, will deal with every phase of politics, from the precinct meeting to the national convention. They are written in simple, understandable style and will prove a liberal education to the American boy just coming of age. The first article, which appears Sunday, is entitled, "The Making of a President," and for Sunday week will follow "Chance and the Presidency." Even the seasoned campaigner will find in Mr. Wilson's articles something to interest him.

Another new feature, which starts Sunday, is the series of "Classics in a Page." Stories famous the world over have been "botted down" to one page and in this comprehensive condensation the reader receives a satisfaction second only to a perusal of the complete story. The first of the series will be "The Story of Baron Munchausen."

The second of Col. Fred A. Olds' articles—"A Jaunt Through Eastern North Carolina," will appear Sunday and the shorter articles and fiction will all be worth while.

We distinctly resent the attempt of The Statesville Landmark to bring The Observer into disfavor in Iredell because we reject its word "reverend" when the real word is "revere."

We must correct, in one particular, our friend, Mr. A. J. McKinnon, president of the North Carolina Division of the Southern Cotton Association, whose courteous communication appeared in yesterday's paper—by the way under a misleading lead line which was put on it in this office. He refers to "advice" given the farmers in an editorial in The Observer of the 14. This is a confusion of terms. We observe the work of the farmers in their individual efforts or organized capacity with the keenest and friendliest interest, but never give them advice, leaving that to those who are competent to advise them or think they are. We are not, if, for instance, "we could tell them, with knowledge, when to sell cotton and when to hold it, when to pitch large crops and when to reduce acreage, we would do so and make them all rich. But we don't know and hence don't say. The editorial in question was not one of advice but dealt only with matters which have passed into history.

"Not since the death of Sidney Lanier and Father Ryan," says Our Home Field, which is published by the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, "has the death of any Southern poet produced such universal sorrow or fallen as so sore a calamity upon the South as did the death of Mr. McNeill last October. He had not achieved such fame as they, but he had not lived as long. He died young. His work is the work of youth. Such a youth it was to have done such work! No other Southern poet of such youthful years has left so worthy and so enduring a monument in letters." The tribute is just. And how he is missed!

Everybody has learned this season that it is not wise to take 'em off until after the sheep-shearing rains.

Atlanta just simply had to get in the procession.

BUSY NIGHT WITH CLUB.

Greater Charlotte Club Plans to Entertain the Publishers This Month—Other Matters.

A well attended and enthusiastic meeting of the Greater Charlotte Club was held in the assembly room of the Selwyn last night.

After the usual routine business was disposed of the matter of the entertainment of the Southern Publishers' Association was brought up and a motion made that the club co-operate with the newspaper men of the city in making the occasion one of exceptional pleasure to the visitors.

Mr. McDonald held that the membership of the club is entirely too small and that there should be at least twice the present membership, and urged that steps be taken to draw in new members.

On motion of Mr. Edgar B. Moore the club instructed the secretary to go to Wilmington with the hotel men on the 15th of the next convention of the T. P. A.

A committee of three consisting of Messrs. George A. Bellinger, Dr. J. F. Robertson and Secretary Corwith was appointed to take up the matter of circulating a petition among the property holders of West Trade and South Tryon streets and see if those streets can be paved.

WILL MEET IN ASHEVILLE

Annual Session of the Grand Council of the Carolina, U. C. T., in Asheville Next Week to Be Great Event—Many to Attend From Charlotte and the Province.

The members of Charlotte Council, No. 287, United Commercial Travelers, are looking forward to the annual session of the Grand Council of the Carolina, U. C. T., which will be held in Asheville next Friday and Saturday, with a marked degree of interest.

Delegates will be in attendance from every council in the two States and at least 100 will go from Charlotte. The special delegation will make the trip in special cars provided for the purpose and the journey will be under the best possible circumstances.

Officers of Asheville Council, No. 285 are: A. G. Barnett, R. M. Beadle, J. M. Burns, H. M. Ottlinger, past counselors; R. W. Bryant, senior counselor; J. E. Call, junior counselor; D. Harris, secretary-treasurer; J. A. Bouscaren, conductor; Hugh Miller, agent; A. L. Riley, sentinel.

Committees: Ways and means, R. M. Beadle, chairman; invitation, J. M. Burns, chairman; hotel, H. M. Brown, chairman; entertainment, J. E. Call, chairman; reception, J. A. Bouscaren, chairman.

The little booklets descriptive of the annual session were published by the Asheville board of trade and are modestly priced. They are printed on beautiful white paper and are copiously illustrated.

On the front page appears the following which simply sets forth the purpose of the booklets: "Whosoever decides to visit Asheville, let him first reach for these booklets. They contain all the information that is needed to make the trip a success."

MR. KITCHIN WILL LEAD. Primaries to Be Held in Seven Counties To-Day With an Aggregate Convention Poll of 68 Votes—Conventions in Three Counties—Mr. Kitchin to Lead in Voting For Governorship—A Forecast.

Democratic primaries will be held in seven counties to-day, following Orange, Granville, Chatham, Cabarrus, Henderson and Yadkin. Conventions for the purpose of ratifying the action of the primaries previously held will take place in two counties, namely, Richmond and Durham. Rowan will also hold its convention, but no vote will be taken on the governorship in view of the fact that the county has a candidate for a State office. It is likely, however, that the vote will be prorated between the three candidates.

Those who are interested in things political will see at a glance that the counties holding primaries to-day are situated in the territory of all three candidates, with Mr. Kitchin a decided favorite, two lying in his own, the fifth district and the others in second and third districts. It is a matter of fact that his friends have put forth considerable effort.

ANOTHER CARD FROM MR. SMITH

The Word "Tricks" Was Put in His Other Communication "For Home Consumption"—Agrees to Bind Himself For an Investigation. He Says, by Three Ministers of Three Business Cities.

I don't want you to think I am important or unduly solicitous in importing you once more to publish this reply to the lying article appearing in your columns yesterday signed by J. A. Smith, your correspondent from Gastonia. The mere fact that any man can sign his name as correspondent of your paper dignifies him enough in the eyes of the public to merit a reply, no matter how insignificant he might be personally.

This man Atkins published an article in his paper on me last year which was a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end about a fight being led before the various commissions by me, and said "I wrote a correction in as gentlemanly a way as I could under the circumstances, carried a carbon copy of it to him and a copy to you, and it was published in The Observer also. You, like the broad-minded gentleman you are, very cordially said, 'Yes, I will take pleasure in publishing your version of it and correcting any seeming wrong that I may have done by producing the article at first.' But did this fellow at Gastonia do this? No, much. He positively refused. I had never met him before and never want to, again unless under some circumstances I might be forced to meet him. I explained the matter in detail to him in person and told him that the crowd I had been fighting down there was generally led by blind tigers and gamblers and asked him how he could, knowing these facts, longer make up such a crowd. As my fight had never been on any one else except in business (I fight those in business who fight me) I believe in reciprocity. And the fact that he refused to do what falsifier went to get an opportunity to say I was a liar shows that he was begging the question. The word "tricks" in my short article to you had no reference whatever to his article, but to the fact that he was a candidate for mayor unblushingly and shamelessly said to our old board of town commissioners at their meeting the day after the election Tuesday that he got a great many votes by "tricks and ruses" and seven miles from there, which he could never have gotten by voting them from the front, and this word "tricks" was sent for home consumption, and I want to say in explanation that no man and especially one who has been seven miles from me can say that I am a liar or that I am in any way corrupt or have in any manner done any dishonorable thing without being a willful falsifier and a friend of liars, thieves and blind tigers. This is what I said in the article as I know how to write under the circumstances, and I would thank you to publish it even if it has to go in as a paid advertisement. Now, I want to say to you, Mr. Editor, an advertisement for your paper that published this wrong on me and as an advertisement of my own just cause that correspondent has had his say and I have had mine. Now, I hereby agree and bind myself that any three ministers of the Gospel in Gastonia or Charlotte can come to Bessemer City, take their own good time in their own good way and investigate what he has said about me and what I have said about him, and if they find out from said investigation that he was justified in any particular or in any manner in making any unjust criticism or disparaging remarks about me then I will resign as mayor of Bessemer City, and on the other hand if they find that he was unjustified in making such criticism, remarks and slanders, then he shall publicly acknowledge his wrong.

The offer remains open, and I will pay all of the expenses of the investigation. I understand, Mr. Editor, from a very reliable source that the main object in the attack of those two Gastonia liars who run papers there on me is to try and lose me votes in my congressional race, and I do not intend any lies or slanders shall unchallenged go by me. While I have no time or inclination to stop on my trip to Washington to kick at every dog, yet as I said when an article appeared in The Charlotte Observer—no difference from whom—making a reflection or telling a lie on me it merits a reply, and I will say further as these articles slandering me appeared first in your paper I feel that you will be proud to correct any injustice you may do me and any slanders that three ministers of the Gospel cannot be found who would undertake this investigation I hereby agree and bind myself to the same terms, you to send three business men in Charlotte or Gastonia, the source of my slander, and let them make the investigation and I will be equally bound. Not only at Bessemer City but where I was born and raised, and where I have always done business. If one dishonest act in business or morals can be proven on me I will resign as mayor and resign as a candidate for Congress.

Thanking you for kindnesses in the past and trusting you will do justice in this instance, as you will refrain from publishing any more slanders on me, I am, J. A. SMITH, Bessemer City, May 8th.

Death of Mrs. Melbourne at Murphy, Special to The Observer. Statesville, May 8.—A telegram announcing the death of Mrs. Helen Axley Welborne at Murphy, was received by Mrs. F. J. Axley yesterday. Mrs. Axley died early yesterday morning at the home of her mother, Mrs. F. Axley, at Murphy, after a critical illness of some days. She was about 41 years old and had lived with her parents since the death of her husband some years ago. She is survived by her mother and a number of brothers and sisters, her father having died in a Statesville hospital some months ago. Messrs. F. J. and C. C. Axley, of Statesville, were called to Murphy Monday night on account of the serious illness of their sister and they were with her when she died.

Bride's Mother Was Outwitted, Special to The Observer. Statesville, May 8.—Miss Mary Wood has returned from a visit to Cleveland and a hurried trip to Salisbury to attend the runaway marriage of Miss Ella Harris and Mr. Arthur Thomas, a popular young couple of Cleveland. The marriage took place Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's cousin, Mr. J. H. Kridler, at Salisbury, and the couple left Wednesday night for a bridal trip to Washington and other points. On their return they will be at home at Cleveland. The mother of the bride was opposed to the marriage and rather than be "outdone" the couple, accompanied by a number of friends, came away to Salisbury to have the knot tied.

Well Worth Taking. Charleston News and Courier. The chief regret that we have for Joe Bailey's "vindication" is that they don't give him credit for going into South Carolina. We would like him with all his faults.



PRICES OFF 1-4 TO 1-3 WHOLESALE HATS AND CAPS

Our entire stock Men's and Boys' Straw and Fur Hats and Spring Caps are being closed out at a big discount. Instead of 7 per cent. discount, we shall sell our Men's and Boys' Straw Hats and a few Ladies' Sailors, regular prices of \$2.50 to \$12.00 per dozen, less 33 1-3 per cent. for cash. All Men's and Boys' Fur Hats from \$9.00 to \$24.00, our regular wholesale prices, go for 25 per cent. discount, and all Caps at \$2.25 to \$4.50 per dozen go at 25 per cent. off for cash.

Cut Price on Overalls. Our regular \$4.50 heavy Blue Apron Front Overall, regular run of sizes, go for \$4.00 net.

Garland Neglige Shirts Cut. A big assortment, regular sizes. New, clean stock, regular \$4.00 to \$6.00 Shirts and in original new boxes. Cash price per dozen \$4.00 net.

Big Job in Men's Pants. Pants that retail at \$1.50 to \$2.50, about 20 dozen to be jobbed out at a big loss. 100 Men's and Young Men's Suits, broken sizes, to clean up the lot we will sell it so any merchant can over double his money.

Notions. Our Notion stock in the wholesale department is broken, but we still have a good, big stock, and what we have can be bought cheap.



These Two Shoes. We have these exact Sorois Shoes in stock—Patent and Gunmetal, for \$4.00. Any other kind you want in Sorois at \$3.50 and \$4.00. Tan Pumps, Oxfords, Ribbon Ties, etc.; also Black leathers from \$2.00 to \$3.00.

Crossett \$4.00 Oxfords, \$3.25. Closing out all our Crossett Oxfords and Shoes at a cut price. Beautiful Patent, Vici and other leathers, all cut in price.

New Neckwear To-Day. A swell, nobby, new line of the novelties in all shapes, 25 to 50c. Pure Linen Collars, 12 1-2c.

H. & I. brand, pure Linen, all shapes, 15c., or two for 25c. Pure Cotton, all shapes, 10c.

