

The Charlotte Observer.

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SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1908.

THE PENDING CURRENCY LAW.

James Aldrich and Cannon appear to have dealt with revolt, partly through strong repressive measures and partly through compromise. They have succeeded in assuring the enactment into law of such sort of currency legislation as the country opposes practically with one voice and Congress, even under the whip, has shown itself extremely reluctant to pass. They did not by any means get all they sought for. Aldrich's friends of high finance, but they got a good deal. Note circulation is allowed up to 90 per cent. of the market value of bonds deposited as collateral, whereas the Vreeland bill had allowed only 75 per cent; 75 per cent. is likewise the maximum allowed against commercial paper. Mr. Aldrich scored another success in striking out the Vreeland bill's provision for a 25 per cent. cash reserve against the so-called emergency circulation, merely requiring the addition of an extra five per cent. to the "redemption fund." With regard to the tax the new measure provides for payment at the rate of five per cent. per annum upon the average amount of notes issued, and afterwards an additional tax of one per cent. per annum for each month until a tax of ten per cent. per annum is reached. The provision for a national monetary commission of nine Senators and nine Representatives stands unchanged. Best of all the bill's features as it goes to enactment is a new section providing that the whole measure shall expire by limitation on June 30, 1914. The country's great though insufficient consolation in the whole matter is that something much worse might have been forced through. We shall print a full delineation of the measure, part summary and part text, to-morrow or Monday.

THE WAY THEY WRITE LETTERS.

The Savannah News says that "when the average woman takes up a four-page sheet of paper to write a letter she fills the first page, then skips to the third page, fills that, and then goes back to the second page. A Pennsylvania woman recently wrote her will that way, affixing her signature on the second page. At the reading of the will the lawyers read straight ahead from page 1 to page 2, which carried the signature, and that seemed to settle the whole business. There was writing on page 3 to be sure, but it appeared to be an unsigned codicil." The trouble about parsing letters is that there is no "average woman." A woman is as apt as not to start a letter on the fourth page, hop about like a flea, and wind up on the third, of course putting the page number on none of them. She may do that way about one letter and a totally different way about another. She is not even consistent with herself. Every woman seems to do a different way every time and so does every other woman. If there was any consistency about them, if all of them would skip about the same way every time, their eccentricities would not be so bewildering, and the lawyers would not have stopped reading this Pennsylvania woman's will when they got half through, and cut her folks out of the bequests which she intended to make to them, they being taken care of in the supposed codicil which she bequeathed on the first and second pages was all to charities. But we have known all along that some time a judgment would be sent on some of them.

It was stated in our Salisbury correspondence yesterday that Col. A. H. Boyden, chairman of the State anti-prohibition committee, is in the best of humor, and says that he bows to the will of the majority and as mayor of Salisbury will carry into effect, to the best of his ability, the prohibition law and will endeavor to see that no blind tigers or places of traffic in liquor are allowed in his territory. Our correspondent says that "for a man of his age, it seems remarkable that the campaign has left no scars or bad feeling, and he seems to have forgotten the many uncalled for, unkind and untrue things that have been said about him during the campaign. Mr. Boyden was mercilessly attacked during the campaign, especially in its closing days; and yet all who know him know that he is a high-minded gentleman, incapable of doing or countenancing unworthy things, no matter how great his zeal in any cause which he may espouse.

We felt sure that it was coming—not particularly the charge that he had voted for Blaine but that Col. Ashley Horne had at some time, somewhere, done or said something that forever renders him unworthy to be Governor; and as the office boy who was in love with the typewriter girl said when she ran away and got married, "the blow has felt." The report has been circulated in Vance county that Colonel Horne is "opposed to the repeal of the lien bond laws" and he has found it necessary to appear in a letter to the editor of The Henderson Gold Leaf saying "there is no truth in the report and it is circulated simply to injure me." The statement that no charge has been preferred against Colonel Horne will have to be revised.

Replying to a question from The Charleston Evening Post, we promptly state that the Morally Stunted of this State have long since conceded defeat in last Tuesday's election. The gentleman who captained them in the contest, then, ending is not an Arkansaw Jones nor yet one like him.

JEROME AT BAY.

That was certainly a remarkable hearing the other day at Elizabethtown, N. Y., a small mountain town, when District Attorney William Travers Jerome summed up before a special commissioner his defence against the prosecution for removal from office brought against him by men who were not long ago his admirers and supporters. On this occasion, as always, Mr. Jerome showed himself a man of remarkable ability and personal force, but the fact that his own fate was the one in the balance lent his utterances a peculiarly intense quality. He spoke with a feeling which made him quiver from head to foot and at times brought tears to his eyes. Blows right and left were dealt upon his enemies. Just before entering the court room he had seen a brief prepared against him by Lawyer Franklin Pierce, of the William F. King prosecuting committee, in which he is characterized as "basely incompetent," "a corrupter of the youth of the city," and deserving not only removal from office but debatement from his profession. Now uncomplimentary characterization happens to be one of the district attorney's strongest points and within a minute or two he was dealing out as good as he had gotten. "Mr. Jerome's blood," says an Elizabethtown special, "was thoroughly up." He pictured Mr. Pierce as a muddle-head, a jelly-fish, who in the investigation had attempted to set up a man of straw that had not enough stuffing in it to stand up for a blow. William F. King, head of the prosecuting committee, was a milkier of corporations; Justice Seabury, in his Metropolitan jury-fixing inquiry, had acted like a cad; and the judiciary of New York county, when it came to acting toward big men, was "nerveless." Mr. Jerome had himself seen one justice within the last six weeks crumble up like a sick cat because the newspapers had attacked him. Mr. Jerome paid his compliments along other lines to Judge Rosalsky and to Judge O'Sullivan. As delivered by the speaker, this rapid-fire discharge of epigrams must have come with very great muzzle energy. It was a philippic against a score of Phillips.

In his characterization of his chief prosecutor, at least, Mr. Jerome appears well within the facts. William F. King, now and for years past occasionally posing as a pillar of political and financial morality, proves to be, whited sepulchre fashion, one of the very corruptionists by whom the district attorney has been severely censured—certainly of failure to punish under present laws is alleged, with much apparent reason. In reply—for not bringing to justice. William T. Jerome doubtless lacks a great deal of perfection as an all-around prosecuting officer and he is doubtless also a rather loose-living citizen even for New York City, but few can be found to assert that he has altered greatly from the same man who not long ago was acclaimed a national hero. He then took with brilliant success the plumed-knight role which others are attempting at his expense now that his false glory has departed. As a reformer we have always believed him to be essentially a humbug, though one who did little more than let the public humbug itself; and we are equally far from admiration of those now engaged in hating him. He stands vulnerable to all manner of attack, not so much because of what he is as because he turned out to be something different from what the public thought him. Public has always had this way of turning revengefully upon men—men perhaps not actually unworthy in any degree—after greatly over-praising them. It is even very dangerous to be praised enough when laudation rises high. This prosecution of District Attorney Jerome looks to us like a very natural but nevertheless quite unwarranted course—like persecution and little else.

Our esteemed contemporary, The Statesville Landmark, taking as its text the result of the election of Tuesday, is disposed to ridicule those who favored the submission of the prohibition bill to the people instead of its enactment by the Legislature—proceeding upon the assumption that they thought that if they could get it before the people they could defeat it. The Observer was of those who favored submission. As to the result, it never entertained a doubt. Its whole argument was that the people would resent the enactment of the bill without their being allowed to pass on it, and thus much injury would accrue to the party in power, while such would not be the case if the issue were submitted to them at the polls. This was in our judgment the Democratic thing; the fair and right thing; and the party is in much better position by reason of the course it took in the matter.

The Manufacturers' Record, of Baltimore, recalls that in 1905 The Independent, the managing editor of which attended the recent Cosmopolitan Society dinner and afterwards defended it, said in an editorial alluding to race antipathy as a "cultivated vice" and characterizing as "wicked" the laws "which in Mississippi forbid intermarriage of the races." "We are asked if we would invite negroes to our home if we lived in the South," and if we "now mingle with them on terms of social equality." That depends on the negro. In the South the editor of The Independent has sat with negroes at their table in their home and enjoyed it; and he has entertained negroes in his own home, and no hurt done. But they were intelligent, cultivated people. What he would do if he lived in the South he cannot tell, but he hopes he would not mingle socially with ignorant and disagreeable people of any shade or tint.

Now what do you think of that? President Roosevelt was ever an industrious gentleman. It is said that even while he yet has Congress on his hands he finds time to spare in framing up a platform for his party convention to adopt at Chicago.

THE PRIMARIES TO-DAY.

A BIG VOTE TO BE POLLED. This destined to be a "Kitchen" day in the history of the present Campaign For the gubernatorial nomination—Nine Counties, with a Total of 77 Votes, to Hold Primaries to-day. Mr. Kitchin Likely to Get Two-Thirds—What Mr. J. S. Manning—Interesting Developments Looked For. This will be a "Kitchen" day in the State when the primaries for the Democratic nomination for Governor are concerned. Nine counties, with a total strength in the convention of 77 votes, will instruct, and it is believed the most serious candidate will poll something in the neighborhood of two-thirds of the total vote. The counties holding primaries to-day are Columbus, Brunswick, Rockingham, Scotland, Camden, Forsyth, Bladen, Caswell, and Madison. Five of these, with a total of 37 votes, are situated in the six congressional districts. The other two, with 40 votes, are in the fifth, the Kitchin district. The only other county, Camden, which has a meagre total of 3 votes, is in the first district. This bare statement of fact will explain why Mr. Kitchin should secure the great bulk of the vote. He should get the 35 votes of his own district practically solid and with this start should have little difficulty in running his vote up to the mark designated above, namely 50 votes. A rough estimate for to-day's vote gives Mr. Kitchin 50 votes, Mr. Craig 15 votes and Mr. Horne 11 votes.

Appended is the statement of Mr. John P. Kerr, manager of Mr. Craig's campaign, and also that of Mr. J. S. Manning, manager of Mr. Kitchin's campaign. MR. KERR'S STATEMENT. Mr. J. P. Kerr, manager of Mr. Craig's campaign for Governor, made the following statement yesterday: "To-day 81 counties having 527 votes in the State convention have held conventions or primaries. Of these Mr. Craig has received 239-2; Mr. Kitchin, 182; Mr. Horne 74-2; and 29 are unreturned. Mr. Craig has a lead of 57-2 over Mr. Kitchin. The following counties, which have a total of 30 votes in the State convention, will hold their primaries to-day: Scotland, Forsyth, Rockingham, Caswell, Cumberland, Bladen, Columbus, Brunswick, Gates and Camden. It will be noted that three of these counties, electing 35 votes, are in Mr. Kitchin's district, and all the other seven are in the eastern part of the State. We estimate that Mr. Kitchin will lead Mr. Craig in these counties from 25 to 30 votes, which will leave Mr. Craig a lead of around 30 over Mr. Kitchin. "After Saturday there will be 27 counties yet to hold conventions, and in my opinion Mr. Craig will get a many votes in these counties as Mr. Kitchin, and will have a substantial lead in the State convention when all of the counties have acted."

MR. MANNING'S STATEMENT. "According to official returns from all counties that have held conventions or primaries or expect to, Rowan, Hertford and Lincoln, the vote in the gubernatorial contest is as follows: "Kitchin, 181,988; Craig, 228,207; Horne, 69,708. Mr. Craig lead over Mr. Kitchin, 58,322. There are yet 37 counties to hold their conventions. The conventions holding this week are: Cumberland, Brunswick, Rockingham, Scotland, Gates, Columbus, Forsyth, Bladen and Caswell. In the vote of these counties Mr. Kitchin will lead Mr. Craig 23 votes. "The counties holding next week will put Mr. Kitchin in the lead and he will go to Charlotte with 50 votes over Mr. Craig."

PERSONAL.

The Movements of a Number of People. Visitors and Others. Mr. James Hutchison will return next week from Trinity, where he has been in college during the past year. Mr. William Elliott of Columbia, S. C., spent yesterday in the city on business, stopping at the Selwyn. Mr. A. W. Brown, of Norfolk, Va., was registered among the guests at the Selwyn yesterday. Mr. E. P. Taylor, of Raleigh, was a Charlotte visitor yesterday. Mr. W. E. Harrison, of Greensboro, spent yesterday in the city, stopping at the Central. Mr. George Lippard, of Concord, spent yesterday in the city on business. Mr. J. R. Haynes, of Oxford, spent yesterday in the city. Among the guests at the Central yesterday was Mr. E. C. Caldwell, of Rock Hill, S. C. Mr. A. S. Cheek left yesterday morning on a business trip to South Carolina. Mr. W. A. Pendleton, of Shelby, was a Charlotte visitor yesterday. Mr. J. H. H. Felt, who will have the first of the week for Raleigh to attend Federal Court. Mr. M. A. Steele, of Rock Hill, S. C., was a visitor in the city yesterday. Prof. J. A. Monroe, of Monroe, spent a few hours in the city yesterday. Mr. J. F. Newell, of the local bar, went over to Concord yesterday on business. Mr. D. A. Tompkins will return to the city the first of the week from the North, where he has been on business. Among the guests at the Selwyn yesterday was Mr. E. C. Thomas, of Greensboro. Messrs. John C. Rankin and J. M. Wilson, of Lowell, spent last night in the city, stopping at the Buford. Mr. R. Z. Robinson, of Belmont, was a visitor last night. Col. H. C. Dockery, of Rockingham, was among the guests at the Selwyn yesterday. Mr. A. A. James, of Laurinburg, spent yesterday in the city, registered at the Selwyn. Mr. C. L. VanDoppen, of Greensboro, was a Central guest last night. Mr. John A. McMurray, of Sharon, S. C., spent last night in the city, stopping at the Central. Mr. Walter S. Covington, of Lenoir, was a Charlotte visitor last night. Mr. E. A. Aiken, of Greenville, S. C., spent last night at the Central.

THE RUBICON CROSSED.

Southern Manufacturers' Club Decides to Take Up Options on Club Site Property and to Push the Matter of Erecting New House at Once. At a meeting of the members of the Southern Manufacturers' Club last night it was definitely decided to purchase the two lots located at the corner of Graham and Trade streets on which options have been held for the past several months. In the purchasing this property the club "crossed the Rubicon" and the new club house is no longer a pipe-dream nor a pleasant topic for discussion but a reality and one that is destined soon to be realized. New members are being received daily and those who have the matter in charge anticipate high attendance in commencing their plans as outlined in The Observer several months ago.

How It Works in Durham. Said an old dorky on the street yesterday afternoon: "Well, Mr. Bossman, yer reckon dey is all gwine to keep sober for the next two years?" The reply he may be, as they will not be able to get it. "Yea, sure, Mr. Bossman; but I gets more now dan I eber did befo' in me life."

VALUED AS GOLD. B. B. Stewart, of Cedar View, Miss., says: "I tell my customers when they buy a box of Dr. King's New Life Pills they get the worth of that much gold in weight. It filled with the most precious medicine in the world under guarantee at all drug stores."

PROTEST FROM MR. WEBBER.

The Flagstars Passed or Window by Seven-Day Adventist False and in Most Unchristian Language—If His Abuse and Tirade Against Catholics Is Not Stopped, He Will Get Into To the Editor of the Observer: I ask you for a little space in your valued paper. I do not know if you have ever stopped at the window of the Seventh-Day Adventist (I think he calls himself this) to read what he writes on his window every Sunday for the public to read. It is mostly against the teachings of the Catholic Church, which he knows nothing about. The Catholic Church does not stand for anything that he is trying to teach the public. He uses the worst sort of language. Now, the Catholics of Charlotte have done as much as any other denomination in our beautiful city. Look at their property. I will cite to you Belmont one of the greatest schools in the country, conducted by men and women who have given up everything, to devote their whole lives to the children of our country. They do not teach whiskey, tobacco, or the word of good and install into the minds of our boys and girls to become honest and upright men and women. They also teach charity, and this fellow does not know the first lesson in charity. I think most churches do teach charity, and I think that Charlotte reaps more benefit financially from Belmont than it does from his junk shop, and if this fellow does not soon stop abusing and tarring Catholics he is going to get into trouble. Catholics are not asking him anything. Let him go, or for that matter let any one go, to the Catholic church in Charlotte, and they will hear the word of God preached from God's Holy Bible, and the Charlotte people know enough about Catholics to know that we are a law-abiding people and make as good citizens as any one and do not go in our stores and shops on Sunday and do moral distress. He has done. You call this Christianity? I do not. The Good Book says love your neighbor, not abuse him; be charitable to one another and help another and do not call other Churches heretics. To be sure if Charlotte was turned over to the Catholics, Charlotte would have some great number of saloons. The Catholic Church teaches truth and what is right; stands for the good and the straight and honest. When it is asked to look into a matter it sifts every lota thoroughly before it gives a decision, and generally knows what it is talking about. She does not shoot off a lot of hot air.

I ask you to kindly give this article space so the public will know what the Catholics stand for. I know this that if I could help some poor unfortunate, no matter what his condition in life was, or his color, or his religion, and he was in trouble, the night could be ever so bad or the distance ever so great, I would get out of my bed and go to him; I would give him the last penny in the world or anything else if it would stand on his feet and help him; but I would not go to the city editor and ask him to publish what I had done. This and things like this are what I call charity, not abusing other Churches; and this is what the Catholic Church teaches. It taught me this; it teaches all its children the same doctrine, rich and poor, white and black; and then to have a man amongst you who calls himself a man of God to publish to the world that the Roman Church is a harlot is altogether out of place. Our priests and bishops have forgotten more than he ever knew about the Bible.

H. A. WEBBER. P. S.—If I assisted any one who was in trouble or in great distress I would not hesitate to ask him was he a Catholic; that cuts no ice with me. I am a Catholic from the word go, but a reasonable one and a liberal one. I abuse no man because he does not happen to be a Catholic. I have known of unfortunate, but no one ever hears of it. I am working on a case right now and you could not guess it in a year. I believe in that part of the Good Book, not to let your right hand know what your left does.

MUST HANDLE THE LIQUOR.

Virginia Corporation Commission Decides That Southern Express Company Must Transport Liquor to Dry Towns When Called Upon—Ordinances of Dry Towns Ineffective. Richmond, Dispatch, 23th. In the Roanoke liquor cases involving the Roanoke Southern Express Company the Virginia Corporation Commission has decided that the ordinances of the "dry" towns were ineffective and that the express company under the general law is required to transport liquor legally sold to customers in such towns. The express company is commanded to accept from licensed retail dealers of Roanoke and from all other similarly situated all intoxicating liquors lawfully sold and to transport them to "dry" towns and deliver them to the consignees.

Dr. Bomar to Preach to Winthrop Students. Rev. Dr. E. E. Bomar, pastor of Pritchard Memorial church, will deliver a sermon to-morrow before the Y. M. C. A. of Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C. This will mark the opening of the commencement exercises at this institution. Dr. Bomar will supply the pulpit of Pritchard Memorial to-morrow morning and at night Dr. Bomar will preach as usual.

How Kitchin Beat Settle. Speaking of "pointing with pride," Mr. Kitchin's friends are fond of pointing to the fact that Mr. Kitchin was elected to Congress in 1896 when the other Democrats were told to stay at home. The Newbern Sun says that the reason Mr. Kitchin was elected that year is that Butler fused with him and gave him the Popular vote against Mr. Settle, and so that claim that great credit is due Mr. Kitchin for the election in and he is to be Settle when no other man could do it falls down like a little house of cards. Maybe, says The Sun, "other candidates, seeing how many negroes Butler and his lieutenants had helped to put in office, refused to fuse with him."

Said an old dorky on the street yesterday afternoon: "Well, Mr. Bossman, yer reckon dey is all gwine to keep sober for the next two years?" The reply he may be, as they will not be able to get it. "Yea, sure, Mr. Bossman; but I gets more now dan I eber did befo' in me life."

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MR. MOORE ON DECLARATION.

New Historical Work Strongly Written, Pains-taking and Convincing. Danville Register. We have before us Defense of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, being an exhaustive review of and answer to all attacks on the declaration, by James H. Moore, and issued from the publishing house of Edwards & Broughton, Raleigh, N. C. We have read with some care and with every interest this volume of 157 pages, which the author in his preface modestly says is an attempt made "not so much to present new facts as to marshal the old and new undisputed facts in logical order." Any one who reads the book will on finishing it be convinced that his attempt has been a complete success, and that his array of facts, both old and new, has left a distinct impression on the mind of the truth for which he contends, namely, that a convention of Mecklenburgers was held on the 19th of May, 1775, at which the Declaration of Independence and independent of Great Britain, which declaration of their independence is not to be confounded with the Resolves that were put forth eleven days later as has been done by those who have sought to establish the Mecklenburg Declaration as either a myth or a forgery. The author of the work under review has very clearly shown, it seems to us, that the convention that made the Declaration was not the committee that made the May 31st Resolves, and that neither should be confused with the other. The evidence that Mr. Moore marshals in support of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence is convincing, infinitely more trustworthy and reliable than that which is adduced to prove that Moses authorship of Deuteronomy or that John wrote the fourth gospel; and yet few of those who regard this declaration as a myth or a forgery would dare question, in spite of the less evidence of a wholly internal nature, the fact that Moses wrote the Pentateuch and that the Apostle John was the author of the fourth gospel. Now, for the declaration there is not only internal evidence, especially that contained in the May 31st Resolves, but other documentary evidence, besides the testimony of living witnesses.

It would be an interesting task to go more fully into the argument which Mr. Moore has so admirably stated and set forth, but our limited space forbids. It is sufficient to say that he seems to have fully answered the objections of all who have heretofore written to prove the Declaration a forgery and therefore unworthy of credence. The author is to be congratulated on having made a valuable contribution to the history, not only of North Carolina, but of the whole country. His book is well worth reading, and no one who is at all interested in what may be regarded as an important epoch in American history should be without it. The subject is treated in an interesting manner, and the style in which this little volume is written is clear and pleasing. We take pleasure in commending it to all who have a taste for historical reading, whether they agree to the author's conclusions or not. It will at least put them in touch with a matter that has been a subject of controversy for many years.

BANQUET OF TAR HEELS.

North Carolina Society of Newest States in Union Celebrated May 20th—Half Hundred Members Listened to Patriotic Address. The issue of May 31st of The Daily Oklahoman, of Oklahoma City, Okla., had the following account of a banquet that will be of interest to many people of this State: At the first annual banquet of the North Carolina Society of Oklahoma last night in the Grand Avenue Hotel, it was unanimously asserted and equally applauded that everything distinguished from the first girl baby to be born on American soil to the first Declaration of Independence was productive of the Tar Heel State. Probably a half hundred guests were at the banquet board, with Dr. John Threadgill presiding.

Among the out-of-town guests was S. K. Polk, chief counsel for the Southern Railroad with headquarters in Charlotte, and one of the most distinguished members of the American bar. B. F. Arendall, publisher of a newspaper in Raleigh, also was present, a number of women were guests. The meeting was principally to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, known in history as the Independence of Mecklenburg, on May 19th, 1775, the first instance in which the rule of Great Britain was not only objected to but absolutely denied and thrown off. A year later the entire bunch of colonies followed Mecklenburg's lead and adopted the Jefferson document. (Aside from the flowers, the music and the delicacies of chefdom, addresses, patriotic, reminiscent and interesting were made. "North Carolina Hospitality" was discussed by Guy V. Ferguson, assistant secretary of the organization; "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence" was the subject of an address of W. L. Alexander, Mr. Alexander's great grandfather presided at the historic convalescence and four other members of the family were delegates. Attorney Pope's subject was "Mecklenburg County." Dr. E. T. Bynum, former vice chancellor of Epworth University, spoke on "North Carolina: The first instance in which the rule of Great Britain was not only objected to but absolutely denied and thrown off. A year later the entire bunch of colonies followed Mecklenburg's lead and adopted the Jefferson document. (Aside from the flowers, the music and the delicacies of chefdom, addresses, patriotic, reminiscent and interesting were made. "North Carolina Hospitality" was discussed by Guy V. Ferguson, assistant secretary of the organization; "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence" was the subject of an address of W. L. Alexander, Mr. Alexander's great grandfather presided at the historic convalescence and four other members of the family were delegates. Attorney Pope's subject was "Mecklenburg County." 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