

The Charlotte Observer.

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PUBLISHERS' ANNOUNCEMENT

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TUESDAY, MAY 18, 1909.

WELL MEANT, BUT A SAD ERROR.

By fairly general consensus of opinion among outside newspapers, whether Republican or Democratic, Northern or Southern, President Taft acted well in appointing a Democrat to the eastern Federal judgeship.

The announced intention of Mr. Taft to set over the Southern people such officials as they desire—in a word, to treat the South not as an alien dependency but as fully part of the country—no one welcomes more cordially than The Observer.

Of course that address to be delivered at the fifteenth annual meeting of the Lake Mohonk conference by Dean Kitchin on "The Systematic Study of Limitation of Armaments" will be awaited with great interest by those powers of Europe which are now striving with each other for supremacy on the sea through increased naval armament.

Those two million dollars of stolen money which Uncle Sam made the sugar trust disgorge will wipe out mighty little of the Treasury's deficit, and, of course, the consumers of the trust's production will be forced to make good the amount to the trust.

understand and respect the expressions of ex-Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson, of Goldsboro, a brave and sincere man: "I think that it was a direct insult to every Republican lawyer in the district * * * now see no reason why any self-respecting gentleman should join the Republican party in North Carolina. I do not hesitate to say that I shall relieve my sons from any filial obligation either to join or remain in the party. My respect for the office of President of my nation prevents me from speaking of Mr. Taft as my inclination now would prompt me to do."

Let it not be understood that we question Mr. Taft's motives, have any particular criticism for Senators Overman and Simmons, or regard Judge Connor's attitude as at all times otherwise than perfectly proper. We do think, however, that the net result works a serious wrong in some directions and therefore gives cause for regret.

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Should Congress complete the tariff bill and adjourn before the Fourth of July the country would celebrate the day with all the more zest. Don't talk about doing away with fireworks as an adjunct to the celebration until it is absolutely certain that adjournment will not come until later.

CONCERNING THE JOHNNY CAKE

We recently had occasion to denounce The New York Tribune as, in some respects, The Charleston News and Courier of the North. That this denunciation was richly merited appears from later developments.

"Perhaps this is what comes from that decay of old-time, strong-stomached Democracy which was shown in the last campaign by The Charlotte Observer when it contributed a Gander to the support of its own presidential ticket," insinuates the New York conspirator.

"We have put many of the best years of our lives in the pay of the United States government as soldiers, and believe that we are safe from contradiction, when we say that the article referred to was the vilest and most uncalled for insult that was ever offered in the guise of the uniform."

"If war was declared to-morrow we have not the least hesitation in saying that the author of the article referred to would be glad to avail himself of the protection of the ash can surmounted by the American flag, as he suggests. We have no doubt but that the men of the immediate neighborhood would rally to the support of the flag as quick as set, where he suggests, if there was a man calling, 'I would like to go to the front for my equal.'"

Both please me well, their virtues much the same. As Alike their fabric, as allied their fame; Except in dear New England, where the Reckless a dash of pumpkin in the paste."

But has The Tribune never reflected that neither its dictionary men nor its near-poet came from the gastronomically favored region to which we had reference? Incorrect usage may have developed elsewhere and may have gradually replaced usage originally correct.

The Norfolk Landmark says there is much to support the prediction that Cuba will be "benevolently assimilated" by the United States during Mr. Taft's administration, which we take to mean that there will be a strong pull, a pull altogether and a successful pull on that political string commonly designated as the Foraker amendment during the present administration.

Now For Political Shock Indicator.

Some fellow has invented an earthquake indicator which gives 12 minutes warning of an impending shock. This is where those who fear earthquake shocks have the advantage over those who are liable to get a political shock from the appointing power at Washington.

A New Work For Rockefeller.

"Rainbows for Rockefeller," says a headline. John D. is really the only man who can afford to buy rainbows, and he should finance the long distance line of communication to Mars.

And She'll Do It.

High Point Enterprises. Charlotte says that she will be able to take care of us. Well, we are all going if we have to bunk in the public square.

SHARP PROTEST ENTERED.

Members of Local Recruiting Party File Strong Protest Against Portion of Communication Written Yesterday by Mr. R. F. Stokes—No Insult to Uniform Intended.

To the Editor of The Observer: It was with surprise and chagrin that we perused the article in this morning's Observer as to what would be the product of planting an American flag in one of the garbage cans along Sixth street, by Mr. R. F. Stokes.

We think it was a disgrace to the City of Charlotte, or to any American citizen to give public utterance to the effect that the contents of the garbage cans of Sixth street, surmounted by an American flag, would produce any such effects as the writer predicts, and we are personally of the opinion that it will produce nothing but insult to the flag, and the men who have defended it against insult at every call for the past ten years.

If war was declared to-morrow we have not the least hesitation in saying that the author of the article referred to would be glad to avail himself of the protection of the ash can surmounted by the American flag, as he suggests. We have no doubt but that the men of the immediate neighborhood would rally to the support of the flag as quick as set, where he suggests, if there was a man calling, 'I would like to go to the front for my equal.'

We are of the opinion that the author of the article referred to is not an American citizen. But should he be, we would respectfully request that he call at 16 West Fifth street and find what it takes to make a first-class soldier for service in the Philippines, such as he suggests could be raised from the garbage cans of Sixth street.

We think that a single visit will convince him that it will take nothing more than the best of manhood, character and upright living to be a soldier. We will say nothing more, not because we do not feel that we have more coming to us, but because we are of the opinion that the writer was referring to the service with any evil intent but the remarks he made were through ignorance of the meaning of his words.

- J. WETZEL, 18 years' service; HOMER W. MASON, 11 years' service; HOSEA H. HIGHTOWER, 8 years' service; EARL JOHNSON, 4 years' service; Local recruiting party. EDWARD SPENCER, 12 years' service, ex-soldier.

FREAK LEGISLATION.

Some Problems Which Would Baffle Solomon's Wisdom.

The wise Solomon came right out and honestly admitted that there were some things too hard for him. With all his wisdom, he found that he didn't know it all, and acknowledged the cognate like a man. If he were now living he would be compelled to add at least one more to his list of finite incomprehensibilities. He would be compelled to admit that he couldn't foretell what a Legislature would do.

One of the latest legislative mysteries that we have noted comes from Connecticut. "The House this year," says The New Haven Register, "has passed a bill which disqualifies a dealer in tobacco from being a police commissioner in the city of New Haven. Why in the world a man should be disqualified who sells tobacco and a man be eligible who sells groceries and clothing is beyond our guessing editor. He gave it up at once and said he would have no moral right to his salary for any time nominally given to the subject, for nobody could solve it.

Written Before the Eastern Judgeship Appointment.

It was, probably, a very delicate bit of a compliment that Mr. Williams of North Carolina, paid to South Carolina in denying his citizenship in this State. The South Carolinians who accept positions under a Republican administration are not generally very highly esteemed. In North Carolina it is different. It is just as well, if a man can claim citizenship in either or both, that when he becomes a Republican referee he draws a cloak over his South Carolina citizenship. We feel sure that Mr. Williams intended his reputation of the Institution that he was a South Carolinian as a compliment to this State, and as such we accept it. We see no honor to the State in appointments which require that men shall repudiate the faith of their fathers who put almost everything that is good in this government, and who are considered everything that is good no good until this latter invasion of the sentiment of the North, which is more dangerous and effective than the invasion of armed hosts.

Not a Game of Chance.

The very idea of denouncing a church as a gambling place is an institution in which each participant takes a chance. A man doesn't do this when he goes to a church fair; he simply surrenders all his chances.

A Mighty Close Reefed Sail.

The gambler's Robesonian never heard of a rabbit swimming, and no one else. They simply go into the water, hoist their tails and let the wind do the rest.

REZEF IN WITCHCRAFT.

It is Far From Dead—Some Reasons For Expecting It to Markedly Revive.

Only a few months ago the newspapers recorded the attempt made by certain citizens of Indiana to dispossess a demon which they believed had taken possession of an old woman or their acquaintance. Their method of attack, was to apply hot iron to the victim's flesh in the firm belief that this would make her body so uncomfortable for the intruder that he would quit it. Very recently the Cuban courts have considered the case of certain negroes accused of murdering white infants to obtain their blood and hearts for sorcery. Within a few years several cases of prosecution in court in which the formal charges of assault or disorderly conduct merely stood in place of accusation of witchcraft have attracted attention. How many wax images are being transmuted with pins, burned up, or immersed in water at this minute within the United States for the destruction of the persons whom they represent we should like to know; we dare say the number is not small.

Professor Sumner, of Yale University, sketches briefly in The Forum for May the rise of the witchcraft delusion from the first half of the fifteenth century. In a magazine article there is naturally room for only a few of the historical facts. These are of interest, but Mr. Sumner's conclusions are of greater moment. He says: "These cases show that belief in witchcraft is not dead. It is latent, and may burst forth anew at any moment. The difference [from age to age] is not so much in the amount of credulity as in the direction it takes [Lucky]. At the present day it is in politics. Lecky thought that the cause of persecution was the intensity of dogmatic opinion. That may be a cause. No man is tolerant about anything about which he cares very much and in regard to which he thinks that he has the truth."

"Struggles for political power, however, cause even intenser rage. It is political faction which in the future may return to violent repression of dissent. In the history of city after city we meet with the intensest rancor between classes and factions, and we find this rancor producing extremes of beastly cruelty when interest seems to call for it. "Socialism is, in its spirit and programme, well capable of producing new phenomena of despotism and persecution in order to get or retain social power. Anarchists who are fanatical enough to throw bombs into theatres or restaurants or to murder kings and presidents just because they are such are capable of anything which witch judges or inquisitors have done, if they should think that party success called for it. "If bad times should come again upon the civilized world through overpopulation and an unpropitious economic conjuncture, popular indignation would decline and classes would be widely separated. It must then be expected that the old demonism would burst forth again and would reproduce the old phenomena."

At first glance the possibility of a revival of general belief in witchcraft seems ridiculous. Yet the spell of the mysterious exercises authority over uncounted minds to-day. "Divine healers" attract and hold followers. The most illogical and indefensible creeds find adherents in every community. And we know that witchcraft is still practiced. Is the possibility of the situation which Mr. Sumner suggests absolutely beyond belief?

Still At Its Mean Digs.

Charles I. of England, was beheaded; Abdul Hamid, of Turkey, has been sent into retirement and may be beheaded a little later. Wherefore, The Norfolk Landmark institutes the competition to show the progress of civilization, and declares that "a Twentieth Century Turk is more humane than a Seventeenth Century Englishman."

In the Divorce Court.

Lippincott's Magazine. "Your honor, I don't think I should be obliged to live with this woman any longer," said the dispirited and despairing little man who was the plaintiff in the case. "Her cooking is something dreadful—biscuits like clogs, and her coffee is mud! Why, to every cupful there is half a cup of grounds!"

Sensible James J. Hill.

Charles Post. James J. Hill, the great railroad owner, and incidentally a farmer of some note, says it is time for Congress to shut off that oratorical steam, and allow the people to get down to farming, business and banking. He has spoken well.

Doesn't Worry the Boozie Artist.

Lancaster, S. C. News. Dr. Wiley, the national government's expert, says there is very little genuine whiskey.

True as Holy Writ.

Durham Herald. The man who undertakes to serve the town for what he can get out of it is worth much less than what he gets.

IF IT DISAPPEARS, IT'S ECZEMA

How to Tell Whether a Skin Affection is an Inherited Blood Disease or Not. Sometimes it is hard to determine whether a skin affection is a sign of a blood disorder or simply a form of eczema. Even physicians are often puzzled in their diagnosis. The best way for any one afflicted is to go to R. H. Jordan & Co., or any good druggist who handles pure drugs, and obtain 50 cents' worth of poslam. Apply this, and if the itching stops at once and the trouble is cured in a few days it may be set down as having been eczema, as this is the way poslam acts in the worst cases of eczema, and in curing acne, herpes, blotches, tetter, piles, salt rheum, rash, barber's and other forms of itch, scurf, scalp, and all surface skin affections.

Any one who will write to the Emergency Laboratories, No. 22 West Twenty-fifth Street, New York, can secure, by mail, free of charge, a supply sufficient to cure a small case of eczema, or a complete course overnight and remove pimples in twenty-four hours.

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES CHARLOTTE

Our buyer is just back from New York—his third trip this season—and every concession and economy that did not sacrifice quality was secured, and the result is special new things in many departments that for variety and low prices have no equal here.

Silks The famous Satin Messalines, now at their height in popularity, are here in all the newest shades. Heavy Satin Sheen at... All 36 inches wide. Rajahs, Shantungs and all Rough Silks in the latest shades and lowest possible prices. A full range of colors in assorted Foulard Patterns those thin Summer Silks, at... A very sheer Silk in Monotone Stripes, beautifully shaded, at...

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New Jet Buttons All sizes. New Hair Rolls, 25 and 50c. each. some Embroideries with Bands to match. Jet Ornaments of all kinds. Best quality Bath Towels 15 to 40c. Handsome Val and Baby Irish Linens Colored and White Frontings.

The Little-Long Co. DEPARTMENT STORES CHARLOTTE