

The Charlotte Observer

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

EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

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PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1908.

HOW TO HANDLE A MOB.

Colonel Brock, of the regular army, who was in command of the troops protecting the Spartanburg jail when it was threatened by a mob, has some clear-cut and eminently sound views on lynch law and how to deal with the mob. "My experience at Spartanburg," said he, as quoted by our Columbia correspondent, "demonstrates strikingly that all that is needed in this part of the country to check mob violence is a firm, determined stand by the authorities, with a sheriff of grit and manhood like Sheriff Nichols to hold the fort till the militia can be brought into play."

THE INDIFFERENT VOTER.

Though, to all appearances, one of the closest on record, this presidential campaign will by no means rank among the most exciting. Party workers find voters provokingly indifferent. From all over the country come stories of light or slow registration. For the four days in New York City registration fell slightly behind 1904, although the growth of population should have made it 50,000 larger. According to The New York Evening Post, The New York Herald and other newspapers, the strong Democratic districts showed a falling off, while such increases as there were took place in Republican districts. The belief of many is that recently added registration requirements, by discouraging illiterates, contributed largely to this result.

Special attention is directed to the fact that Senator Simmons will speak in Charlotte to-morrow night. Those who hear him will certainly be repaid for their attendance. He is a powerful speaker, one who deals entirely with facts and argument and who is thoroughly informed upon politics, State and national. He will cause Republicans who hear him occasion to pause and think and give Democrats reason for the faith that is in them.

Let a Democrat be strongly suspected of even remote personal or political relations with the trusts and he is unworthy of any position whatever in our public life. Let a Roosevelt Republican be caught in the very net of his own inconsistency by the refusal to make a political confession and the unscrupulous practical man.

DOES DEMOCRATIC UNITY OF ITSELF SPELL SUCCESS?

It would seem evident from a merely casual glance at recent election figures that Bryan and Kern cannot be elected without many Republican converts. Such is the conclusion generally drawn by Democrats, as well as Republicans. There has been substantial agreement that the opening of the presidential year 1908 found the country with decidedly more Republicans than Democrats. But this view gains no support from The Philadelphia Record. Answering an assertion of The New York Times that the Democratic ticket can be elected only on the apparently impossible condition that Mr. Bryan's arguments work astonishing reversal of sentiment among great numbers of Republicans who voted for McKinley in 1900 and Roosevelt in 1904, The Record contends quite otherwise. It believes Democratic victory assured if only Democrats bring out their full vote and Republicans come no nearer getting out their full vote than in 1900 and 1904. And for this faith it gives some reasons worth considering.

While Republicans show less interest in Taft than they did in Roosevelt and McKinley and hence will probably poll no larger percentage of their vote, Democrats appear united and enthusiastic and may reasonably be expected to improve upon the record they made when divided. How much room there is for a major party increasing its vote appears from the fact that no full presidential vote has been cast by the country in a dozen years. Upon the basis of six and a half million votes for Bryan in 1896, not counting the Palmer and Buckner vote, a full Democratic vote in 1908 should be well over eight millions. This presupposes, what our contemporary takes to be a fact, that the Democratic party has enjoyed its share of the votes resulting from increased population. In 1896 the Republican vote was 7,111,607, in 1900 it was 7,220,077, and in 1904 it was 7,820,837. There was a clear failure to keep up with the growth of population—a failure attributable in part, but in very small part, to suppression of the negro Republican vote at the South. States like New York, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois show the same thing. Even the Roosevelt landslide registered a vote increase over McKinley in the country of only 5 1-2 per cent., when the growth of population should have made it eight per cent. In the four States mentioned McKinley in 1900 barely held his own as compared with 1896, falling behind in Illinois and Wisconsin. Roosevelt's vote showed material gains over 1900 in New York and Illinois, but still not what population increase called for. A final interpretation of the analysis is that the prestige of a successful foreign war did not give McKinley a perceptibly larger vote in 1900 than in 1896, and that all Mr. Roosevelt's popularity did not give his party the increased vote to which population entitled it.

Our contemporary's figures make it plain enough, we think, that the large Republican pluralities of the last three presidential elections have not been due to Republican strength half so much as to Democratic division. When Mr. Bryan ran in 1896 and 1900 one wing of the party gave him only partial support, and when Judge Parker ran the other wing dealt with him likewise. The two wings simply could not be made to flap together. Mr. Roosevelt's plurality was huge solely because numbers of Bryan Democrats stayed away from the polls or scratched the man who had been nominated in Mr. Bryan's stead. There is no reason to believe that a united Democracy would not have stood at least an equal chance of winning any of the elections beginning with 1896. Contrary to a very natural supposition on the part of many, the young men coming of age within recent years have not so far as an analysis of the vote can show, been identifying themselves more with the Republican party than with the Democracy. The Republican party has been united and has won; the Democratic party has been divided and has lost. Now the Democratic ranks have closed up and disension is found chiefly on the other side. We agree with The Record far enough to say that, even without many converted Republicans, Democratic victory does not seem at all beyond the bounds of possibility. And that several large elements which have been voting mainly or entirely Republican will divide their vote this year in favor of the Democratic ticket is a known and virtually admitted fact. Prospects for Mr. Bryan's election, good last week, are better still this week. A united Democratic party, plus recruits from Republicans and Independents, has placed him scarcely at all short of even in the race and before election day may well place him ahead.

We are proud of the Democratic party's virtue, but we lament its poverty. The campaign fund of the national Democratic congressional committee is the utterly pitiful sum of \$8,000—little more than the year's salary and mileage allowance of dozens of Democratic Congressmen whose election or re-election will not cost them one cent.

Judge Parker, it will be observed, is again having some things to say about the Republican campaign of 1896. The difference this time is that he now has evidence which was unfortunately not available four years ago and that Mr. Roosevelt, instead of being dead, maintains a dead silence.

AFROPOS OF WHAT?

With much interest The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot touches upon the fact that "after exciting and able debates the Royal Arcanumites of Norfolk have voted affirmatively on the proposition to tax old bachelors for the support of old maids." It merely proposes, by way of amendment, that "at least those single men should be exempt who have sought to win a mate without success; and just as certainly no passive virgin should be entitled to a pension who has refused eligible offers."

This question of taxing bachelors is a standing one, but how it ever came to be raised in Norfolk at the present time we cannot imagine. If there is one word on the subject in the platform of the Democratic, Republican, Populist, Prohibitionist, Socialist, Independent, Socialist Labor or Liberal party, or in the controversial literature of the campaign, or even in the Oklahoma State constitution, our memory fails us. It is up to the Norfolk Royal Arcanumites and their debate organ, The Virginian-Pilot, to explain.

It was stated at the national Democratic committee headquarters in New York Monday night through John J. Gordon, assistant and acting chief of the press bureau, that President Roosevelt and Daniel J. Keefe, president of the International Association of Longshoremen, were closeted together for several hours October 3d, and that by the offer to him of the office of Commissioner General of Immigration the support of Keefe was transferred from Bryan to Taft. Of course there is but one reply to this charge. According to the Rooseveltian code Gordon is a liar.

We hate to think what the British press would have said about the suffragette performances which London and the House of Commons witnessed yesterday if they had taken place in this country.

Greensboro should remember that centenarians are wont to tall all about their habits. We know, for one thing, that Greensboro has been "wet," "dry" and dispensary. A frank statement is in order.

CONVENTION OF U. D. C.'S.

Twelfth Annual Meeting Being Held in Goldsboro, Whose Welcome is Full of Hospitality—Proposed Memorial Arch Abandoned. Special to The Observer. Goldsboro, Oct. 14.—The twelfth annual convention of the North Carolina Division, U. D. C., met here today with a full attendance. Goldsboro has received the delegates with open arms and is attending to them royally. A handsome luncheon was given to-day by the board of aldermen. The convention opened at 10 a. m. with Miss Sue Collier, president of the Charlotte State president, presiding. Music was furnished by a choir of ladies and gentlemen singing Confederate songs. The convention was then called to order by the State president, who gave an excellent summary of the work of the year and also gave a special vote of thanks to all State newspapers for kindly publishing notices. The granite gate presented last year to the division was turned over to the Raleigh chapter and a motion made to place the money in a home for veterans' wives and widows at the Soldiers' Home, Raleigh. Telegrams were sent to the Virginia division, now in session at the Hotel Stovall, Jackson. Handsome portraits of Gen. Robert Ransom, Col. S. M. D. Tate and Capt. John Philter Young are on exhibition and are fine likenesses.

MR. MURPHY AT ROXBORO.

Democratic Elector-at-Large Speaks in Mr. McKinley's Home Town and Has an Attentive Audience. Special to The Observer. Roxboro, Oct. 14.—Mr. Walter Murphy, one of the Democratic electors-at-large for the State at large, spoke to a large and attentive audience in the court house here to-day. Mr. Murphy was introduced by Mr. S. G. Winstead, who spoke of Mr. Murphy's loyalty to the Democratic party and his long and honorable services. Mr. Murphy spoke of the promising outlook for elect Mr. Bryan and the Democratic ticket, both in our State and nation. Mr. Bryan, he declared, was "like the Republican nominee for President because Mr. Bryan received his nomination at the hands of the people, whereas Mr. Taft was the creature of Mr. Roosevelt." He discussed the tariff in a masterly manner and made it clear to his hearers that there should be a fair and just revision of the tariff made by Congress at its coming session. Mr. Murphy also spoke in eloquent terms and praise of our just, fair and upright government under Democratic rule and contrasted it with that of the Republican party, when the negro was placed in power, the writ of habeas corpus denied and riot and misrule were the order of the day. Mr. Murphy spoke for one hour and a half and received the closest attention and was applauded frequently. His speech will do the cause of Democracy much good. In Pagan Mr. S. T. Adams was called upon at the close of Mr. Murphy's address and made a good speech. Mr. C. M. Steadman will speak in Roxboro on the 23d of October and ex-Gov. Thomas J. Jarvis on the 31st.

Street Car and Carriage Collision. Correspondence of The Observer. Asheville, Oct. 13.—Mrs. Mary E. Hunter of this city was painfully injured last night about 10:15 o'clock as a result of a collision between a street car and a carriage in which Mrs. Hunter was riding. The driver sent his horse across the car track directly in front of a moving car. The motorman was unable to bring the car to a stop in time to prevent a collision and the carriage was thrown broadside. Mrs. Hunter was cut about the face and bruised but otherwise unharmed. A companion escaped unhurt.

SUTTON GOLDEN WEDDING.

Mr. C. S. Wooten tells of the happy anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Sutton, of LaGrange—The Couple Among the Last Type of Southern Aristocracy—Plenty of Old-Time Things to Eat and to Drink—Sutton for The Observer. Mr. and Mrs. John W. Sutton, of LaGrange, celebrated their golden wedding on the evening of the 9th of October, at their home, which is the handsomest in this town. During the last summer Mr. Sutton gave a dinner on the 70th anniversary of his birth, and his wife is 67 years old and looks as young as many women do at 50. They are among the last of the old type of Southern aristocracy that made the old South famous for its ante-bellum hospitality. As they walked into their spacious parlor, which was tastefully decorated by an artist from Baltimore, and blaring with electric arcs and saw this aged couple standing under an immense arch of evergreens, receiving the congratulations of their numerous friends, and their eyes beaming with the fires of their youthful love, I thought how delightful it must be to them, after having for fifty years trodden the absurd pathway of life together, and by their industry and thrift, having accumulated a competency of this world's goods, they could now in the evening of life approach in peace and joy the chambers of the great beyond. Mr. Sutton is one of our wealthiest citizens, possessing over one thousand acres of fertile land in the valley of the Neuse and three magnificent residences and a commodious store building and other property in this town. The presents were beautiful, valuable and useful. The Rouse Banking Company, of which Mr. Sutton is a director, gave a gilded clock which cost \$40. I shall not attempt to describe the other presents, the total value of which would amount to over \$1,500. After leaving the parlor where the groom and bride received their guests, we went into a room where champagne punch and fruit punch were served. This was for the ladies and girls but in another room was a dinner of 10-year-old apple brandy for the old men, and a dish of loaf sugar and a big bowl of rich cream and fruit cream. Oh, how sorry I am for my prohibition friends, who cannot enjoy a little ice cream and old brandy. I pity the fellow who has never felt the delightful glow produced by a good drink of pure brandy and whiskey. Anacreon, one of the greatest of the ancient poets, was inspired with poetry when under the influence of wine. He said: "If with water you fill up your glasses and if you write anything wise, For wins is the home of Euraxemus, Which hurries a bard to the skies."

After having whetted the appetite like Clelio did when he visited Caesar we repaired to the dining room, where there was an abundance of the most delicious viands. It reminded me of the wedding supper of anti-bard-lum times when there was a plenty of something to eat raised on the old plantation, and unlike the table of these modern days that has nothing but cold roast beef, cold turkey and few crackers. The occasion was enlivened by the most delightful music rendered by a band from Raleigh. No man can be old, whose heart carves love, contains an ancient poem, in writing of old days and love, says: "Why do you seem my want of youth, And with a smile my brow behold? Lady dear, believe this truth, That he who loves cannot be old."

My this aged couple, though old in years yet young in love, celebrate their diamond wedding! LaGrange, N. C. WEDDED IN PROVIDENCE. Miss Mary Patterson and Mr. Fred McGinnis made one at the Home of the Bride's Parents. Miss Mary Patterson and Mr. Fred McGinnis were married yesterday afternoon at 6:30 o'clock at the Home of the parents of the bride, Mr. and Mrs. William Patterson, in Providence, R. I. Rev. Mr. Parker, pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church, was the officiating minister. Immediately after the ceremony accompanied by a number of Charlotte friends who attended the wedding, Mrs. McGinnis came to Charlotte, where they are at home at the residence of the bridegroom's father, Mr. I. H. McGinnis, No. 18 South Church street. The wedding was an exceedingly pretty affair, and was provided for the entire affair being characterized throughout by simplicity and a tasteful absence of ostentation. Gathered at the home were numerous friends and relatives, most of whom had known and admired the young lady from earliest childhood. Friends in common most were of bride and groom, especially the Charlotteans who were acquainted with the marriage from each as such an accomplished, possessing the peculiar gifts of mind and heart that make up the charm of womanhood. The bride, Miss McGinnis, has been for about four years connected with the D. A. Tompkins Company as book-keeper and is a young man of ability and character.

Secret Political Societies' Stateville Landmark. The Landmark is informed that agents of the national Republican committee are organizing Republican leagues in western North Carolina and that the organizers have been quite active in Wilkes and other counties in this vicinity. Those who join the leagues sign a pledge to support all the Republican nominees. So far so good, but the meetings of the leagues, we are informed, are secret. This is a sort of Gideon's band idea, which the Populists tried ineffectively, and doubtless similar to the Red Strings, an organization which existed in North Carolina early after the civil war. As a result of the operations of the last named and similar societies, when the State constitution was amended a clause was inserted prohibiting secret political societies. A secret political organization, therefore, is contrary to law and has never been popular in North Carolina. If the Republican leagues are secret societies, as we are informed, honest men of all parties would do well to keep out of them. If their purpose is proper they need not be so secret.

Death of Little Gilmer Garms. Gilmer, the 5-year-old child of Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Garms, died yesterday afternoon at the home of his parents in Dilworth. The funeral will take place at 2:30 o'clock, and will be held at 5:30 o'clock. Owing to the distance intervening, Mr. Garms, who is now in St. Augustine, Fla., will not be able to attend.

Members of the festival chorus are requested to be at the Auditorium to-night not later than 7:15 o'clock.

THE FACTS NOT DENIED.

Statements About Discrimination by the Boarding Commission Stand Well Defined. Stateville Landmark. The question is, Are the statements which appeared in The Landmark of September 25th, which are copied in the Observer, true? Mr. Erwin says they are incorrect and misleading. Let's see: The substance of The Landmark's editorial (see issue of September 25th) was that the State Hospital Commission had refused to appropriate \$30,000 for a building at Morganton to accommodate 100 men, while it had spent \$50,000 on a building at Raleigh that will accommodate only 100 men; that the refusal to spend more money at Morganton was solely on the ground, the commission stated, that no more buildings should be erected there until accommodations equal to those at Morganton had been provided at Raleigh; that there are 200 insane men in this district (estimated) needing treatment, while the pressure for room at Raleigh is not great if there is pressure at all; that the State had appropriated the money and authorized the Hospital Commission to provide for all the insane, making no restrictions as to where it should be spent; that the failure of the commission to provide further room at Morganton under the circumstances, their cost of keeping patients there being \$75 per annum per patient less than at Raleigh, was a great injustice and the reason for the refusal frivolous. This, in substance, was The Landmark's complaint against the commission and was respectfully submitted that Mr. Erwin has failed to point out a single inaccuracy of statement save that the Raleigh building cost \$55,000 instead of \$30,000, which is immaterial. The other statements stand until Mr. Erwin points out their inaccuracy, which he has failed to do, and which we challenge him to do. It is hardly necessary to say to the readers of this paper that The Landmark would not knowingly unjustly reflect on anybody or anything; but until the State Hospital Commission can give some justification—which Mr. Erwin has failed to do—for its discrimination against the insane of this district, The Landmark will continue to protest against the injustice. THIS FROM REAL LIFE. A Stateville Mother Who Caught Up With Her Son on Bible Reading. A Stateville Landmark. Last fall when a Stateville young man left for a school in a far away State his fond mother placed a Bible in his trunk and urged him to read it every day and be guided by its teachings. Of course she was glad he would carry out his mother's wishes, as he departed for the school, but it seems that he forgot the promise before getting away from the influence of the hotel. When he returned home for the vacation his mother went to his trunk and after removing most of the contents found the Bible in the bottom of the trunk where she had placed it when her boy departed months before. Opening the Bible she found a crisp \$1 bill which she had placed inside the book before she placed it in the trunk. Calling the son the mother said: "Son, did you read your Bible while you were away?" "Oh, yes, mamma," replied the boy. "I read it most every night before going to bed." "Well, isn't it a little strange, son," declared the mother as she opened the Bible and exhibited the bill, "that you didn't happen to open it at this place?" "Good Lord!" said the boy as he reached for the bill. "If I had known that was there I sure would have read that Bible."

The boy wanted the dollar but failed to get it. Instead he received a good lecture on the sin of deception. Permanent Organization Formed. Lynchburg, Va., Oct. 14.—The conference of the laymen's missionary movement of the Virginia Synod of the Presbyterian Church, representing Maryland, the Virginia and the District of Columbia, perfected a permanent organization and adjourned after three long sessions during the day. Dr. James Lewis Howe, of Lexington, Va., was elected chairman and R. M. Friend, of Petersburg, Va., was made secretary. The next annual meeting will be provided for by the executive committee. The attendance to-day was about four hundred from the bounds of the Synod. The afternoon session heard a number of addresses and there was a prolonged discussion as to the resolutions, the conference finally deciding upon a permanent organization and pledging itself for larger offerings for missions.

Florida Delegates Address Surgeons. Atlanta, Ga., Oct. 14.—Addresses by the foreign delegates, Col. Jose Barbosa Leao, of Portugal; Lieut. Col. M. W. M. Russell, of England, and Maj. E. L. Label, of Canada, was the principal feature of to-day's session of the convention of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. Major Label asked that the convention be held in Canada next year and that the association be made international.

A committee of prominent owners for the ensuing year was appointed at the morning session. That Crowd at the Academy. Three scores, or perhaps by reason of extra faith, four score people were present last night when the Academy on "The Girl from Missouri" at the Academy of Music, but when it fell its last fall there had been a scattering even of the few. The show was notable for its failure to appeal effectually to the most common taste, an ordinarily stand almost anything in the way of melodramatic stunts.

A Representative Body. One of the most representative bodies of colored men that ever assembled in Charlotte is God now in session at Simpson Chapel, S. E. church, of which Rev. G. F. B. Page is pastor. All are neatly dressed, well behaved and would be a credit to any people. A conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church for this territory is being held with Bishop Bristol of Washington, in charge.

Another Train to Washington. There is round-house talk to the effect that another train will be put on soon between Charlotte and Washington. The passenger traffic is said to be sufficient to justify it. While not yet decided upon, it is probable that one of the trains taken off in the spring will be put back on.

A ball subscription is printed upon each No. 10 of Dr. King's Pink Pills for Pale People. Add your dollar to the fund if the formula is not complete. Read pains, women's pains, pains anywhere or in season, buy a box of Pink Pills. Sells everywhere.

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