

The Gazette-News

Published by Evening News Publishing Co. ASHEVILLE, N. C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Asheville and Biltmore.
One Week 10c
Three Months \$1.25
Six Months 2.50
Twelve Months 5.00

BY MAIL, IN ADVANCE:
Three Months \$1.00
Six Months 2.00
Twelve Months 4.00

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Entered at the Postoffice in Asheville as second-class matter.

Friday, October 20, 1911.

THE "WISCONSIN IDEA."

Whether or not the action of the Republican progressives at Chicago will have the effect of formally placing Senator LaFollette in the race for the Presidential nomination, it is certain that the senator has been placed under a very formal fire. With respect to the press of the country it may be said that the two most active critics of Senator LaFollette are the New York Sun and the Washington Post. The former has claimed President Taft for its own since, shortly after Mr. Taft became President, it became convinced that the man chosen as his successor, by Col. Roosevelt, would have none of My Policies.

The attitude of the Post, on the other hand, reflects the personal views of John R. McLean, who owns both the Washington paper and the Cincinnati Inquirer. Charles P. Taft, brother of the President, the very rich brother, it may be added, is the owner of the Times-Star, and there has for years been a sort of working agreement between the Inquirer and the Times-Star. There are likewise social ties that bind the Taft and McLean families; hence we have the spectacle of a newspaper, owned by a man calling himself a Democrat, taking the lead in behalf of a Republican President who has encountered a great deal of opposition from members of his own party. The President, one is minded to say, may not properly come under the classification of "reactionary" at all, but even the best friends of the administration must realize that Mr. Taft has been unfortunate in his choice of friends. The Sun, in its references to Mr. LaFollette, is not less bitter and caustic than in its discussion of subjects relating to former President Roosevelt, and friends of the Wisconsin senator will prefer to believe that our New York contemporary is influenced by similar motives in both forms of activity. Soon after the Progressive Republicans met at Chicago this paper noted the apparent disposition to subordinate the tariff with a view to inviting popular attention to the efforts of the Federal government in dealing with the corporate interests. The Post says:

Several days ago The Post asked, What is insurgency? The question was answered at the Chicago convention. Insurgency is Wisconsin. Instead of a resolution demanding that the jails be filled with violators of the Sherman act, the insurgent platform declares for legislation on the Wisconsin plan. Instead of a resolution endorsing the insurgent-Democratic alliance on the Underwood tariff bill, there is silence on the great issue of the coming campaign, excepting by reference to Wisconsin. Instead of a good word for the Pinchot conservation policy, there is reference to Wisconsin as the model for all States. Instead of praising Jonathan Bourne's hard work for the initiative, referendum and recall, there is praise for Wisconsin. Instead of giving Senator Cummins a boost for his railroad regulation policy, Wisconsin is boasted. Instead of adopting the Bristow good-government plan, Wisconsin is adopted. Instead of approving the Borah direct election amendment, the Wisconsin idea is approved. Is it any wonder that Cummins, Bristow, Borah, Works, Poinsett, and Bourne were conspicuous by their absence?

The platform was written by Mr. Lenroot of Wisconsin. It declares for a Wisconsin man, on a Wisconsin platform, and presumably it exactly suits Wisconsin. Evident in the opinion of Wisconsin, there is no true progressiveness elsewhere. All is bogus, even in Oregon, unless it bears the Wisconsin brand.

With the Progressives it does appear that it is now the Wisconsin idea, rather than the Iowa, or the Oregon idea. But while the esteemed Post appears to find the Wisconsin idea somehow distasteful, it fails to mention herein the Wisconsin method of dealing with Big Business has been found wanting.

Mr. Taft may never sit in the Supreme court, but he will be one of the few Presidents in history to create a court—appoint a majority of the justices.

THE COTTON SITUATION.

Is the south about to be bankrupt? If the sale of the bulk of the cotton crop at 9 cents, to the farmer, means bankruptcy, it is more than probable that the calamity is at hand.

The present crop, which may be enough for the world's needs and possibly a little more, is worth to the spinners what would be a fair price to the farmer. But the spinner can wait, the farmer cannot and will not. Why should the factor or spinner not stand pat, even if the farmers should decide to hold his crop? These people are in business for profit, not philanthropy. The farmers' organizations are increasing in resolving to sell cotton only at 15 cents, and the farmers are marketing it, almost in a panic, as is evidenced by the price, below 10 cents. The farmers will not stand together, they will sell on a declining rather than a rising market, for fertilizer bills must be paid; and what would be gained if they did hold the stuff a few days, or weeks, or months? If marketing should suddenly cease, there seems little likelihood of any considerable advance in price.

Considering the present high cost of production, it is asserted that 10 cents a pound is a ruinous price, and 9 cents a calamity. If this be the case, then obviously the only way to prevent the bankruptcy of the cotton producing interests is to force the present price up by some action assuring a short crop next year, not an impossible task, but one extremely improbable of accomplishment. The world must be convinced that there is going to be a curtailment next year, and the cotton world is skeptical. One plan proposed is an agreement of farmers to plant a two-thirds crop only, any excess to be penalized by the association, the informer getting a considerable share of the penalty. If its legality were certain, this would undoubtedly do the business; but the mere securing of the agreement will be a formidable task. Another plan is to sow the cotton fields in small grain at once. This would be expensive, so much so that there would be reasonable assurance the crop would not be plowed up next spring.

Another plan that will be proposed to the conference of cotton State Governors October 30 is the issuance of bonds by the States for the validation of cotton, the means whereby Brazil has, in two years, advanced coffee from a losing to a profit price.

The chances are that all will end in talk, and that the south's wonderful prosperity will receive a sudden check. People in the cotton belt will live through the winter as best they can. Will this jolt cure them of planting too much cotton, and turn them to diversification? It will not; the diversification idea, while of sure growth, is slow.

North Carolina, it seems, may perhaps suffer very little—C. A. Webb brings an interesting story from the eastern section. A man who appeared to be an authority told Mr. Webb that he had just toured the cotton counties, and examined the crop carefully. He says it will be enormous, biggest in the state's history. He says a second crop is maturing, on account of the continuance of warm weather. This will give the farmers a fourth to a third more cotton than they had any right to expect, and will mean the difference between profit and loss. The State department's estimate is 600,000 bales. The national department's is 729,000 bales. Mr. Webb's informant estimates the crop confidently at

A well organized movement is on foot in Georgia for medical inspection of the children of the schools of the entire State. This State must have it, and it must be secured from the next legislature. That may look like a long jump, but the way things are moving now it takes long jumps to keep in hearing of the procession. The Gazette-News believes in no radical moves along untried lines, but this is not an untried line.

You do not care to wait seven years or so for an apple crop? Well, why not plant an orchard and sell it? There is going to be what might be called an apple "craze," although there will be nothing crazy about it; and an orchard with a little age on it will sell for a fancy price.

Mr. Taft is the most "cussed" President since Grover Cleveland. The way things are going it looks as if he is to be hated by a section of his party, with the same thorough, eloquent, bone-deep hatred some of the Democrats lavished on Mr. Cleveland.

If you overlook "Bud Wunt's" article today on "The Sparkling Watusin" you miss something fine.

Another gloomy note in the general drab effect—the peanut crop is short.

China is awakening with a blood thrist.

SEVEN YEARS AGO.
October 29, 1904.
Seven years ago today the political campaign was in progress and the candidates and political leaders of both parties were making trips to various parts of the county and state. A correspondent at Morganton wrote

BASEBALL AFFAIRS AT A STANDSTILL

Mr. Duckett Has Written Clubs Asking Support for Place in New League.

During the past few days little has been said of the plans for baseball next year but there is still a great deal of interest. As things now stand there is not much that Asheville fans can do, until it is decided whether there will be a state league formed. T. M. Duckett has written to the managers of all the North Carolina clubs in the Carolina league, asking that they support Asheville, if it is decided to make a state league, and this is about all that can be done. He received a letter this morning from President Wearn of Charlotte, stating that he will let Mr. Duckett know if "anything is doing."

The idea that a state league be formed, taking in the towns that are now in the Carolina league, seemed to meet with much favor among the fans of the state and it was suggested that either Asheville or Wilmington would be given a place in a six-team league. It was later suggested that an eight-team league be formed and in some quarters this was favored. If the eight team league is formed Asheville will not have to make a fight to get in, as she will doubtless be badly wanted, but if it is to be only a six team league, then Asheville will have to fight with Wilmington for a place and the advantages of each are so nearly equal that it would be about equal betting as which would be taken in.

Meanwhile the managers of the teams know that Asheville wants to get into the league and that the town is generally in support of baseball, good baseball, and when the time comes to "get busy" the Asheville fans will take what steps they can to be admitted.

The towns suggested for the eight-team state league are: Raleigh, Durham, Greensboro, Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Asheville, Salisbury, Spencer, and Wilmington.

BROUGHT HIS TOOTHBRUSH.

But Saint-Saens, the Composer, Didn't Shock Parisian Society. The Cri de Paris told the following story of Saint-Saens, the composer: A rare visitor to Paris, he is on his visits much sought after as a social lion. One lady succeeded in persuading him to accept an invitation to dinner, promising to send to fetch him and also to deposit him at his door when he left, his only stipulation being that he should be allowed to make his adieux at 10 o'clock.

The son of his hostess was dispatched in good time and found M. Saint-Saens in a velvet coat seated before his piano. He rose at once, however, and asked for ten minutes to dress, at the end of which he appeared, tying his white cravat. As he was shutting his door behind him he ejaculated: "Good gracious! One minute more! I have forgotten my toothbrush!"

The young man, to his amazement, saw his guest dive into his dressing room and reappear with a toothbrush, which he put away in his breast pocket. On arriving home he told his mother, who in some unkindness informed her friends, and everybody was in wonderment as to what the great composer was going to do with his toothbrush.

Every eye was fixed on him throughout the dinner, watching him as he ate and drank and used his finger glass. In the drawing room Saint-Saens talked with the ladies and played any piece that was asked of him till 10 o'clock struck, when he bade farewell politely to the company.

The journey home was without incident, and when they reached his house M. Saint-Saens simply offered to shake hands and say good night. Curiosity was too strong, though, for the youth, who said:

"Excuse me, matter, but I should so much like to know why you so particularly wanted to take your toothbrush with you."

"Oh, my young friend," replied Saint-Saens, "it is very simple! My lock is very stiff, and I always hurt my fingers in turning the key. So I now pass the handle of my toothbrush in the ring of the key and turn it easily. Voilà!"

THOROUGHLY WARMED.

An Old Time Schoolboy's Experience on a Bitterly Cold Day. An old time gentleman of Newburyport, describing his school days in the opening years of the nineteenth century, has this to say of a wintry day:

"We found our inkstands all frozen up. These required to be thawed out. To do this there was a board held up by bricks over the stove on which the pewter inkstands were placed, but before the copy was written down the ink would be again frozen. Then the boy took his ink to the stove again and while it was thawing laid in a store of caloric for himself, standing by the stove, watching closely that the pewter should not melt.

"The clothes of the boys were made of corduroy, jacket and trousers in one, and nothing under but a shirt. These absorbed the heat of the sheet iron, so that when a boy returned to his seat he was often compelled to carry his inkstand in his mouth, employing both hands to hold his trousers off from his knees, and with every precaution the skin was often mottled and scorched."

Another old time schoolboy in his later years recalled an even severer experience.

"I can remember," he recorded, "how, crowding close to the stove to toast the shivers from my poor little body, I scorched a hole in my trousers in front and exclaimed aloud at the disaster, whereupon the master thrashed a hole into them behind, and when I went home to my mother she told me grimly it was well that things

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Agency for Wood's Seeds.

should match and that as my shirt was such an old one she was willing to risk trying it on the back, and she reached for a strap and did it!

"I was thoroughly warmed, and it was the coldest day of the year, but I regretted my shivers after all!"
Cout's Companion.

THE MARKETS

New York, Oct. 20.—Trading was unusually active at the market's opening, there being especially large transactions in United States steel and Union Pacific. Within the first few minutes 50,000 shares of steel changed hands, the price being forced down from 40 at the opening to 39 1/2. The tone of speculation improved in the second hour. There was smart advances. U. S. Steel was bought in enormous amounts, showing more activity in a rise to 60 1/2. Stocks were under considerable pressure. The market hardened slightly all around before 11 o'clock.

Cotton Quiet and Steady.
New York, Oct. 20.—The cotton market opened steady at a decline of one point on December but generally three to four points higher, in response to better cables and steeper spot situation talk. After the call active months sold about 2 to 5 points net lower. The market later in the morning was quiet but steady and about 2 to 3 points net high on active positions.

Circulation of October notices rendered that position relatively easy in the later forenoon and the price held a shade under the 9 cent level. Other positions ruled steeper, working about 5 to 7 points net higher. Business was less active than for some time past.

STOCKS.	
	Open. Close.
Atchafalaya	107 1/2 107 1/2
Am. Locomotive	34 1/2 34 1/2
Am. Smelting	65 66 1/2
Atlantic Coast Line	126 1/2 126 1/2
Brooklyn Rapid Transit	75 1/2 75 1/2
Baltimore & Ohio	97 1/2 97 1/2
Amal. Copper	53 54 1/2
Canadian Pacific	230 1/2 230 1/2
N. Y. Central	105 1/2 105 1/2
Chesapeake & Ohio	74 1/2 74 1/2
Erie	20 1/2 20 1/2
Great Northern pfd.	123 1/2 123 1/2
Louisville & Nashville	148 148
Mo., Kans. & Texas	31 1/2 31 1/2
Missouri Pacific	29 1/2 29 1/2
Norfolk & Western	106 1/2 106 1/2
Northern Pacific	116 1/2 117
Pennsylvania	122 1/2 122 1/2
Rock Island	25 1/2 25 1/2
Rock Island pfd.	47 1/2 47 1/2
Reading	149 1/2 149 1/2
Southern Pacific	109 1/2 110
St. Paul	108 1/2 108 1/2
Southern Railway	29 1/2 29 1/2
Southern Railway pfd.	70 1/2 70 1/2
Tennessee Copper	36 36
Union Pacific	163 1/2 163 1/2
U. S. Steel	60 and 59 1/2 60 1/2
U. S. Steel pfd.	109 1/2 109 1/2
Wabash	13 13
Wabash pfd.	25 1/2 25 1/2

NEW YORK COTTON.	
	Open. Close.
October	9.04 9.08
December	9.22 9.30
January	9.06 9.15
March	9.21 9.30
May	9.36 9.43

LOCAL SECURITIES.

Reported and corrected daily by Henry F. Claudius.	
	Bid. Asked.
Asheville Water 4s. 1-1	\$ 97.00
Beaumont Fur.	109.00
Citizens Bank	144.00
Universal Security, 6s 10.00	---
Universal Security, at 11.50	---
Wachovia B. & T. Co.	148.00
Wm. Brownell Mill.	10.00

"What do you suppose attracted that dove-eyed girl to such a man?"
"I don't, now unless it was because he was pigeon-toed."—Baltimore American.

He—So your father thought I wanted to marry you for your money, did he?
She—Yes; and when I explained that you didn't care a snap about money, he said that you must be a fool, then.—Variety Life.

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Don't fail to visit Mountain Meadows Inn. Beautiful drive, excellent service, dinner parties a specialty. Phone 328.

Always something new at Theaters.
Vaudeville and Pictures, Opera House.

Wachovia Bank & Trust Company

Capital and Surplus, \$1,610,000.00
Resources, \$6,250,000.00
Trust Assets, \$1,400,000.00

NORTH CAROLINA'S OLDEST TRUST CO.—STRONGEST BANK.
T. S. MORRISON, V. Pres. W. B. WILLIAMSON, Cashier.
S. M. HAINES, Asst. Cashier.

BATTERY PARK BANK

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

J. P. SAWYER, President E. SLUDER, V. Pres.
T. C. COXE, V. Pres. J. E. BANKIN, Cashier

Capital, \$100,000
Surplus and Profits, \$130,000

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25 PER CENT LESS THAN ACTUAL WHOLESALE PRICES

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GEM CLOTHING STORE

6 Patton Avenue.

Bon Marche

Opening Display Will Continue Throughout the Week

The goods shown in the various departments will remain until Saturday night. Those who have not seen them are urged to come in and view the beautiful assortments.

The Handbags especially are worth seeing, if you intend to buy a nice one soon. We have a large stock at from \$10 to \$20 that will not be on display after Saturday, as they were sent for the opening.

This is also true of the Table Covers. There are some works of art in the assortment. Beautifully hand embroidered and finished with handsome lace. They make a display worth seeing. Prices range from \$12.50 to \$25.

In the silk department there are many new weaves to select from; one of which is the Crepe Meteor. We have shown this fabric before, but never in so pretty a quality. The price is \$2.50 a yard.

New Trunks and Suit Cases are on the third floor. Our line each day grows larger and more comprehensive. Prices range from \$5.50 to \$50 for trunks, and \$7.50 to \$25 for Suit Cases.