

Wilson Advance

Published Every Friday Morning.
By Josephus Daniels, Editor and Proprietor.

New Volume.

The Wilson Advance enters its twentieth volume today, and its readers this morning witness its growth and progress. It is a grown, stout, rosy-faced, plump youth and yet, viewed from its size and its large range, it is a well-developed man. Twelve full rounds have passed since, in the little town of Battleboro, the Advance first flung its sails to the breeze and started out what has proven to be a prosperous voyage. In a short while it was moved to Wilson cause it needed more room to expand than Battleboro [entirely as it] could afford. It has grown and prospered beyond the expectations of its under who, honor to his memory, was called to his eternal home while it was yet a struggling infant and he just maturing into promising manhood.

The course of the ADVANCE has been somewhat checked in its short life and in times past it has had its editorial staff cut down as James A. Williams, Henry G. Williams, Cleo, W. Harris, E. C. Woodson, W. H. Blount, John E. Woodard and J. W. Lancaster—men who established reputations as graceful, fluent and polished writers.

Following as he does this line of well-known editors the present editor and proprietor has sought to maintain the high character of the paper and he hopes, in a measure, he has succeeded.

Our Law-Makers.

Complimentary notices of the personnel of the present Legislature have been in order, for sometime. Our laudatory contemporaries and numerous correspondents, free in describing them, as an unusual fine looking body of men, of more than average ability and intelligence.

Judging from the industry and zeal which they have manifested since the commencement of the session, as law-makers, we conclude that they do not intend to be outstripped by any of their predecessors. This devotion to the interest of the people is highly commendable, when the zeal which characterizes it is coupled with discretion. As in war, discretion is often the better part of valor, so in legislation, it often prevents the accumulation of unwise and unwholesome laws.

We know that it is hard for the average legislator to realize, how little additional legislation, is actually needed, and hence our rush of bills, which usually takes place at each session. Two years ordinarily marks but a little change in our social status, and yet the amount of real legislation would seem to indicate a belief that a great oversight had been committed, and haste must be made to supply the omission. The rapid introduction and the endless variety of bills for a while, is absolutely bewildering. And but for the friendly offices of the various committees to which they are referred, an over-confident constituency would often lament their share in contributing authors of such mischief and confusion.

The Color Line.

It seems the most difficult matter in the world for the people of the North to understand the "color line" business in the South. They appear to imagine that there is a struggle unceasingly going on between the whites and the negroes for the ascendancy of the colored race. That in church, in social and in political affairs the colored men are persistently endeavoring to put themselves upon an equality with the whites, by mingling with them on terms of equality. Such, however, is not the case, as the Northern people have been repeatedly told, as those of them who have traveled in the South well know. The negroes are with few exceptions as anxious to be left entirely to themselves in all their affairs, as the whites are to be left to themselves. They have their own churches for their own color and under their own management. They are as much opposed to mixed membership as the whites are, and in very few instances it is believed does any such state of things exist. A few who were members of churches when they were slaves still retain their membership. While the most cordial christian fellowship exists between the races, they desire to have their own houses of worship, and to control them in accordance with the creed of the denomination to which they belong.

Party Allegiance.

It has been well said that "there is no safety for a party but in the strict allegiance of its membership, and their close adherence to its organization under all circumstances and at all times, come what may." We bind them at one time and loose them at another they will soon come to look upon the ties of party as of small consequence, and break away from it upon the slightest pretext or provocation. It is highly important therefore, to keep up our party organization as well after, as during the canvass, and through it inculcate the necessity of maintaining its time honored principles, and sustaining its regular nominees. Much of the uncertainty of success during our elections would be obviated, and the oppressive anxieties of the contest would be avoided, if more confidence was felt in being able to hold the membership of the party in hand. Experience has proved that this cannot be done, if after an election, we dismiss the rank and file of the party, and permit a general disbandment, relaxing all discipline and permitting a freedom of choice, in all intervening contests. The unit of formation being the smallest political division of the State, it is there, we must lay the foundation of all party organization, and there it is that party discipline should begin. Every Township should keep up its organization, and thus be prepared to render more efficient service at every general election. The enemy with which we have to contend, is ever vigilant and active, and encouraged by the smallness of our recent victory, will be prepared to make a still more vigorous fight in the next campaign. We cannot afford to suffer any diminution in our ranks, and would cordially invite the return of all who have temporarily gone astray.

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