

The Gazette-News

PUBLISHED BY
Evening News Publishing Co.
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
Asheville and Blounts.
One Week \$.10
Three Months \$.35
Six Months \$.70
Twelve Months \$ 1.40
BY MAIL IN ADVANCE:
Three Months \$1.00
Six Months \$ 2.00
Twelve Months \$ 4.00

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Entered at the Post-office in Asheville as second-class matter.

Thursday, May 1, 1913

WHY IS ORDER NOT MAINTAINED IN THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE?

In their statement and appeal to the public, their solemn prayer to this great court of equity and of conscience, the representatives of the street car men say:

"We deprecate any and all violence, injury, disorder or bloodshed, and we discountenance, and will continue to discountenance all such things, and we hereby most earnestly appeal to all our sympathizers and friends, and to the citizens generally, to refrain from any act of violence or disorder."

The Asheville Light and Power company have in accordance with their rights under the laws of the land asked the mayor and board of aldermen of the city of Asheville and the constituted authorities of Buncombe county to afford them protection of their employees and their property.

Yesterday morning Chief of Police Lyster issued instructions to both regular and special police officers that no crowd was to be allowed at any place, that the people were to be told to "move on" one time, and if they did not obey they were to be arrested and taken to headquarters.

The party having the most at stake, the most to fear and the most to lose, the general public, would like some explanation and understanding.

What is the status of the police officers of Asheville, regular and special, today, after the instructions issued to them yesterday? Instead of no crowds being allowed at any place, crowds congregated in the public square in the center of Asheville, practically the whole day. Crowds marched through the streets at will, hooting and yelling. A crowd for hours invested the property of the electric company, and committed deeds of violence; it finally dispersed at will.

Will the men who have been placed by the people of Asheville and Buncombe county at the head of their government explain these things? Why do you not keep order and seemly decency in the streets of Asheville? Is it because you desire to assist the strikers? Is it on account of your sympathy—a natural sympathy, which many feel—for them? But they have asked you to maintain order; do you mean for the general public to understand that you consider the peaceable protestations of the strikers as a ghastly hypocrisy?

Are you actuated by a desire to aid the company?

Well, they have asked you to preserve order. Are we to understand that you consider them hypocrites, too?

Are you actuated by your conception of duty and obligation to the general public? Do you think that the people of Asheville are engaged in the deliberate attempt to wreck their town?

Is your failure to keep the peace due to inability?

If by any reason of extraordinary circumstances you are inadequate for the performance of your solemn vows and obligations, do you not think it is the public's right to know this, and your duty to warn them? The people can then adopt one of three courses—they can submit and take the risk for as long as the company and the men fail to compose their differences, they can move elsewhere or they can ask someone else to protect them.

A PRESIDENT'S EXTRAORDINARY TASK.

As leader of the Democratic party and a citizen of New Jersey, Mr. Wilson is putting aside his Presidential duties for a day or so to enter the lists for a reform measure in that State; and his experiment will be watched with interest throughout the country. Where the New Jersey jury system is understood, the President's insistence on a charge is sympathized with; as to the political expediency of the move there is more doubt. To Mr. Wilson, however, his duty seems clear. When his elevation to the Presidency removed him from New Jersey politics he left unaccomplished several New Jersey reforms to which he was committed, among them the jury reform bill. At that time prospects seemed to favor the enactment of this bill. With Wilson removed, however, the Smith-Nugent forces got very busy in their accustomed way, and now claim to have the legislature committed to them on this project. Mr. Wilson believes that their ascendancy in the legislature would mean the party's defeat at the polls.

The Republicans and Progressives already are finding much comfort in conditions in the State that last year gave the Democratic party its successful candidate, and there is even now talk of a coalition. The Smith-Nugent people, furthermore, claim that they already have the situation as regards coming legislation in hand and say the President is merely inviting humiliation by throwing himself into this local scale. The manner in which he fares will be watched by the whole country.

WORKING TO A CLIMAX.

Home Secretary McKenna's policy of handling the militant suffragettes is now working toward a much desired climax. Passivity has become activity and energetic measures are under way to suppress or drive from the country these hysterical and notorious seekers of news. And, notwithstanding Mrs. Belmont's prediction that such means cannot avail and that "persecution" will help the militants the British public seems disposed to take their discomfiture very philosophically—to bear up under it with remarkable complacency.

The fact seems to be that the militants have alienated suffragists and opponents of suffrage alike. Militancy has been growing more distinct from the general suffrage propaganda. It has been charged that the organization upon which the police descended has virtually been appropriated by Mrs. Pankhurst and her relatives and allies, and converted to their ends. If the government, as has come to be suspected, let matters drift along until the militants so completely lost popular sympathy that the law might deal with them as it saw fit, Secretary McKenna is hardly deserving of all the reproach and invective heaped upon him. He seems to have accomplished his end very neatly. Incidentally woman suffrage in Great Britain has been delayed many years, at the best.

AKIN TO GENIUS

Senator Work's effort to establish a federal censorship over the newspapers of the District of Columbia, to the end that publicity may not be given crime and that sensationalism may be toned down, will fail for another reason than that the people do not want it. The district commissioners are not convinced that the innovation would be desirable even should the people want it. Say they in a report to congress:

The publicity given by the press generally tends to lessen evil conditions and thus renders a useful service to the public. That dread of publicity has a deterrent influence upon those disposed or tempted to crime may be inferred from the fact that most offenders seek to avoid exposure of their misbehavior in newspaper reports.

There is simplicity akin to genius in this confounding of Senator Work's. Probably one of these excellent commissioners has had newspaper experience. He speaks as one having knowledge.

Train up a boy in the way that he should go, and he will not be out rioting in the streets at night, liable to get a puncture.

The most talented and powerful rooting that has ever been heard will reverberate through the welkin this afternoon.

We expect that by the time these few lines are perused, this town will be engaged in one vast, Gargantuan gloat.

It will be all right about Watson pitching that game yesterday if it comes out all right.

Wish our morning contemporary would look after its curfew law, now and then.

What's the matter with the weather maker? He's all right, all right.

This will be a bad day for false-alarm performers in star roles.

There is no polite name for anarchy.

Some May day.

For rheumatism you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Liniment. Try it and see how quickly it gives relief. For sale by all dealers.

FORESEE DOOM OF MILITANCY

London Newspapers Approve the Campaign of Oppression the Government Has Begun.

ANOTHER LEADER IS PLACED UNDER ARREST

Miss Annie Kenney Lodged in Jail on Her Arrival in London From Continent.

(By Associated Press)

London, May 1.—The determined stand which the government appears to have taken against suffragette militancy, beginning with its raid yesterday upon the headquarters of the Women's Social and Political Union, with the arrest of six leaders, is mildly but generally commended by some of the London press. The Standard calls it the "doom of the militants" and believes that although the movement may cause some small annoyance even after the loss of the leaders, the ratification can do nothing effective. It continues:

"An attempt will probably be made to re-establish the Women's Social and Political Union elsewhere, probably under another name. If so, the people must make another raid and continue the process until the whole fabric of militancy is shattered. To keep the militants on the run is the surest way to extinguish their activity. The vitality of militancy, which has ceased to have any real connection with the vote, has lost the sympathy of the great mass of suffragists, cannot survive the destruction of its organization."

The Daily Mail also declares editorially that the authorities are taking the right course.

The liberal papers make no comment on yesterday's events. London, May 1.—Miss Annie Kenney, one of the most prominent of the militant suffragettes, was arrested today on her arrival in England from the continent. A detective had accompanied her from Paris, bearing a warrant charging her with conspiracy. Miss Kenney was arraigned later at the Bow street police court and remanded until tomorrow by the magistrate, who refused to grant bail.

The police still are in possession of headquarters of the Women's Social and Political Union, the suffragette organization in Kingsway. Members of the union are seeking some means of publishing the Suffragette, which is due today but the type and all the other printing materials were seized yesterday in the police raid. Notwithstanding the oppressive attitude of the police the campaign of arson conducted by the militant suffragettes was continued this morning. A large stable at Hendon, a north-western suburb of London, was set on fire and practically destroyed. A placard with the words "votes, votes, votes, beware," was found pasted on the premises.

Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont of New York left for Paris today. Before her departure she said:

"The British government learns nothing from history. The present coercive measures against the suffragettes are bound to fail."

Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York intends today to attend a meeting of protest against the payment of taxes by the duchess of Bedford. The suffragettes managed this afternoon to issue their paper, The Suffragette in spite of the warning of the government counsel.

The number consisted of eight pages, the front page containing only one word "raided" in large type. Most London news dealers refused the publication and only a few women were selling it in the streets.

EXTRA SESSION IS IN PROSPECT

(Continued from page 1)

a damnable disgrace. The governor suggested to him that this language was not parliamentary and Mr. Johnson desisted.

Mr. Preston of Charlotte declared that the Charlotte shippers stood back of the governor and would help to educate the people to the enormity of the offense of the roads. He predicted that everybody would be informed.

Chairman Travis of the corporation commission pointed out that Tuesday he had asked Mr. Green of the Southern specific questions in the hope of ascertaining if there was any point on which they could agree. If the carriers and the state could not get together, Mr. Green did not indicate any basis of agreement. Mr. Travis told of the suits filed by the corporation commission to correct certain of the wrongs and then went on to show how the railroads are taking North Carolina for their cream. He showed that their net earnings per ton per mile in this state are twice as great in North Carolina as anywhere on their entire systems. He also showed how their business is increasing in leaps and bounds and declared that they should grant the concessions in all fairness to themselves and the state.

A point that Mr. Travis emphasized was that the roads not having North Carolina to make their big money and profits on give the people of this state lower rates to Lynchburg, but that the roads which ought to be considered by reason of their tremendous business here actually destroy the advantages given North Carolina by railroads not expected to care a snap about the state. By every manner of means they seek to keep North Carolina from getting equitable rates, Mr. Travis declared.

He laughed at the proposition of

the carriers to carry the question to the interstate commerce commission, saying that this had been done before the roads evinced a willingness to treat. He wanted it known that while North Carolina had been conservative and forbearing, history shows that her people have always met fairly every crisis, and he knew that the people would meet the crisis at this time. He was heartily applauded.

In adjourning the conference Governor Craig simply stated that he supposed it was time to adjourn. He assured the roads that the people will be disappointed and many grieved, and he himself deplored a situation which will cause discord and strife between North Carolina and the railroads. When the proceedings began the governor fully believed in the sincerity of the roads, he said; and he did not accuse anybody of bad faith, but the faith of those presidents and high officials present at the conference February 26 was different from the faith and spirit represented here today.

The state had simply asked for the same treatment accorded the people of Virginia. "I have seen industry after industry," he declared, "leave Asheville because it could not compete with the better freight rates in other cities, and I have seen young men forced to leave this state for other sections because of the arbitrary will of a few transportation companies."

"It seems that the time has come to see who is sovereign in this territory—the people of North Carolina or the transportation companies."

We will appeal to the people of North Carolina, Governor Craig told the carriers, "and their judgment will be just. North Carolinians have built by their own efforts the principal railway lines in this state, and have turned them over to the transportation companies, and we have furnished these people so much business under adverse conditions that they have grown rich. The people of North Carolina will not submit to continual injustice."

Governor Craig declared that he expected the people of North Carolina to enjoy their rights in a fair and lawful manner and assured the roads that such would be the case. He then adjourned the conference. It was 2:35 when the large company filed out of the senate chamber after giving the Governor another round of applause.

Asked by the reported whether his words meant literally that he would call the legislature together in extra session, the governor would not say offhand, but it was the sense of the shippers and others that such will be the case.

GOES TO CALIFORNIA TO CONFER WITH JOHNSON

By Associated Press.
Los Angeles, Cal., May 1.—Rev. William Carter of New York, general secretary of the International Peace Forum, left here last night for Sacramento with the avowed object of trying to prevail upon Governor Johnson to veto the anti-alien land bill in the event of its passage. He has been in California studying the Japanese land situation. Governor Johnson is an honorary vice-president of the forum.

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