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A DISCREDITABLE DODGE. We have characterized the published statement of Senator Pritchard as wanting in truthfulness and without basis in fact, trifling with candor and juggling with figures.

When Senator Pritchard's self-condemnation statement was the light through the papers, Senator Simmons was asked his opinion of it. In giving it he ran his knife blade into the bladder that Pritchard had taken so much time and labored so in blowing up, and showed that there was nothing in it but wind, false pretense and figure-juggling.

Senator Pritchard's statement, published in the Post Wednesday, will be read by the people of North Carolina with amazement. If his statement that the negroes were not excluded from the Republican state convention...

There is absolutely no certainty in the count as we hold elections at the present time. And as for buying votes why that is done at every election. There are 1,500 voters in this town. I myself have stood on the city hall steps and handed out two-dollar bills as fast as I could pull them out of my pockets and paid them to these same voters. Damnable, corrupt practice, wasn't it? Well, the other side was just as bad.

Col. Mosby, Government land agent, denies that he said certain things about the Nebraska Senators, attributed to him. The ordinary federal office holder runs up against something that may give him trouble when he crowds on the heels of "Senatorial dignity."

With the statement over his own signature that those negroes would not have been refused seats in the

Republican State convention if they had been entitled to seats and that their color had nothing to do with keeping them out, what kind of a figure does the lily white business out anyhow and how can Senator Pritchard, who thus acknowledged that he wasn't playing against the negro at all, look in the eye any of those Democratic recruits who joined his party because it had exorcised the negro? They thought they were getting into a renovated, white man's party, but instead of that they were fraudulently enticed into that same old black-and-tan party, into whose conventions, according to the statement of Senator Pritchard, negro delegates duly elected would be as freely admitted as ever.

entirely too previous, without foundation in fact, and a mere creation of his own fancy, the imaginary fruition of his cherished yearnings for years. And how much surprised, too, will be the negroes who were so active in calling meetings to resolve against this ostracism to learn after several months, culminating in the lily-white collapse and the Pritchard lay-out, that it was all a mistake, and that there wasn't any ostracism at all; that those ousted negro delegates simply forgot to be duly elected and therefore had to stand aside and let the white fellows in who had their business in better shape and were more acceptable to the gentlemen who were running that convention. That's all. But they may also be surprised that Senator Pritchard didn't think of saying something about this after the turning down of those negro delegates, and during the campaign when the negroes of the State, laboring under a misapprehension, as Senator Pritchard virtually says, were clamoring so loudly and denouncing him as a Judas Iscariot and Benedict Arnold sort of a fellow. They may be surprised at this, and that it took Senator Pritchard so long to discover and tell them what was the matter with those negro delegates.

The statement is one of surprises, which do not add to Senator Pritchard's reputation for candor or for nerve in leadership.

DISHONEST ELECTIONS. We hear much these days from Republican politicians and organs in the North, and South too, about unfair elections in the South, that is when the Republican party doesn't win down, here, which it seldom does. But a comparison between election methods in the South, and the North, if all the facts were known, would be decidedly in favor of the South, against which the principal objection seen in the laws deprive the Republican party of a great many votes which it should have. But this has the merit, if no other, of openness, much more creditable than the underhand and corrupt practices so often resorted to in States whose politicians and papers condemn Southern methods. As one illustration we give the following, which we clip from the Chattanooga Times, taken from a letter of a prominent business man of Bridgeport, Conn., published in one of the newspapers of that city.

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THE OTHER SIDE OF IT.

There has been much written and said about child labor in Southern cotton mills, more said in the North than in the South, where the talk is doubtless inspired more by other conditions than by sympathy for the children. But be that as it may, this, like nearly all questions, has two sides to it, one of which is thus noticed by the Richmond News:

Zoologist Stiles, who has been South looking for bugs, incidentally discusses in his report the child labor question. He asserts that the children working in factories are better housed, fed, clothed and cared for than those on the farms and usually are in better health, and that most of them who are situated suffer from diseases contracted at their former homes. There is truth in this. It is also true that the class of children who are worked in cotton factories are worked under conditions even harder on the farms, especially during the cotton picking season. As a matter of fact, women and children who have tried both farm work and factory work report, almost unanimously, that they prefer the factory. Picking cotton and being—

The Kirby Lumber Company of Texas has adopted an innovation which sets a good example to other large lumber companies. It owns a tract of 1,250,000 acres of forest in that State and to make it of permanent value for lumber purposes, has employed sixty foresters, whose duty it is to look after the trees, protect them from insects and other destroying agencies as far as possible, to mark the trees that may be cut and replant in place of the trees cut, thus protecting and keeping up the tree supply and making the forest of permanent value. A splendid idea, which has long been acted upon in some European countries.

Two sports who started hunting in New Jersey a few days ago struck a bad streak of luck. One of them shot a rabbit which fell in a creek, where a bad carp ponded upon it and got away with it and then the other fellow shot the top of the rabbit man's hat off and his head was under his hat, too, but fortunately escaped.

John Mitchell, President of the Pennsylvania Miners' Union, has declined an offer of \$2,000 for eight lectures. This is \$200 more than John's yearly salary amounts to, but the miners appreciate his services so much that they are going to increase that to \$5,000 a year.

A New York statistician figures out that the cost of living has fallen one per cent since the 1st of November. Hip! Now we can get for 99 cents what we had to pay for a dollar. This is encouraging to the fellow who has to buy things every day.

FOURTH DAY OF CONFERENCE.

Two Sessions Held Saturday in the Morning and in the Afternoon.

Meets Next Year at Goldsboro—Board of Missions in Session Last Evening—Appointments for Local Pulpits To-day—Better Salaries Recommended for Preachers—Proceedings.

The Conference convened at 9:30 o'clock Saturday with Bishop A. Cole Smith in the chair. The opening religious services were conducted by Rev. J. D. Hammond, D. D., of Nashville, Tenn. The minutes of Friday's session were read and approved.

Rev. R. A. Willis, Presiding Elder of the Warrenton District, moved the reference of the name of Rev. W. A. Forbes to the Committee on Conference Relations for superannuated relation. Mr. Forbes being present spoke briefly of the grief at laying down the sword of battle, and rejoiced in the hope of some day meeting the brethren in the great conference above.

The call of the 20th Question was resumed. R. F. Bumpas, M. Bradshaw, J. E. Thompson, T. B. Bonner, H. B. Anderson, E. Pope, N. E. Caltrane, J. M. Lowder, W. H. Townsend, D. C. Geddie, W. A. Jenkins, J. L. Rumley, J. E. M. Giles, H. M. North, J. A. Hornsaday, R. C. Beaman, D. A. Watkins, P. Greening, W. Y. Everton, L. M. Brower, H. M. Eure, J. J. Barker, C. W. Robinson, L. J. Nash, J. M. Benson, L. H. Joyner, A. P. Tyler, T. J. Darby, B. B. Culbreth, B. H. Black were called, and their character passed.

According to adjournment the Conference met at 3 P. M., Bishop Smith in the chair. After religious services conducted by Rev. D. H. Tuttle, the minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Rev. J. W. Jenkins submitted a report concerning the Methodist Orphanage, located at Raleigh. Thirty-six children have been received since its organization; 29 are now at the Orphanage, 15 boys and 14 girls. Eighty Sunday Schools are enlisted in the support of these orphans; 13 home missions societies have obligated to care for an orphan each. The new building now in process of erection will greatly enlarge the capacity to care for needy children.

Dr. Gibbs moved that the presiding Bishop be requested to appoint Rev. J. W. Jenkins superintendent of the Orphanage for the next year, and that Rev. J. B. Hurley be appointed financial agent of the Orphanage. The motion prevailed.

W. C. NORMAN DEAD.

He Died Suddenly Sunday Last at the Residence of Mr. T. C. Craft.

FORMER WILMINGTON PASTOR Here Attending Conference, He Succumbed to Heart Failure—Lately Pastor of Trinity Church, Durham—News Broken to His Wife.

Rev. W. C. Norman is dead! No sadder news could be broken to hundreds of his fellow ministers here in attendance upon the North Carolina Conference and to thousands of friends in this city and in the State, on this Sabbath morning, than is contained in the six words with which this notice begins.

Mr. Norman died suddenly at 12:45 o'clock Sunday morning at the home of Mr. T. C. Craft, No. 218 North Seventh street, where he was being entertained during his attendance here upon the North Carolina Conference.

Rev. Mr. Norman was universally beloved in Wilmington, where he served four years as pastor of Grace Methodist church, in which the Conference sessions are now being held. From Wilmington, Mr. Norman went to Raleigh and served four years as pastor of Edenton Street church, of that city. Three years ago he was sent by Conference to the pastorate of Trinity church, Durham, and would in all probability have been returned there for a full term of four years had not death intervened.

A STATE NURSES' ASSOCIATION. Chartered by Secretary of State—Recommendations by Labor Commissioners.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 5.—The North Carolina Nurses' Association was chartered to-day, Mary L. Wyche, Mary D. Pittman and Marion H. Lawrence, incorporated members, were designated as its first officers.

NEW STATE GUARD COMPANIES. Three Admitted This Week—Board of Agriculture—Charters by the State.

TERRIFIC STORM ON THE COAST.

Schooner Wesley M. Oler Lost With All On Board On Hatteras Shoals.

OTHER DISASTERS REPORTED. Schooner Ida Lawrence Abandoned in a Rudicrous Condition—Crew Saved.

HATTERAS, N. C., Dec. 5.—The observer of the Weather Bureau reports that the four-masted schooner Wesley M. Oler went ashore at Hatteras Inlet life saving station early this morning during the storm. She was pounding in the surf about a mile off shore until she was forced to beach at Ocracoke carrying probably the last man. Almost immediately the vessel went to pieces. The life saving crew could do nothing to save the crew. No bodies have washed ashore yet.

NEWPORT NEWS, VA., Dec. 5.—The terrific storm of wind and rain that struck this section early this morning was the most destructive to occur here in Hampton Roads in some time. One life was lost, and numerous boats have been torn loose from their moorings and beached. Others firmly anchored have been filled and sunk.

MR. JAMES L. CORBETT DEAD. Prominent Citizen of Sampson County Passed Away Yesterday—Funeral.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 5.—The gale last night was very severe here. Several boats were wrecked and wharves were blown away. A small yacht on the way to Wilmington was a total wreck. The telephone line to Cape Lookout was blown down and nothing can be heard from there to-day. Several vessels were in the look of the cape. The schooner Ida Lawrence lost her rudder Thursday. Her cargo is coal. Schooner Warren Adams is in Lookout light; the schooner is all right. Captain Fletcher leaves here to-morrow on account of sickness, his place being taken by Captain Grace.

Holly for the North. Duplin Journal: "The woods are full of people cutting holly for shipment North. Four car-loads of 100 crates each have been shipped here all along the W. & W. R. from Goldsboro to Wilmington quantities of holly are being gathered for the Christmas and New Year decorations. The price paid for the holly is but little more than the people could get for it if they would ask for it. The price has advanced from 50 to 75 cents per box and will no doubt go higher as competition grows stronger."

Newspapers Cannot Be Published Without Money! Are you indebted to THE WEEKLY STAR? If so, when you receive a bill for your subscription send us the amount you owe. Remember, that a newspaper bill is as much entitled to your consideration as is a bill for groceries.

ANOTHER TINY INFANT ABANDONED. Great Mother Deserted New Born Babe at Castle Haynes—Temporary Adoption.

FINISHED by the cold of an almost freezing atmosphere, a tiny female infant, scarcely two days old, deserted by a cruel mother who would sacrifice human life to hide her shame, was found yesterday morning at 7 o'clock under the water tank of the Atlantic Coast Line railroad at Castle Haynes, eight miles from Wilmington. The child was clothed in two garments, wrapped in a sheet and placed in a basket over which a dark cloth was thrown. That the child was found alive is due to the fact that the covering was somewhat more adequate than is usual in such cases. Who put the basket with its human freight in that desolate place on a bleak December morning before day is unknown to those who have made a superficial investigation of the case. It is supposed that the child was taken from Wilmington either on the early morning freight train or by private conveyance. An inquiry developed the fact that the child was not the same as was twice abandoned in Wilmington a few days before.

The child was first discovered by little Joe Harris, a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Harris, who thought it was a kitten in the basket. A few minutes later Mr. D. F. Finch, bridge tender at Castle Haynes, was attracted to the spot by the cries of the infant and it was taken to the home of Mrs. R. W. Corbett, who was prepared to care for it until a suitable home can be found.

RIVER STEAMBOAT ON FIRE. A. J. Johnson Had Narrow Escape From Destruction Yesterday Morning. While on her regular trip from Clear Run to Wilmington, the pilot house on the river steamer A. J. Johnson was partially burned off the deck yesterday morning about 8 o'clock, a few miles this side of Point Caswell.

MR. T. A. McINTYRE TO WED. The marriage of Mrs. Archibald Paul Mitchell, a prominent young society woman of New York, and Mr. Thos. A. McIntyre, also of New York, is announced to take place Dec. 17th in Baltimore at the home of the bride's aunt. The wedding will be one of the social events of the season in the North. After a brief wedding tour Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre will come to Onslow Hall at Verona, N. C., near this city, to welcome a Christmas house party, which will include the wedding attendants. Later, Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre will go to Palm Beach, Fla.

Wadesboro Messenger-Intelligencer. The new lumber industry in this county home. This a greater number of persons that have been at the home in many years and, as a consequence, the cost of maintaining the home is greater than it used to be.

Another enterprise that is assuming large proportions in this section is the local pin factory. A number of additional factories have been established, and others are in the course of erection. The Blue Ridge Lumber Company now owns and controls eight of these factories in this section.