

The Charlotte Observer.

J. E. CALDWELL, Publishers.

EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1908.

A COMMISSION PLAN WHICH IS SOMETHING ELSE.

Those inclined to favor a modified commission plan of government for Charlotte...

In North Carolina, the Virginian-Pilot correctly assumes, there exist no such constitutional obstacles.

From any city which had tried the modified commission plan we should expect no other sort of utterance.

Such a plan is designed solely to keep the authority and responsibility scattered, and yet, as our Norfolk contemporary points out, the true commission plan's distinctive merit lies in concentration.

The next case noted involved the celebrated letters of Lord Chesterfield to his son, Philip Stanhope, which Mr. Stanhope's widow was about to publish.

At the recent municipal convention in this city Mayor Rice, of Houston, was strong in his advice against any attempt at combining the commission plan with the discredited principle of diffused responsibility.

MR. TAFT'S HANDICAP. The weight of the handicap which Judge Taft carried in the recent campaign is well set forth by The New York World.

"The Republican candidate had to bear the burden of general hard times; of a million men out of employment, of business interests complaining and dissatisfied, of a steadily increased cost of living, of an unparalleled disaffection of labor leaders, of an unparalleled disaffection of the negro vote; of Republican factional fights in the great pivot States of New York, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; of a reactionary platform which he was obliged to modify in his speech of acceptance; of an insidious use of religious prejudice and bigotry against Mr. Taft's liberal and advanced belief; of a popular resentment against Mr. Roosevelt's determination to name his successor and a proxy; the hard-timess alone was a burden under which a far stronger candidate than Mr. Taft might have succumbed. It is the first time in the history of the country that a great public bias, so far as the popular vote is concerned, not detested the party in power."

THE DIFFERENCE SHOWN.

How widely journalistic standards of ethics vary between high and low is illustrated by the story of that interview with the German Emperor...

It was a matter of course that other publications would be much less scrupulous. Hearst's New York American soon put out a crudely faked version of the interview.

It is not so much that the standard of ethics here exemplified by The World is as low as the standard exemplified by Dr. Hale and The Century.

The law of stolen letters. In its current issue Bench and Bar discusses with some fulness the law bearing upon the publication by William R. Hearst of letters or copies stolen from the Standard Oil files.

The next case noted involved the celebrated letters of Lord Chesterfield to his son, Philip Stanhope, which Mr. Stanhope's widow was about to publish.

At the recent municipal convention in this city Mayor Rice, of Houston, was strong in his advice against any attempt at combining the commission plan with the discredited principle of diffused responsibility.

MR. TAFT'S HANDICAP. The weight of the handicap which Judge Taft carried in the recent campaign is well set forth by The New York World.

"The Republican candidate had to bear the burden of general hard times; of a million men out of employment, of business interests complaining and dissatisfied, of a steadily increased cost of living, of an unparalleled disaffection of labor leaders, of an unparalleled disaffection of the negro vote; of Republican factional fights in the great pivot States of New York, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; of a reactionary platform which he was obliged to modify in his speech of acceptance; of an insidious use of religious prejudice and bigotry against Mr. Taft's liberal and advanced belief; of a popular resentment against Mr. Roosevelt's determination to name his successor and a proxy; the hard-timess alone was a burden under which a far stronger candidate than Mr. Taft might have succumbed. It is the first time in the history of the country that a great public bias, so far as the popular vote is concerned, not detested the party in power."

"Of each of the arguments enumerated the Democrats made the fullest possible use, even attacking Judge Taft's Un-Americanism in some cases openly, more frequently by innuendo. There was so much upon which to attack the Republican party and its candidate; so many grievances, the majority of them real, some imaginary, to recite against them, that it is not quite surprising that a great many Democrats, some of them really sensible men, expected party success, and yet the rout was disastrous. There is only one hypothesis upon which to account for it. But right here we stop, for why be unnecessarily disagreeable?"

THE LAW OF STOLEN LETTERS.

In its current issue Bench and Bar discusses with some fulness the law bearing upon the publication by William R. Hearst of letters or copies stolen from the Standard Oil files.

The next case noted involved the celebrated letters of Lord Chesterfield to his son, Philip Stanhope, which Mr. Stanhope's widow was about to publish.

At the recent municipal convention in this city Mayor Rice, of Houston, was strong in his advice against any attempt at combining the commission plan with the discredited principle of diffused responsibility.

MR. TAFT'S HANDICAP. The weight of the handicap which Judge Taft carried in the recent campaign is well set forth by The New York World.

"The Republican candidate had to bear the burden of general hard times; of a million men out of employment, of business interests complaining and dissatisfied, of a steadily increased cost of living, of an unparalleled disaffection of labor leaders, of an unparalleled disaffection of the negro vote; of Republican factional fights in the great pivot States of New York, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois; of a reactionary platform which he was obliged to modify in his speech of acceptance; of an insidious use of religious prejudice and bigotry against Mr. Taft's liberal and advanced belief; of a popular resentment against Mr. Roosevelt's determination to name his successor and a proxy; the hard-timess alone was a burden under which a far stronger candidate than Mr. Taft might have succumbed. It is the first time in the history of the country that a great public bias, so far as the popular vote is concerned, not detested the party in power."

"Of each of the arguments enumerated the Democrats made the fullest possible use, even attacking Judge Taft's Un-Americanism in some cases openly, more frequently by innuendo. There was so much upon which to attack the Republican party and its candidate; so many grievances, the majority of them real, some imaginary, to recite against them, that it is not quite surprising that a great many Democrats, some of them really sensible men, expected party success, and yet the rout was disastrous. There is only one hypothesis upon which to account for it. But right here we stop, for why be unnecessarily disagreeable?"

COOL SMITH WAS SOLD OUT. Col. J. A. Smith, some time Republican candidate for Congress in this district; publishes a card in The Bessemer City Messenger, denying that he traded or sold out in the recent election and saying in accusation:

"The Republican [county] convention when Claude Holland wanted to put up for election to the State Senate, I opposed it because I had heard that Mr. Hoffman would not vote the Republican ticket, although accepting the nomination on the ticket, and I thought that he would do it. If he would not, he could not get my vote. Mr. Holland jumped up in the convention and said to me: 'You used with the Populist, why can't you fuse with Democrats? You will gain 700 Democratic votes by this fusion.' After this was said, and we were assured by Mr. Holland that Mr. Hoffman was squarely for us, I said no more. This assurance of Mr. Holland's was binding on every Democrat who voted for Hoffman to vote for me of course and it was so accepted and understood.

"No, my friends: I neither sold out nor traded, not the fact that Hoffman got 90 more votes over at Bessemer City than I got, shows that the Dallas court house crowd did not deliver the goods, for if they had I would have gotten the same number of votes that Hoffman got in Gaston county. I agreed to give him as many votes at Bessemer City as I got and the count shows he got nearly three more, which shows the crowd not only acted the traitor to me at Dallas but their friends here traded on me, too. Yes, I lost nearly 1,000 votes by the court house fusion."

And it is not a very good opinion, either. It is a pretty sorry sort of a man who will conduct a blind tiger, and the public also has its opinion of the man who will patronize a blind tiger and then give it away.

DISTRICT MEETING OF JUNIORS.

Gathering Will Be in High Point Wednesday and Thursday—Topics For Discussion—Brief High Point Notes.

High Point, Nov. 23.—The Juniors of the city are looking forward to a big time here Wednesday and Thursday of this week when the district meeting will convene here.

The order of exercises for the next day is as follows: Meeting called to order at 7:30 by H. R. T. Poole, of Troy. Topics for discussion: "Qualifications for membership," led by Mr. T. H. Spencer. "How to Increase Membership," led by Dr. R. A. Freeman; "Duty of a Junior," led by Mr. C. B. L. A. Southern; "What Should Be the Duty of a Junior," led by Mr. C. B. Webb; "What Has the Order Done For Education in North Carolina?" led by Professor White, of No. 169 South Third Street, Raleigh.

The surveying corps of the Southern Power Company is in the city working on the line of the company which will enter the city at an early date. Mr. O. N. Richardson, of the High Point Electric Company, having made a contract for power with said company.

Mr. John Payne, who has been suffering for some time, is in New York for consultation with a celebrated physician.

SKETCH OF SHERIFF HOUSE.

Was Native of Cabarrus County, Enlisted in Army at 16 and Made Fine Record—Died in Arkansas November 1st.

Concord, Nov. 23.—Milton C. House, of whom The Observer has contained editorial reference for two consecutive days, native of Cabarrus county, but he is now numbered among the dead, having occurred at his home in Lonoke county, Ark. on or about the 1st of November, 1908.

He was one of two sons of the late Wiley House, and was left an orphan when quite a lad. He went to school at the Arkansas school and for eight years had been sheriff of Lonoke county. He was in correspondence with his aunt, and only four weeks ago she received a letter from him telling her of his probably fatal illness. She wrote him a letter, in which she folded a rosebud attached to which was an inscription, "From Home, Sweet Home."

The letter was received by his family the day that he was buried, and before being laid to rest the coffin was opened and the token from his benefactor in childhood was found in his shirt pocket. Mrs. Litaaker and Mrs. Blume have both received letters and newspaper clippings concerning Sheriff House's life and death since the letter written to The Manufacturers' Record.

To the Editor of The Observer: As to Sheriff M. C. House, Lonoke county, Ark. I think I can give you some information about him, where he is from. Some thirty or thirty-five years ago there was a man I knew as Melton House, who was born and raised out in the neighborhood of Mount Pleasant, Cabarrus County. He went from here to Arkansas about that time. He has a sister living four miles southeast of Concord. Mrs. James L. Litaaker. She could tell you all about him, as I think Mr. John D. Barrie, of Charlotte, could tell something about him, or Capt. Jonas C. Barringer, of Mount Pleasant. Mount Pleasant can give information about him. Being this much interested I thought I would give you this bit of information. W. M. CORZINE, Concord, Nov. 23, 1908.

CHURCH FIFTY YEARS OLD.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Congregation at Wilmington Holds 50th Anniversary—Final Exercises Attended by Large Audience.

Wilmington, Nov. 23.—The largest congregation ever assembled in the building was present last night to participate in the 50th anniversary of exercises in celebration of the semi-centennial of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, of which the beloved Rev. Dr. A. D. McClure is pastor, in this city.

It was made a joint service of three Presbyterian congregations in the city and there were present not only members of this denomination but people of the city generally, many with no Church affiliation whatever. A large double choir of 18 voices furnished excellent music and the occasion was a notable one in the religious life of the city.

The service was an appropriate climax to a series of services that have been in progress since Friday evening when the Ladies Aid Society of the congregation gave a delightful reception at the new and handsome mansion recently erected. The services were read last morning by the Rev. Dr. Sprunt, of Charleston, and was one of especial power and appropriateness to the anniversary occasion. Thursday afternoon there was a "Cradle Roll" rally of the Sunday school, with an address by Dr. Sprunt.

LAMPHERE TRIAL NEARS END. One More Day, and Evidence Will Be Completed—Defense Has Introduced Evidence to Show That Mrs. Gunness Was Alive Two Months After Date of Supposed Murder—Lamphere Will Not Testify.

Concord, Nov. 23.—The trial of Mrs. Belle Gunness and her three children is drawing to a close. Another day will see the evidence all in cases something unforeseen happens to-morrow. Dr. Walter S. Haines, a toxicologist of Chicago, will take the stand to-morrow afternoon, according to present plans, to testify to the finding of strychnine and arsenic in the stomachs of Mrs. Gunness and two of the children.

Lamphere, according to to-day's statements of the defendant's attorneys, will not go on the stand. Neither will Elizabeth Smith, a negress at whose home in Lamphere she spent the night of April 27th, be used as a witness, according to present intentions. The State has offered evidence to show that Lamphere left the Smith house shortly after 3 o'clock in the morning of April 28th, and that the fire occurred about 4 o'clock. Mrs. Smith says that Lamphere did not leave her place until after 4 o'clock, even though the officers on the morning after the fire found an alarm clock in her room at 3 o'clock a. m., but she has not been allowed to tell this to the jury.

Heavy Wagers on Steamship Races to Savannah. Savannah, Ga., Nov. 23.—Racing down the coast under full steam are coming the steamship City of Savannah and City of Columbus, and heavy sums have been wagered upon the result. At midnight wireless reports showed the City of Savannah with a slight advantage and she is expected to reach Savannah tomorrow afternoon for between 8 and 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Both vessels are filled with wealthy New Yorkers, who are coming to witness the automobile races. The City of Columbus sailed yesterday afternoon at 1 o'clock and the City of Savannah eight hours later. By wireless a race was soon arranged and large wagers made. Interest in the race has been keen and both ships are receiving advices, and messages from passengers on one to those on the other have been exchanged almost continuously.

Judge Leake of Richmond, Dead. Richmond, Va., Nov. 23.—Judge William Josiah Leake, former president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, died at his residence in this city late to-day. Judge Leake had been ill for about six months and confined to his home most of the time. Judge Leake was 65 years old. He has for a number of years been associated in the practice of his profession with Hall Carter. Besides being president of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, Judge Leake has served some time as counsel of the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac Railroad, and Washington-Southern roads.

Bishop Wilson to Precede at South Carolina Conference. Laurens, S. C., Nov. 23.—The annual conference of the South Carolina Methodist Episcopal Church will convene here to-morrow. Bishop A. W. Wilson, of Baltimore, presiding. The first exercises are to be Tuesday evening when the historical society holds its regular annual meeting. Rev. J. S. Basley, of Batesburg, president of the society, will read a paper on the history of Methodism in this State. Already a number of delegates have arrived, and by to-morrow there will be at least 400 in attendance.

The Little-Long Co.

Essentials to Making a Thanksgiving Dinner Palatable

There's nothing that can add more to the taste of a dinner than new spotless linens and real nice china with small neat decorations, narrow gold band or plain white. As for the Linens, we are showing two large stocks in table linens and napkins to match and are making a special of a range of patterns for \$1.00 yard.

THANKSGIVING TABLE LINENS. Our two large Linen Departments (Trade and Tryon Streets) contain the greatest showing of Table Linens in the Carolinas—50c. to \$2.50 the yard. Beautiful designs in Lillies, Poppies, Tulips, Roses, Pansies, Thistle, Buttercups, Holly, etc.

FOR THANKSGIVING DAY. You may want an extra set of spoons, knives, forks, or a carving set. We are showing an assortment of patterns in both sterling and silver-plated ware. Our carvers are of the best makes and we guarantee them to carve. Prices from \$4.50 to \$15.00.

HAVILAND & CO.'S CHINA. A 100-piece dinner set, neat decorations, beautiful designs, and shaped pieces—a set that most dealers get \$85.00 for—our price \$65.00. A plain white Haviland & Co.'s dinner set, with one to 3 broken pieces, price as is \$40.00.

ONION BLUE. we sell one piece, or 100 pieces for \$20.00. BERRY SETS. Beautiful decorations from \$1.50 to \$7.50. Salad Bowls from 25c. to \$3.00.

The Little-Long Co.