

J. A. THOMAS, Editor and Proprietor.

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 1903.

THE LAST BALLOT.
The Democratic caucus had taken up to last night about twenty-five ballots for a United States Senator. Last ballot stood as follows: Overman 55; Watson 52; Craig 30; Alexander 4; Cunningham 1. Carr's name was withdrawn last night. The caucus will meet again to-night.

THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.
Governor Aycock's message to the General Assembly was read in both houses on Thursday of last week. It is an able document and contains some very wise and timely suggestions to the law-makers. For the benefit of our country readers who do not see the daily papers we intended sending out a supplement containing the message in full, but they did not reach us in time.

A NEW CODE.
Among the many wise suggestions contained in the Governor's message to the legislature is that of a new codification of the Statute laws. The present Code was published twenty years ago, and the legislatures that have assembled since that time have made so many amendments to the various Statutes that the old book is almost unrecognizable. By all means gentlemen of the legislature, let us have a Code Commission.

FRANKLIN'S REPRESENTATIVES.
In looking over the various committees of the Senate and House we find Franklin's Representatives on the following committees: Senator White is chairman of the committee on Insurance (a very important committee) and is also a member of other committees as follows: Education, Judiciary, Finance, Appropriations. Dr. Haddock's name appears on the following House committees: Insane, Public Health and Penal Institutions.

THE WHITWASH HAS PEELLED OFF.
We do not think the President is wise in ignoring the race question in distributing office and emolument at the South. He would not venture upon a similar course in New York or Ohio, for instance, and everybody knows it.
We make bold to say however, that if the white Republican movement at the South has Federal office for its object, it can be checked or even discouraged by any policy the President may adopt in the dispensation of patronage; if it cannot subsist without the aid of the collectorship, the post-office and so on it does not deserve to succeed, and the sooner it collapses the better. - Washington Post.

As the Charlotte News well says, the surmise of the Post is correct the vanquished "Lily White" movement, the masquerade in sheep's clothing, was simply to blind the eyes of the public to the real object. The supreme and only idea was to get the negroes out of the way in order that all the offices might go to the white pie-seekers in the party. The Post says it deserves to collapse and it has collapsed, the whitewash has peeled off, the virtues have taken flight and the old elephant stands revealed in all its hideous reality, ready to ride in on the shoulders of the negro at the next election and tie him out of reach of the pie-counter when through with him.

The Republicans and assistant Republicans of this immediate section tell Democrats that they are very glad to get rid of the negro as a voter, but in most cases they very same fellows will refuse to criticize the President when he appoints a negro to positions of importance and trust. As yet we have failed to hear of a single one who does not endorse Roosevelt's action in the Indiana (Mississippi) postoffice case, where a negro woman, Minnie Cox, is being forced on the people against their wishes.

The Press of the country, regardless of politics, are pouring hot shot into Roosevelt for his apparent determination to force negro office-holders on the "Southern whites." There is no complaint along this line for such appointments in the North as he wouldn't dare appoint a negro to any important office in any of the Northern States. Of course the President is not looking for any electoral votes from the South, but he does want votes from this section in the Republican National convention, and this "lobbering over" the negroes in the South is resorted to for reasons. First to hold the negroes together for the Republican party in the North, and second, to rebuke and humiliate the South whites who refuse to submit to the oppression of the party to which the President belongs.

A RUNAWAY HORSE in Wilson, hitched to a buggy, and driven by Mrs. T. J. Hadley, accompanied by a lady friend one day last week, came very near causing the death of both ladies. Another strong argument against ladies driving horses. We have never taken on to these horses that are so apt to get a woman can drive them.

OUR RALEIGH LETTER.

Raleigh, N. C., Jan. 13, 1903.
The Governor's message has not yet appeared printed. It is a lengthy and exhaustive paper and is a good campaign document.

Speaker Gattis is a great big hearted jolly fat fellow, a good presiding officer and very popular.

Nepotism is scarce but will crop out—though unpopular and condemned. Getting there is the principal thing in most things after all.

An old Senator who has seen many legislatures says this one is an exceptionally intelligent one and much good work may be expected.

Where is the east, where is the west? Where is the dividing line? It was thought two years ago that Durham was an eastern county. Now it is a western county. The east claimed the Speakership and an eastern man west of a western county got it. So the east is west of the west and the west is east of the east. That's right. There is no east or west but one good grand old North Carolina.

J. S. Cunningham, O. L. Joyner, J. O. Gravelly and others were here last week and perfected preliminary arrangements for thorough organization and work for the Tobacco Growers Association.

Lobbyists are somewhat scarce, but will be here later.

Temperance and child labor is taking much of the attention of the legislature and several good bills have already been introduced.

Many old members are here looking on at the Senatorial fight. No dark horse has put in an appearance. We believe there is some aversion to anything shady.

There was a joint session of the Senate and House Tuesday for the purpose of canvassing the election returns.

While the two Houses were in joint session G. R. Glenn, of Georgia, agent for the Peabody fund, being present was called upon and made an excellent talk on education. It was a genuine North Carolina blood in his veins.

The Grand Lodge of North Carolina is in session in the city and there are lots of Masons here. It was a good time to attend the Lodge and see the Senatorial fight.

That this legislature will be an economical one no one doubts. The members are in favor of economy. In proof of this a member was recently heard trying to drive a bargain with the boot black for shaves at reduced rates.

House committees were announced Tuesday.

A number of Franklin people have been here this week.

The work of the Legislature is just coming on.

ARCH E. KAE.

WHO WILL BE THE CANDIDATE.

"I think the contest in the next national Democratic convention for the presidential nomination will be between Mr. Gorman, Judge Parker, of New York, and Mr. Olney, of Massachusetts," said Representative Richardson, Democratic leader in the house, to-day. "I think I can see a leaning in Mr. Bryan toward Mr. Olney. There is no question that he is being boomed in the west. He will make a formidable candidate. Mr. Gorman's friends will not let the nomination go to another without a contest, and Judge Allen B. Parker, of New York, is forging to the front very rapidly. From what I hear of him he would be entirely acceptable to the southern Democrats if he should be the choice of the convention."

What will be the issue, after you get the man? Mr. Richardson was asked. "What better issue do we want than the one the Republican party is now furcuhaling us through its division on the tariff question?" Mr. Richardson said. "The people are demanding tariff reform. The Republican high protectionists will not give it to them." - Washington Dispatch to Philadelphia Record, January 1.

MAGAZINE NOTES.

Pierpont Morgan is undoubtedly the most fascinating figure before the world to-day. "Mr. Morgan, His Advisers and His Organization" are discussed at length in the January Cosmopolitan by John Brisson Walker, who spent ten days between Mr. Morgan's and Mr. John Mitchell's offices, in September, in the attempt to settle the coal-strike.

EDISON ON 1903.

Thomas A. Edison's New Year's offering to the world is a perfected storage battery. He says the problems of the coming year are fighting bacteria; getting electricity direct from coal; getting power cheap from the elements, and applying electricity more generally to manufacturers. He intends immediately attacking the problem of cheaper electricity. He has good words for Marconi and wireless telegraphy. He has no faith in flying machine talk. He says medicine is played and thinks scientists may find the germ of old age. The newspaper, in his opinion, is "the greatest school of the day," and he looks for a wonderful year. - Yorkville Enquirer.

A FIGHT FOR THE MIDDLE MAN.

We sympathize earnestly with the proposed fight against the retail establishments of the American Tobacco Company. The abolition of the middleman is a socialistic idea of the worst kind. It means the substitution of employees of a great monopoly for the independent small dealers.

The true socialistic idea in these matters is that the government, representing the people, shall operate the factories and deal directly with the people. The theory of this is just however impracticable its practice may be. The American Tobacco Company idea is that the manufacturer shall deal directly with the people, but be responsible to nobody and controlled by nobody. If it is successful, the tobacco trade will be a monopoly as it is in some of the European countries but a monopoly not responsible to the legislative body or the people as the European governments are. The consumers would pay as much for their goods as they do now and probably more. The difference would be that the share of the profits which now remains in the respective communities would go on to the central corporation. The local dealers would be mere employees, at the mercy of their employers and with wages constantly diminishing.

The people have it in their power to check this movement now, in its incipiency. All they have to do is to avoid the local branches of the American Tobacco Company, to refuse to buy their goods and to confine their trade to independent dealers. If the independent dealers, for their own protection, see fit to organize and refuse to handle trust goods that is their business. The early Americans were willing to forego their tea for the sake of liberty and in vindication of their patriotism. Certainly, the people of this generation are not degenerate. All that is needed is to have their attention called to the facts. They are not even asked to abandon or even diminish the luxury of tobacco. All they need to do is to change the brands of tobacco they use, if necessary, and to take a little pains to see that they buy from none but independent dealers. - The Richmond News.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

JAN. 12TH, 1903.

One of the sharpest debates recently witnessed in the United States Senate grew out of the effort of Senator Vest to have a bill removing the duty on anthracite coal, in accordance with the President's recommendation, reported from the Finance committee. In terms made thrice eloquent by the feeble condition of the speaker, which would not permit him to stand without the support of his desk, the Senator, for the second time in one week, pleaded the cause of the poor and needy. He begged his opponents for the sake of humanity to abandon partisan considerations and pass a measure offered "by a poor democrat" but calculated to lighten the hardships of the old and feeble and of children who wept because of the cold. In breathless but forceful terms Senator Aldrich taunted the Senator from Missouri with having consented to a 40 per cent. duty on coal when the democrats were in power and Mr. Vest replied that, as the Senator from Rhode Island well knew, that duty was admitted to the Wilson bill because four democratic Senators who held the balance of power were untrue to their party and made the 40 per cent. duty the price of their vote for the bill. He urged the republicans to rise above the sordid consideration of vested interests and partisan policy and for once solely in the cause of humanity, but his words fell upon deaf ears.

THE DEBATE BETWEEN SENATOR VEST AND HIS OPPONENTS.

In the debate between Senator Vest and his opponents the former quoted the late Nelson Dingley as having said that the tariff of the Dingley bill had been made too high with the purpose of having a certain one, which in trade so that the United States might make recipients thereof without injury to American industries. Senator Hale took up the charge and repudiated the well authenticated evidence presented by the Senator from Missouri. He dodged the point at issue and pretended to regard the statement of Mr. Vest as a reflection on the personal character of Mr. Dingley which he stily decried from an attack which had never been made.

The anxiety of the President to please the people and secure the enactment of anti-trust legislation has resulted in strained relations between the Administration and the members of the sub-committee charged with the preparation of an anti-trust measure. When Congress met the House Judiciary committee appointed a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Lusk, Powers, Overstreet, De Armand and Clayton to draft a trust bill. This sub-committee asked the President for an administration measure and it was refused. They then asked the Attorney General for his views on the subject. They were furnished and the committee immediately set to work to draft a bill embodying them. Then, to the amazement of Mr. Lusk, Powers, Overstreet, De Armand and Rep. Clayton, the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, two bills with a request that they be introduced. This was done and only when they appeared in print did the sub-committee, which had been burning the midnight oil over its measure, learn that it had been completely ignored and that bills had been introduced which were calculated to render obsolete the bill on which they had expended so much time and labor.

Under threat if an extra session the members of the Senate have organized to the passage of some "simple" and innocuous anti-trust measure. These bills, they say, must be so simple as to provoke no lengthy debate and must receive the unanimous support of the republicans which is tantamount to saying that they must be so drawn as to be incapable of thwarting the intentions or desires of the trust. The lengthy and sweeping bill brought in much specious advice (using by Mr. Hoar) has subjected the venerable Senator to nothing but ridicule and so upon has the old gentleman become that on Thursday he moved the passage of a bill which was enacted nearly a year ago and the Senate, following his lead, passed it.

The President was subjected to what the French term a bad quarter of an hour at the Cabinet meeting on Friday and a very bad quarter of an hour it was. Individually and collectively the members of his Cabinet reproached him with the blunders he has committed in attempting to carry into effect a holly quixotic and spectacular Southern policy. The appointment of one, Dr. Crum, to be Collector of the Port at Charleston, S. C. and the suspension of the postoffice at Indianola, Miss., were made the texts for the curtain lectures delivered behind the closed doors of the Cabinet room. Representative Bartlett of Georgia said to your correspondent, apropos of this subject, "President Roosevelt is what you might call a spectacular statesman fond of playing to the galleries. Like all other professional reformers he has but one object in view and that is to better his own personal chances at the expense and discomfiture of others. He is after a majority of the delegates to the next National Convention and he has been making a grand stand play for the negro votes in the South because he knows that they control the conventions that create the delegates." Representatives Johnson, Howard, Branley, Cochran, Patterson, Lever, Senator-elect Lattimer and others expressed similar views.

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I DESIRE TO RETURN Thanks to my customers for their liberal patronage, and wishing all a happy and prosperous New Year, I am Yours truly, JOHN W. KING.