

The Gazette-News
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Saturday, October 15, 1910.

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER "COMES THROUGH."

This paper takes a peculiar degree of pleasure in reproducing an editorial leader from the Charlotte Observer with reference to Butler and Morehead. The Observer is now convinced that no good thing can come out of any of Butler's works, and it is therefore constrained to reproduce Morehead without any mental reservations. It thinks his championship has been a dismal failure, and whereas it might have congratulated Butler and Morehead, it cannot regard with complacency the spectacle of Butler, Bondie Bonds, and a two-faced head, self-government plank, upon which Butler, after pretending to operate, the people as best as he could, but he is forced, as the Chairman of the State Law and Order League, to put a new construction. In other words, our contemporary is not anxious of the honesty and sincerity of any circumstances. Wherefore, there will be no last steps back into the Union under the personal auspices of Butler and Morehead, an eventuality which notorious friends had begun to fear. Henceforth Butler will not look upon the Observer as the biggest and best newspaper in the United States, nor will the Caucasian fanatic with Observer editorials reproduced with a view to promoting the movement having for its obvious object the coming back of Butler. The Observer has now fairly reached ground occupied by the newspaper some months ago, and it will find a welcome in the ranks of wholesome minded, right thinking people, in the company of which it permanently belongs. Our contemporary has finally "come through" with an ease and thoroughness which warrants us harboring the flattering belief that it has not missed a copy of its Gazette-News for many months past.

IS MR. SHIPMAN STILL SATISFIED WITH HIMSELF?

We are publishing today a letter from Mr. Shipman, State labor commissioner, largely by virtue of support which he received from Buncombe, and a proprietor of the Hendersonville Herald. In a letter transmitting the one published Mr. Shipman asks if we will not give his communication space "in fairness to me." We certainly shall. We know of but one newspaper in North Carolina that declines to be fair under such circumstances. That alleged newspaper is the Hendersonville Herald, of which Mr. L. Shipman is part owner and editor. Mr. Shipman's paper declined to give space to a letter from the secretary of the Asheville Board of Trade, correcting a false statement concerning this city. No newspaper laying claims to a sense of decency, and conducted along decent lines, would have done that. Mr. Shipman may or may not feel that it is unfortunate that his paper must, perforce, take its permanent position at the converse end of that proposition.

We must resent the suggestion of Mr. Shipman that there has been anything resembling a controversy between this paper and his Hendersonville publication. This paper simply felt, along with a number of Asheville people, that the time had arrived for placing a firm heel on the heads of certain snakes—in the interest of truth and decency.

We note Mr. Shipman's disclaimer of authorship of the Herald's front page editorial, his appearance only in the editorial department. This disclaimer is all right so far as it goes, but we believe that it is in need of amplification in certain particulars. It will not serve as an alibi. We do not believe that Mr. Shipman will allow his name to be placed in the position of a man who does not permit his name to be used in the letter published in the Asheville Gazette-News, but

owes to himself as a citizen of Hendersonville, and as the owner and editor of the Herald. The idea of that paper has been to tax the credulity of its patrons to the extreme of false impressions concerning Asheville, it has prosecuted, over a long period, a campaign designed to create alienation and distrust between neighbors, where there should be a feeling of friendship. Mr. Shipman is the owner and the editor of the vehicle through which this campaign has been conducted, a medium congenial to what its few friends will charitably attribute to local jealousy. Touching the main point at issue, the most that Mr. Shipman can say is that, after a perusal of Tuesday's edition of his paper, his friend Barrows seems to be able to take care of himself. He appears at this deliberate conclusion after looking over an edition of his paper filled with assertions of a conscious fabrication, accompanied by the usual installment of contemptible innuendo, and after fixing his admiring gaze on the black faced type used by Barrows in illustrating a bald-headed falsehood, which the secretary of the Asheville Board of Trade has not been permitted to correct.

Of course, as Mr. Shipman says, our mental which his paper tried to keep, and the money which Barrows borrowed in Asheville, and the other favors received here, are private matters; but we felt that the situation demanded that we show how the Herald's petty malice was wholly gratuitous, and that as an inanimate man should be classified with the common, congenial variety. As to that matter, as Mr. Shipman says, that is a matter which will not interest the public. It is a detail, however, which may interest Mr. Shipman to know that his friend and fellow publisher was not permitted to claim an oversight, and that when that detail did finally find its way back to this office it came collected.

In conclusion permit us to say again that Mr. Shipman has fallen far short in the performance of a journalist's duty. What the people of Asheville would like to know is whether it is his purpose to put an end to the inuendo, innuendoes and light of campaign in which his paper has for months been engaged, a campaign which may prove none the less harmful to all Western Carolina because, in Shipman's case, it may be more or less vigorous. The part he has thus far played has not been that of a man who has the best desire to build up a newspaper with a reputation for fairness and truth-telling, but rather, as we have hitherto pointed out, he has, in his letter to this paper, publicly approved the edition of his paper which was different from other editions merely in a more grotesque contempt for the truth.

DR. REAGAN AND THE "CHARGES" AGAINST MR. GUDGER.

This paper is publishing today a letter signed by relatives of Dr. Reagan concerning the charges against Mr. Gudger. It is a letter that at once discloses to the public the lengths to which politics will carry men who, in all other relations of life, have an inherent desire to walk uprightly, and that gives an emphasis that cannot be ignored, to the responsibility which now rests upon Mr. Gudger's accusers.

To go back a little, this affair is one in which sickness and death have played the most conspicuous part, and the simple facts show how the misfortunes of men may sometimes be turned to political account by a class of persons having the desire to do so. Dr. Reagan has for many years had a war claim against the Government, and Senator Vance and others pressed unsuccessfully. As Dr. Reagan grew older he thought more of his claim, and Mr. Gudger, when a member of the House, was asked to take up the matter. Dr. Reagan conceived the idea that Mr. Gudger had not done as well by him as he should, and some of the papers in the case were misplaced, for a time. Mr. Gudger's secretary died and he himself was very ill for awhile, and was unable to keep up with his correspondence, as promptly as he would have liked to. That sickness and death was a fortuitous circumstance for Mr. Grant, because Dr. Reagan was old and feeble and sick, and felt that he had a grievance. He went to see Dr. Reagan and told him that he had taken up the matter of the war claim, that a lawyer had been employed, and we have been informed that Grant gave assurances that, in case it cost more than fifteen per cent. to collect the claim he would pay the difference out of his own pocket.

Does not this strategical move unfold itself with sufficient rapidity? The Grant lieutenants had a use for Dr. Reagan. It was the plan to charge Mr. Gudger with wrong doing as Solicitor, and they had used for a signature, to be attached to those charges, of eminent respectability. A fortnight after Grant's call a kinsman approached Dr. Reagan about signing charges designed to aid the man who had shown such astonishing activity, such amazing liberality, in the matter of that war claim. The plot thickened at this point, Dr. Reagan's signature was secured, but there followed the inevitable reaction. A rebuke has been administered by Mrs. Reagan to the kinsman who did the signing, and we are told in the letter published in the Asheville Gazette-News, that

there for the old man's signature, have been left untouched. Nor will those papers ever be touched, save by the man who took them there. Dr. Reagan says he hopes to live until the 20th, when he will be eighty-six years old, but if, in the goodness of Providence a noble life shall be prolonged, he will not sign those papers. It is feared that he will never sign any more papers of any kind. Mr. Grant was safe in giving those assurances to that war claim; he will never be asked for an accounting.

The revived charges will of course be signed by somebody. Their authors can hardly leave this thing—charges reflecting upon the personal integrity of Mr. Gudger—where it now stands. Somehow somebody will have to move into the open, but the next time the accusation is likely to spring from a less creditable, and therefore a less effective source.

It is our opinion, however, that a move into the open under auspices much less creditable would reflect more credit upon Mr. Gudger's accusers than would a policy of unbroken silence, or a plan to keep under cover until just before the election, when there would be little chance to reply.

UNCLE WALT
The Poet Philosopher

The Epic.

I am living in the stable with the horses and the cow, and my heart is full of sorrow and of hate; and I cannot hold communion with my loved and loving frau, for she's busy canning peaches every day. O, she's busy canning peaches, you can hear her fringed screeches, as she scads and puts the clammy thing away. I am living on a loggia, and the cheaper grade of shaw, and I put on the hydrant when I'm dry, I am full of chaff and bluster, for I stumble in the straw, and I often wake the horses when I cry. For my wife is canning peaches, but experience it teaches that her mind will be recovered by and by, or my wife is canning peaches every year when the frost is on the pumpkin and the plow, it is sad to see her raging with her topknot on her brow, and the juice of molly peaches on her brow. Once a year she's canning peaches, while her husband sits and preaches in the stable, to the horses and the cow.

WALT MASSON.

AS TO THE CHARGES AGAINST MR. GUDGER

Relatives Explain How Dr. Reagan Was Imposed upon and Demand That Accusers Show Their Hand.

Editor of the Gazette-News.

As we are still being continually questioned in regard to Dr. J. A. Reagan's connection with the charge against Hon. J. M. Gudger, Jr., in the matter of the letter on which Dr. Reagan is very ill, we desire to state just how he came to sign the letter in which the charge was made.

We are further induced to do this by the fact that Mr. Gudger has flatly denied the charge and his accusers have been repeatedly asked to substantiate the charge. That they have not done so is patent to all. We do not regard our father as the accuser.

In the first place the letter was prepared in Asheville, as most people know, and Dr. Reagan knew practically nothing of the allegations contained therein except what he was told when he signed the letter. As to why he signed the letter on such slight knowledge, it was presented to him by one in whom he had every right to feel confidence, and one who he had every reason to believe, would not let him become embroiled in a thing of this kind unless he were sure of the facts. They also took advantage of the fact that Dr. Reagan had differed with Mr. Gudger about an entirely different matter.

Since then efforts have been made to get him to sign additional papers in substantiation of the charge. He refused to have anything more to do with it, realizing the character of the controversy.

Now, we wish to say that those who are responsible for connecting him with this matter evidently did not and do not realize his condition or they would not seek to implicate him in a political squabble. It is all right to try to substantiate the charge, but would it not be better to come out into the open, make the real authorship of the letter known, and assume the responsibility thereof, and not try to keep the burden on an old man who has all his life kept clear of such things?

J. J. REAGAN,
W. L. REAGAN.

Mr. Shipman Disclaims Responsibility for Mr. Barrows.

Editor of The Gazette-News:

Through the courtesy of a friend in Asheville, I have just received a copy of your paper of Tuesday and am surprised to find that my name has been dragged into the controversy with the local editor of the Herald, when you are fully aware, or ought to be, that I have to do only with the editorial utterances of the paper. I know nothing of the contentions between yourself and Mr. Barrows, except what appeared in the Herald on Monday. The Gazette-News article of Saturday and his reply. As Mr. Barrows seems amply able to take care



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of himself I would not interfere, even if disposed to do so. It has always been my policy to boost our entire section and I have not purposely, if at all, written a single line reflecting upon any town in the state. And it is manifestly unfair to me, while in the discharge of my duties to the state, to be drawn into a mud-slinging controversy about a matter with which I had nothing to do, because Mr. Barrows happens to be business manager for a corporation of which I am president and the local editor of a paper whose editorials are prepared by me.

But my object in addressing you is to correct the impression made that an Asheville man put up money to finance the Daily Herald. If anyone connected with the paper borrowed any money in Asheville or elsewhere it was for personal use and not on account of the paper. Personally, I know nothing about the transaction referred to at all. The metal about which you talked with me over long distance telephone should have been returned sooner, according to your statements, and I am sure would have been but for an oversight on the part of the office at Hendersonville. However, it is a private matter and cannot properly be any part of a legitimate public discussion.

Thinking you in advance for the courtesy of making these statements, and with best wishes, I am
 Yours very truly,
 M. L. SHIPMAN.
 Raleigh, Oct. 15, '10.

PROF. CHILDS WILL BE THE SPEAKER TOMORROW

Will Address the Men's Meeting at the Y.M.C.A. on "Christian Citizenship"

For tomorrow afternoon men's meeting of the Y. M. C. A. has been fortunate in securing for its speaker Prof. Edward P. Childs, president of the Normal and Collegiate Institute, Christian Citizenship, and a rare treat in store for all those who are fortunate enough to hear him. This meeting opens up in earnest the religious work of the association during the fall and winter months.

The association is going to make a special effort this winter to do more for the boys and men of the city along religious lines than ever before. With this end in view a number of well known Christian men have been secured as speakers for the next few months prominent among whom are Dr. W. J. Martin of Davidson college, President Jas. Moffett of Erskine college and Engineer D. J. Fant of Atlanta, Ga.

ASSIGNMENT OF PREACHERS OF A.M.E. ZION CONFERENCE

The preachers who are attending the conference of the A. M. E. Zion church will occupy the pulpits of the colored churches here tomorrow. Following are the assignments:

South side Zion: 11 a. m., Bishop A. J. Warner, D. D.; 3 p. m., Dr. E. P. Mayo; 5 p. m., Dr. J. W. Carter.

Y. M. E. L.: 11 a. m., Dr. F. K. Bird; 3 p. m., Rev. J. W. Murray; 5 p. m., Dr. J. W. Moreland; Y. M. L. men's services: 5 p. m., Prof. S. G. Atkins.

Calvary Presbyterian church: 11 a. m., Rev. J. H. Brown; 3 p. m., Rev. W. J. Miller.

A. M. E. Zion: 11 a. m., Rev. J. B. Lewis; 3 p. m., Rev. L. A. Patrick.

Trinity chapel, A. M. E.: 11 a. m., Dr. L. L. Woods; 3 p. m., Rev. G. W. Washington; 5 p. m., Rev. J. W. Henderson.

Mt. Zion Baptist church: 11 a. m., Dr. C. B. Harris; 3 p. m., Rev. J. I. Apostle; 5 p. m., Dr. William Anderson.

First Baptist (colored): 11 a. m., Dr. D. M. A. Carter; 3 p. m., Rev. T. J.



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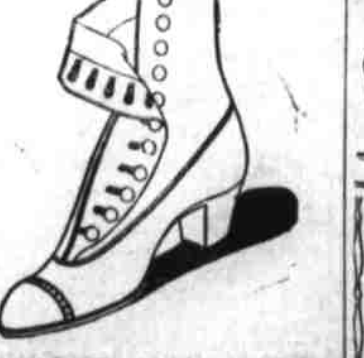
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Knit Underwear is being displayed in the big show room on the second floor. We sell "Forest Milk" and "Dyford" Health Underwear. They are the two biggest sellers with us.