

The Charlotte Observer.

J. P. CALDWELL, Publishers.

D. A. TOMPKINS, Publishers.

EVERY DAY IN THE YEAR

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE: Daily One year \$3.00, Six months \$2.00, Three months \$1.00. Semi-weekly One year \$1.00, Six months \$0.50, Three months \$0.25.

PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

No. 34 South Tryon street. Telephone numbers. Business office. Bell phone 134. City editor's office. Bell phone 134. News editor's office. Bell phone 134. A subscriber if ordering the address of his paper changed, will please indicate the address to which it is going at the time he asks for the change to be made.

MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1909.

TEXAS NEW LAW.

The Texas Legislature having failed to pass State-wide prohibition, has now succeeded in passing a law that it is believed, will settle the question that has kept the State stirred up constantly for the past few years. It is advocated by the wholesale liquor dealers and the brewery interests, who will join with the prohibitionists in securing its passage, fearing that next time they would be wiped out altogether.

It is a singular fact that some of the artists who have attained to eminence and distinction in the world of music have a temper that will go off at a touch. It is related by The Spartanburg Journal that the great diva, Mme. Olive Fremstad, was in a rage while taking her part in the closing exercises of the Spartanburg Music Festival.

A good suggestion has been advanced by a patriotic woman of Charlotte to the effect that one of the floats in the 29th of May parade should symbolize the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence. A sufficient number of descendants of the signers could be drummed up to represent them.

The Democratic primaries will be held in Winston today and in Greensboro to-morrow. In each town, interest has been growing as the date for the primaries approached. At one time it looked as if there would be a scarcity of candidates, but the trouble now seems to be to get all of them on the ticket.

THE TARIFF A LIVE SUBJECT.

Since the woman are interested in the tariff, it follows that everybody is interested in it. As a matter of fact, hundreds of people who formerly skipped tariff literature now go through it. It is a subject that for once has become invested with general and unusual interest. In a way, the country has been attending a tariff kindergarten. The United States government collects annually three hundred million dollars in tariff duties and twelve articles, or classes of articles pay three-fourths of this sum. The figures have been compiled by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, and it is from its figures that we quote. We find by the report for 1907, strange to say, that sugar paid a greater tariff than cotton goods, the general opinion having been that the latter heads the list of all tariff producing articles.

Ex-Governor Glenn has reached New Orleans on his Southern tour. He was booked to preach there twice yesterday and once today in the pulpits of three different Presbyterian churches. He is working in the cause of "religion in the homes," and the New Orleans papers are according him a warm welcome. The Times-Democrat thinks that ex-Governor Glenn's contribution of a year's undivided service as lay preacher, to the cause of home missions, is unique, and adds: "His meetings elsewhere have been largely attended and gratifyingly successful. To the oratorical power, native ability and sincerity that made him a popular and successful executive, he adds a fervor and devotion in the Christian cause that wins and impresses his audiences."

More or less ignorance prevails in government circles about the nature of Southern harbors. At the time the Confederate reunion was held in Wilmington there was much discussion as to whether the "risk" of sending the Raleigh into that port could be assumed. It was finally decided to try it and the Raleigh sailed in without the aid even of a pilot and with no risk whatever. Similarly, a discussion arose as to the expediency of sending the battleship Mississippi up the river to Natchez, to receive her silver service, and it has been decided to try the experiment, which will be no experiment at all, for there are two passes at the mouth of the Mississippi that will float the biggest battleships. The Mississippi will carry the battleship of that name in perfect safety and will cause a revision of some ideas that prevail in naval circles.

Some Virginia Republicans have dreamed a dream of the future. They have given it out that Judge Jeter C. Pritchard would, in a year or two, resign his lifetime job on the Federal Court bench so as to make room for Mr. L. P. Summers, a Republican politician of Abingdon. It was figured out that if Mr. Summers should be nominated by the Republicans for Governor of Virginia, he should be given Judge Pritchard's place as a reward, taking it for granted, perhaps, that it would be agreeable to the judge. But Judge Pritchard has simply said nay, and lost no time in saying it.

The election of Mrs. E. C. Gregory, daughter of Senator Lee S. Overman, as one of the vice presidents general of the Daughters of the American Revolution by a lead of one hundred votes over any other candidate, was a handsome compliment and one that puts this State in a more than ordinarily good humor with the D. A. R.'s. In continuing this honor to North Carolina, the Daughters of the American Revolution were happy in their selection of the one who was to wear it.

They are fixing up a new city charter for Atlanta and one of the provisions is a recognition of the suffragettes and a plank giving all women who pay taxes on real estate the right to vote in city elections. Of course this provision is not going to be enacted into law, but Atlanta will get some advertising out of the ensuing agitation. Atlanta always keeps itself to the front.

NEW COTTON CONTRACT RULES.

Out of respect for a growing public sentiment, the New Orleans cotton exchange has made a set of new rules governing contracts in future deliveries and the new rules are regarded as something in the nature of a reform. According to The Picayune, the new contract of the New Orleans exchange will provide for the tendering on contracts of only those grades that are unquestionably spinnable, merchantable and desirable. Accordingly, undesirable low grades of stained and trashy cotton will be eliminated from the cotton tenderable on contracts. A future contract will therefore afford ample protection to both buyer and seller and serve as a proper medium of transfer between the two. Further, under the new rules the exchange will adopt permanent standards of grades which will be unalterable, and not changeable from year to year, as has been the custom in the past. "This," says The Picayune, "will insure stability to contracts and traders need cause no misgiving as to any change in the character of cotton represented by certain grades mentioned. When the national or State government fixes permanent grade standards such standards will be adopted as the basis for all contracts." The new rules appear to be designed to eliminate all the old objections to the future contract, the principal one being that a buyer had no assurance of receiving under a future contract desirable grades of cotton. Several years since the Louisiana Legislature passed a law that greatly restricted the operations in futures and that worked to the detriment of the New Orleans exchange in particular and, it is claimed, to the cotton trade in general. This action of the exchange will probably result in a loosening up of this law.

Referring to the death of Dr. W. H. Wheeler, The Winston-Salem Journal says that he was one of the grand old men of a former generation—that he was Ransom's friend. He was a country gentleman. There was more grace in the way he removed his hat, his friends like to say of him, than any three Chesterfields combined. These few words contain very much of a tribute. Dr. Wheeler was one of the old-line Republicans and had a fine reputation as a Confederate soldier. But the "he was Ransom's friend" gives in a word the standard of his character.

The Spartanburg Journal is inclined to twit The Columbia State because of the alleged fact that the attendance on the Columbia Music Festival was smaller than the attendance on Spartanburg's celebrated event. Spartanburg has the finest music festival in the South and this fact is generally conceded. It was an established success from its opening sixteen years ago and a knowledge of that fact ought to be sufficient to keep The Journal in a serene and altogether unenviable frame of mind.

MINUTIVE FARMS.

Those in Portugal Have Been Cut Up Into Very Small Portions. Washington, April 25. The Portuguese are an extremely conservative people. Every man follows rigidly the methods employed by his father and forefathers. In very many parts of the country the old world plow are still used. When a man dies, instead of one of the heirs taking the whole property and paying the remaining heirs for their parts, the whole property is divided into as many parts as there are heirs. More than this, each separate part of the property is thus divided. Thus, if a property consisted of ten acres of pasture land, eighty of vineyard and ten of grain land, and there were ten heirs, each heir would receive one acre each of grain and pasture land and eight acres of vineyard. This process has been going on for a very long time, so that now, in the most fertile part of Portugal, the land is divided into incredibly small portions. The immediate result of this, according to the United States consular reports, is that the product of the land is barely sufficient at best to sustain its owners. South of the river Tagus, on the other hand, there are enormous tracts of excellent land lying unused, but it has been found impossible to induce the farmers of the north to move into this region and take up large holdings.

A Problem.

Philadelphia Inquirer. The proprietor of a tanyard was anxious to fix a suitable sign to his premises. Finally a happy thought struck him. He bored a hole through the door-post and stuck a calf's tail into it, with the tufted end outside. After a while he saw a solemn-faced man standing near the door, looking at the sign. The tanner watched him a minute and then stepped out and addressed him. "Good morning, sir," he said. "Good morning," said the other, without taking his eyes off the sign. "Do you want to buy leather?" asked the tanner. "No." "Perhaps you've got some hides to sell?" "Are you a farmer?" "No." "What are you, then?" "I'm a philosopher. I've been standing here for nearly an hour, trying to find out how that calf got through that hole."

Willing to Be Tardy.

Sunday School Teacher—"Don't you want to be an angel, Tommy?" Tommy—"I ain't in no hurry; the baseball season's comin' pretty soon."

TO MAY.

Come May, oh come again, rose-crowned And wrap about with perfume sweet, As with a mantle! Come! A sound Of bird-notes fills the air to greet The white-throated winged heralds fly Over verdant lawns, and garden gay And spread the glad news far and high. Bring fresh supplies of hopes, ew pray. Come scatter gladness everywhere. If shadows on some hearts may rest Oh let thy sunshine enter there. Leaving sweet peace, a rich request, And let thy presence fill our days. With beauty, and our nights with prayer! —O. H.

TARIFF DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

BY H. E. C. BRYANT.

The tariff debate in the Senate has developed an interesting situation. Senator Dolliver, of Iowa, and Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, have an issue with Senator Aldrich on his bill and threaten to give trouble. In the course of his remarks Mr. Nelson said that he was greatly disappointed that the finance committee failed to reduce the duties on cotton manufactures of cotton, manufactures of wool, glass and many other articles, and earthen, stone and china ware. These schedules, he declared, are too high.

"I think," said he, "that a man, no matter where he may live, who stands for a higher rate of duty than is justified by the facts and just principles of protection is a greater enemy to the Republic than any other enemy you can possibly find on the other side of the chamber." Following Mr. Nelson Mr. Dolliver said: "I have not been one of those who sought to push the country, and certainly not my own party, toward a revision of the tariff. But I cannot refrain from entering an individual dissent from the proposition that it was the purpose of the President in calling this Congress, or the purpose of the party in practically ordering the Congress to be called together, in its platform of last year, either to leave the Dingley tariff act as it is or to increase its rates."

CRITICISM OF PRESS.

The papers of the country, as a rule, especially those of the West, are criticizing the tariff bill severely. The editorials have been so plentiful and so pronounced that the Republican leaders are alarmed. It is believed that the papers reflect the sentiment of the people on the question of revision. As a result of the fear injected in those responsible for the action of Congress a new bill may be offered, and if this should be done, the extra session might continue until the last of the summer. There is no telling what the work of revision will be complete. If the Democrats and the insurgent Republicans should get together and make a vigorous fight Mr. Aldrich would be put to his wits' end to win. It is said here in certain circles that Dolliver is being practically ordered not to get an assignment on the finance committee, and that that accounts for his attitude toward the bill.

No one doubts Mr. Aldrich's ability to put through his measure but all doubt the wisdom of steam roller methods, which would react on the party in 1910. President Taft, Uncle Joe Cannon and Senator Aldrich, as well as other party leaders, do not desire to bring about a condition that would jeopardize the party in the next election. Democrats are already rejoicing over the prospect of a split in the ranks of the dominant party. The West, especially those States where Cummins, LaFollette, and other Republican insurgents dwell, is gradually leaving the ranks of standstillers of the Republican party, and these men are hailed as "near-Democrats" now, and it is this sentiment, it is said, that makes President Taft take so much interest in the South. A new Government is looked for in the South. The election of three Republican Congressmen in North Carolina last fall, the break-away of the Georgians from the party caucus in the fight on rules in the House and the largest stand of the party platform on the lumber section of the Payne bill have encouraged Republican leaders in Congress. Some partisans from the middle West go so far as to say that Champ Clark, the minority leader, will be elected next election.

HOW SENATORS STAND.

It is asserted that the "Capitol" that Senators Cummins of Iowa, Duffell of Minnesota, Bristow, of Kansas, Burket and Brown, of Nebraska; Burket, of Ohio; LaFollette, of Wisconsin, and Crawford and Gamble, of South Dakota, will stand with Dolliver and Nelson for lower duties on some of the schedules. There are some who do not believe that Dolliver will go very far in his opposition to the Aldrich bill, but in order to square himself with the people of his State he must take a stand.

Republicans from Northwestern States are seeking concessions themselves, and they will not line up with their near-neighbors. Senators Dixon, of Montana; Borah and Heyburn, of Idaho, and Burns, of Oregon, can not be counted with LaFollette and Cummins. They desire protection for wool, lumber and other products.

What Mr. Aldrich and his associates on the Republican side lose they may gain across the aisle. With very few exceptions the Southern Democratic Senators are for a duty on lumber and will vote for it if they have the opportunity. This is not all. Every Southern industry that seems to need protection will have champions on the floor of the Senate, and they are interior in it make their wants known. That is the way it looks now. The Louisiana Senators will stand as did their Representatives in the House. When the fight comes on cotton Senators who represent States in which cotton mills are operated will protest against a reduction. Senators Simmons, of North Carolina, and Martin, of Virginia, have declared their intention to contend for the lumber tariff and the cotton schedules. Washington, April 25, 1909.

Birth of the German Navy.

London Globe. Some idea of the wonderful progress of the German navy is gained when one realizes that Vice Admiral Reinhold von Werner, whose death is announced at the age of 84, saw practically the birth of that navy as we know it. When the German fleet was sold by auction in 1852 Werner secured a commission in the new Prussian navy, and during the war with Denmark he commanded one of the three steam frigates, then the principal ships of the Prussian navy. At the date of the formation of the Federal navy Werner was director of dockyards at Danzig. In 1869, however, the deceased vice admiral returned to active service, and at the time of his retirement in 1878 he held the command of the Baltic station. He devoted the last thirty years of his life to the patriotic task of popularizing the idea of that sea power which he had seen grow from insignificant beginnings to a strength which has done so much to stimulate the shipbuilding of other nations. He was a prolific writer, and his authorship extended over a long period. Even at the time of the battle of Jassund he attracted attention by works on the Prussian navy, its present and its future.

Flu and the Flagon.

Detroit Free Press.

No ancient Athenian paean in honor of Apollo, the avenger of evil, was ever more jubilant than a 300-page pamphlet that is now being sent out by San Francisco. Nor was any praise of Olympian deities ever more deserved. San Francisco has been its own avenger of evil. It has stamped out the plague and holds the proud record of being the first city in the world in which the black death did not run its course to its own extinction. How the disease was stamped out is told in the report of the citizens' health committee, now issued, told with a cheerfulness that is startlingly in contrast with the ordinary tenor of such dry documents, too. It was serious work, but San Francisco went about it blithely and had a lot of fun with it.

It started out the rats and slaughtered them. At the same time, fifty thousand rodents were found dead during the fight, and conservative estimates put the number killed and not found at two million. It cost much money and much toll, but the plague was stamped out. San Francisco has set an example to which other American cities may have to refer before long.

Seeing and Hearing.

Lippincott's. Did you see the shot fired?" was the question asked of an Irishman called as a witness in a trial once had in Kansas City. "I did not," was the Celt's response; "but I heard it fired." "The evidence is not satisfactory," sternly announced the presiding magistrate. "Step down." This legal finding was evidently not precisely to the liking of the Irishman for no sooner had he left the stand and had turned his back than he gave way to a somewhat derisive remark. "That had the effect of arousing in turn the judge's ire, and he immediately recalled the offender. "How dare you show such contempt of court?" demanded his honor. "What do you mean by laughing in that manner?" "Did your honor see me laugh?" asked the Irishman, in a most respectful tone. "No, but I distinctly heard you laugh," said the magistrate. A twinkle came into the eye of the witness. "Such evidence is not satisfactory, your honor," said he quietly. "Whereupon, every one, including the judge, laughed."

North Carolina Safe.

Washington Herald. State Senator George L. Morton, of Wilmington, N. C., who is at the Raleigh, said last night that even though President Taft was popular in North Carolina, he would never succeed in swinging the State from the Democratic column. "North Carolina is as safely Democratic today as it ever was," he continued. "It is too early to express an opinion on the success or failure of the prohibition law in our State, it only having gone into effect a short time ago. One thing seems to be certain, and that is the revenue for the State, has almost entirely disappeared, while the consumption of liquor has increased, if anything. New measures of taxation will have to be provided for."

Does Not Want Skyscrapers.

Charleston Evening Post. "Some of these days," says The Charleston Observer, "Charleston is going to have both ships and skyscrapers." The ships certainly, but let us hope that we shall be spared the skyscrapers. Those abominations of architecture may be very well for communities whose area for expansion is limited and may be tolerated for such communities as need to play at being great by pretending to be cramped for business sites, but no town of character or confidence that can afford the space for respectable building should permit itself to indulge in "skyscraping." Charleston, we think, will never come to that.

DEAR MOTHER CHURCH.

(Rev. B. D. Winslow when a student, on being accused of leaving the Church too soon, wrote the following lines): Love thee too well, dear Mother Church, And can it ever be? Love Thee too well, my Savior's bride For whom He stooped to earth and died In mortal agony. Love Thee too well, who when these feet Life's early pathway trod, Hover'dst about my cradle bed And onward thence my feet hast led To seek the peace of God. Love Thee too well, who when I e'er reply, For can I e'er repay, The love that in Thy bosom glow'd And blessings day by day bestowed To light me on my way.

At yonder consecrated font That love we first revealed, Then shelter'd in Thy tender arms My brow was lav'd with holy charms With Heaven's own signet sealed. Nor ended then Thy watchful care, But still Thou led'st me on my way And bad'st me at the chancel bow And kneeling there myself avow God's steadfast champion.

And ever as the season comes My steps still there were led, When Thou with all a Mother's care Dost for Thy Children's wants prepare The Heaven descended bread. Thou early taught my infant lips Thy strains of prayer and praise, And rais'dst my heart from earthly joys To look for higher, better joys By Thy celestial rays.

And as the rolling year glides on With her I daily live, To see my Lord at Bethlehem Or crowned with thorny diadem On gloomy Calvary. Or view Him in the garden tomb Secured by seal and stone, Or mark Him robed death's icy chain And rising to mount again His everlasting throne.

Untaught by Thy maternal love Where would this soul have been, Or schism's troubled billows toss'd, Or chance sin, forever lost In the dark gulf of sin. Then can I love Thee e'er too well Who hast so loved me? No! let the moments of my life With deep affection all be rife With tender love to Thee.

Let all my powers though weak and frail Be ever wholly Thine, Since not a gift that man can bring Would be too rich an offering To proffer at Thy Shrine. Keep me, oh keep me, Mother, dear, With Thy unchanging love, And when earth's final hour has come Conduct me to my Master's home In brighter worlds above.

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