

Table with 2 columns: Item (One Year, Six Months, Three Months) and Price (\$1.00, 65, 35).

OVERMAN IS SENATOR.

The deadlock in the Democratic Caucus at Raleigh was broken last night. The Times received a telephone message about 10:30, last night giving the particulars of the last ballot, which was as follows: Overman 73; Watson 58; Craig 11.

The legislature can now get down to business. As yet only very few bills other than local legislation have passed.

UGHT TO PASS.

Speaking of a bill which has been introduced in the legislature making public drunkenness a misdemeanor, the Statesville Lankmark says that it ought to pass, and the Times agrees with the Lankmark. The bill provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to drink a sufficient quantity of intoxicating liquor or to so be under the influence of the same as to become drunk, intoxicated, stagger or be boisterous or troublesome at any public place. The fine is \$10 or 10 days imprisonment for the first and \$25 fine or 30 days for the second offense.

This is a wholesome law. People who get drunk do so voluntarily and they should be made responsible for their acts. We have little patience with the sympathy wasted on the "poor drunks" while all the denunciation is poured out on the liquor dealer. No man is compelled to drink liquor. Nobody forces it on him, and whenever one does drink to excess and makes himself a nuisance he should suffer the consequences.

WANTS A DOG TAX.

The Times received a lengthy communication one day this week from a substantial citizen of this county in which he strongly advocates a "dog tax," and he earnestly asks the legislators at Raleigh, to take pity on the sheep-shears, the chicken and turkey raisers and the people generally, and give them a dog tax on the worthless dogs. He gives some very good reasons why the worthless dogs should be taxed, and says that he believes that at least nineteen out of every twenty people of the county are in favor of such a tax. Whether he is right in this assertion we do not know, but in the last few months the editor has heard quite a large number of people express themselves in favor of taxing the dogs. Our friend's communication is too long to publish in this issue, and besides it is written on both sides of the paper. If we can do so however we will try to publish it in a future issue. At his request we publish below a clipping from a paper dated September 4th, 1902, which he considers a strong argument in favor of a dog tax:

ASHEVILLE N. C. Sept. 4.—The five-year-old son of J. T. Harris, of this city, bitten a month ago by a mad dog, returned yesterday from the Eastern Institute, New York, where the case was pronounced hopeless. The child, who is suffering terribly, is dying. Physicians say he cannot live but a short time. The child is a nephew of Senator Fritchard.

The journey back to Asheville from New York was a terrible experience to the father. After the train left Salisbury the child was seized with convulsions so awful that it was necessary to telegraph ahead for physicians at almost every station to administer opiates. At the home here it was necessary for some one to hold the child in bed and he frequently tore at the pillow as though defending himself from an imaginary foe. He frequently called for water but would never drink.

The Fayetteville Observer of last Thursday's issue contained the following:

That was a very able and eminently fair charge which Judge Council delivered at Perquimans court in the Wilcox case day before yesterday. He explained the law governing circumstantial evidence in a way calculated to elucidate it to the average layman's understanding—something that judges do not always succeed in doing. Our new Democratic judges, by the way, are demonstrating the wisdom of their choice. The able and admirable gentleman who is presiding over his first court in this town, and in a case requiring the best of any judge, is, daily giving proof of his fitness for the high office which he holds. Long may North Carolina enjoy the services of such officials.

The judge referred to in the latter part of the above clipping is Judge C. M. Cooke.

We see no cause for surprise in President Roosevelt's reception of negroes, at a White House function. He has virtually declared his belief in negro equality, and probably thinks it's up to him to go all the length of consistency. As a statesman he is a failure, and though he holds the office he is not enough of a president for anyone to see what sort of associates he chooses. It all depends upon how you are raised.—Greenville Reporter.

That is just about the size of it. The Republicans in this section are talking right today.

FROM RALEIGH.

Dr. I. G. Riddick, Our Representative, Writes the Times a Few Things Regarding the Legislature.

Mr. Editor:—I have been thinking for several days that I would write you a letter, but I have been prevented by the following combination: a little work, a little sickness and a great deal of business. I told the Democrats of Franklin that I wanted to come to the legislature, and I am, as yet, glad that my friends saw fit to send me. To be here with the present body instructs, entertains and at times amuses. We have as members some of North Carolina's brainiest men. Gen. Davidson, of Buncombe, K. A. Doughton, of Alleghany, Judge Graham, of Granville, Col. Lucas, of Hyde, are a few of the older men. Among the younger men of note are Harry Stubbs, of Martin, Westcott Robinson, of Guilford, and Jones Fuller, of Durham, the latter has to a large extent the fiery oratory of his father, Judge T. C. Fuller, who was an honored native of Franklin county. And there is Settle Dockery, of Richmond county. His name does not indicate the sturdy democracy this brilliant young North Carolinian possesses. Mr. L. L. Smith, of Gates, while not old in years, is a man of parts, faithful and alert to the interests of his constituents. But I cannot mention all who seem to me to give promise of future greatness. There are several physicians of prominence, business men and farmers of intelligence and wealth. We have had a hard time in selecting Senators, the reason is not hard to find. All the candidates are good men. Their friends are loyal. And I do say, that while I feel certain that every vote I have cast has represented a large per cent of the democrats of Franklin, still a vote for either candidate is in good taste. The people of Raleigh say this is the brainiest, handsomest (and the ladies say) most-galant legislature in the history of the State.

The speaker of the house, Mr. S. M. Gatts, of Orange, is developing into a presiding officer of grace and ability. He is firm, fair and kindly. The members of the legislature of 1903 will ever be proud of their choice, and I predict for him still higher honors. Some may think it is all dull routine, but there is scarcely a day in which there does not turn up a spicy debate with wit, humor, sound sense, oratory and occasionally poetry. Our days work is about as follows: convene at 10 o'clock a. m., adjourn at 2 p. m. Nearly all have committee work to begin at 3 or 4 o'clock p. m., and continue till 5 or 6 p. m., and then the caucus about 8 o'clock at night. Of course a member can shirk, but if he does so, he is liable to be caught napping on some measure or miss some one or more of his constituents who may call to see him. For the first 10 days nearly every member was sick with a cold and all are not well yet. I have heard that one particular remedy was very much in demand. Senator Griffith, from the 35th district, was given quite an ovation as he came into the caucus on the 27th. He carried his district by a majority of 72—stealing a march on the republicans. He fills the vacancy caused by the death of Zeb Wilson, a republican who was elected by 1,500 majority at the November election.

I will stop for this time, but will write you again. IVEY G. RIDDICK.

A QUIRK WRITES TO THE EDITOR.

EDITOR TIMES:—The first paper that I ever read with the exception of the Youth's Companion, was the FRANKLIN TIMES. I have long since dropped off the former, but for the last five years I have been one of your regular subscribers, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, you have never had to call on me for my subscription. I do not mean to brag, for there is no particular honor in doing one's duty. However, I think that should entitle me to the privilege of speaking a few words through your columns.

I have noticed with pleasure a number of articles in the Times on "Good Roads." And I would just like to add my voice to the plea for better means of travel if it is only to say "amen" to what has already been said. If you wish to appreciate good roads, ride to Spring Hope on a dark, wet night, or get hung up amongst the Four Bridges and if that doesn't convince you, try the swamp next to Simm's bridge. Or, to our shame, be it said, ride down some of the most important streets of our county seat. What good does it do a farmer if he can get his goods 10 per cent cheaper in Lenoir than at the country store, when he can't get them home after purchasing. And can you blame the country merchant for charging high prices when hauling means so much. Let us have sawdust roads, or straw roads, or even better dirt roads if we can't get the macadamized. And why not have the best?

Mr. Editor, I don't want to use up all your spare space, but I'd like to ask the President of Punkin Center, if there don't happen to be a few jugs of backwood's unknown "gwine" down that same road along with the vinegar bottles. If so I can guess why he and Brown are not lonely.

I don't claim to be a politician and I didn't attend the reception to the Judiciary at Washington, last week, when the "coons" were in order, but if that thing keeps up, I shall resign my position in the senate, and stay at home, where I can amuse myself, as is my habit, by killing tobacco worms and potatoe bugs.

With best wishes, A. QUIRK.

COL. CUNNINGHAM'S VIEWS.

Col. J. S. Cunningham, of Person, one of the most extensive tobacco growers in the world, arrived last evening from a visit to Washington. He is strongly opposed to the Cuban reciprocity bill because it would admit great quantities of Cuban tobacco to this country and prove hurtful to the American growers. Col. Cunningham says that another convention of the State Association of Tobacco Growers will be called shortly, but the date has not yet been determined.—Raleigh Times.

RECEIVES NEGROES AS EQUALS

Under the above head the Rocky Mount Mirror thus comments upon the recent White House social equality reception:

The report comes that President Roosevelt has received negroes on a plane of social equality at the White House at a big social function and that Southern congressmen present left the affair.

It will take several days for the public to realize what the highest official in the United States has done, but when it is realized, a howl will be heard in the like of which hasn't been heard in a long time.

It is not necessary to go into the race question as to how social equality will lead to inter-marriage of the two races and the other evils that will result through social equality to cause a stench in the nostrils of every white man who cares for the preservation of his race, at this act of Roosevelt.

Roosevelt may get the Republican delegates from the Southern states but he will never get an electoral vote. Any white man who votes for Roosevelt would almost think it would be a just lesson for him to have his daughter, if he has one, marry a negro. How would that set on you, admirer of Roosevelt? Yet that's what Roosevelt's policy of social equality would lead to. But Roosevelt will be nipped in the bud. He has sealed his political doom.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

From Our Regular Correspondent.

JAN. 26TH, 1903.

That Germany has gone too far in her treatment of Venezuela and should be called upon to halt is the conviction of many of the leading men in Congress. Senator Bacon, when seen yesterday by your correspondent, said, "I do not believe Germany was justified in this bombardment (of San Carlos). It is possible the German naval officer may have exceeded his instructions, but I doubt if his Government will disavow his action if this is true. The harsh attitude of Germany is open to very severe criticism but at the same time it is probably prudent not to stir up any bad feeling by harsh expressions of opinion. If Germany wants to blockade the port she may be justified with the consent of the United States, but a bombardment is not part of a blockade." Senator Elihu said, "The situation looks alarming to me for the first time. Germany, this country begins to believe, is not acting fairly and openly." Senator McLaughlin said, "If I had my way I would drive Germany and England out of Venezuela. After that the matter might be settled by arbitration. I do not believe that Germany ought to be allowed to take the least course she is taking solely because Venezuela is the weak power."

At the State Department it is said that the United States will not at present take any cognizance of Germany's action. It further admitted that President Roosevelt has, by his definition of the Monroe Doctrine, placed this country in a most unfortunate position. Relying on that definition, any European power can intimidate and bully any South American republic and so long as it does not land troops and attempt the acquisition of territory the United States cannot logically protest, at least cannot do so without repudiating the Roosevelt definition of the Monroe Doctrine. Minister Bowen is in Washington and is doing all in his power to bring about a peaceful settlement of the difficulty, but is meeting with grave obstacles which are giving rise to serious suspicion as to the honesty of Germany's purpose.

That set of men known as the leaders of the republican party is perpetrating in the United States Senate one of the most outrageous filibusters in parliament history. After a test vote by which it was demonstrated that seventeen republican senators and practically all of the democrats, constituting a majority of the Senate, desire to vote on the Statehood bill and vote affirmatively, the Senate leaders, Aldrich, Hanna, Spooner, Allison, Lodge, Hale, et al., have announced that they will not permit the question to come to a vote if their determination necessitates the calling of an extra session to make appropriations for the regular expenses of the Government. They are openly defying the will of the majority and are setting themselves up as oracles whose will the Senate must obey.

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