

EVERY Republican candidate in North Carolina (and in the South) ought to be asked, every time he speaks, if he favors and endorses the "Crumpacker" plank of his party's national platform, and a positive answer should be insisted on.

This odious plank demands that the South's representation in Congress and in the electoral college (that is in the vote for President) be reduced because ignorant negroes have been disfranchised. No Southern man should vote for any candidate who favors or endorses any such infamous proposition. And indeed we cannot understand how any decent white man in the South can vote with a party whose national convention makes such a demand.

Many intelligent Republicans, as well as all Democrats, admit that it was a great blunder (if not political crime) for the Republican party to force negro suffrage on the South. Indeed many Republicans profess to be glad that the negro is eliminated from politics in the South. Why, then, should they now wish to punish the South for doing the very thing for which they pretend to be glad?

Does any fair-minded and intelligent Republican really believe that it is better for the South to restore the ballot to ignorant negroes? If not, why does he support a party that demands that the South be punished because we will not restore the ballot to the ignorant negro?

It is much to be regretted that the Republican national convention has thus raised the "negro issue" in this campaign, when both races at the South are getting along together so friendly and pleasantly. But since it is raised, the respectable white men of the South should rally together and present a united front against this odious demand to punish the South for disfranchising ignorant negroes.

REPUBLICAN speakers and papers are continually alleging that Aycock's administration of our State government has been guilty of extravagance and has oppressively taxed the people.

Neither statement is true. There has been no extravagance, and there has been no oppressive taxation. Indeed the rate of taxation on both real and personal property for general State purposes has been lower for the past four years than at any time since 1888.

This reduction of the tax rate on property was made possible by the increased taxes levied on railroad companies and other corporations, which before Aycock's administration had not been bearing their part of the burden of taxation.

These Republican speakers and papers allege that Aycock's administration has been much more extravagant than Russell's. This is not true. It is true that more money has been expended, but there has been no extravagance. The increased expenditures have been for objects and purposes that no good citizen will object to, such as for increased pensions, for public schools and for our charitable institutions.

If we deduct these increased expenditures we will find that the expenditures for the past year have been \$157,166.67 less than the expenditures during the last year under Russell.

What do you think of this?

The Republicans now allege that their State platform does not denounce the Watts law. On the day after their State convention the platform was published in several papers, and all published it with the plank denouncing the Watts law, and nobody said it was an error. Not only that, but nearly every paper in the State copied it and commented on it, and still nobody said it was an error.

No denial or correction was attempted by anybody until several months had elapsed, and not until the Republican leaders began to ascertain that such a plank was not popular. Then, and not until then was any denial or correction attempted.

rather significant, if not suspicious, isn't it?

THE injustice of our high protective tariff laws is forcibly illustrated by the tariff on steel rails. Recently 60,000 tons of rails were sold to the Canadian Pacific Railroad at about \$8 a ton less than the railroads in the United States are obliged to pay for similar rails from the same mills. The price charged our railroads is \$28 a ton, but a Canadian railroad is charged only \$20 a ton. And the "infant industry" that is thus "protected" is the United States Steel Corporation, whose net earnings in 1902 and 1903 were more than its entire wage and salary list!

No truer statement or prediction was ever made than by Andrew Jackson, who in his far-well message in 1837 used the following language: "The corporations and wealthy individuals who are engaged in large manufacturing establishments desire a high tariff to increase their gains. Designing politicians will support it to conciliate their favor, and to obtain the means for profuse expenditure for the purpose of purchasing influence in other quarters. Do not allow yourselves, my fellow-citizens, to be misled in this subject. It is a system of injustice, and if persisted in will lead to corruption and must end in ruin."

The Japanese-Russian War.

Once again attention is diverted from the land forces now occupying positions in central Manchuria to the besieged and besiegers in and around Port Arthur, and it seems probable that the next important move will be another attempt on the part of the Japanese to take the Russian stronghold by storm. It is indicated in the dispatches, however, that preparations for an extensive conflict seem to be making in the vicinity of Mukden. This is really uncertain, however, for the Japanese are still taking the initiative, and there is no telling what they will do, and the Russians will likely do nothing until they are forced to it, and then, unless they change their tactics, they will continue their movement toward Harbin, where it seems they will take up their winter quarters. Only about two months yet remain until the severely cold weather sets in and it may be that no decisive engagement on land will occur until then, when active operations will doubtless cease. But there is nothing more than speculation to be had regarding this, and one man's opinion is about as good as that of another when it comes to that.

The most discouraging information is that the ammunition of the garrison is giving signs of depletion, and that there is foundation for this is shown by the statement from St. Petersburg that the story has created annoyance there. It is said that the Japanese have within the past few days been enabled to occupy positions heretofore untenable because of the Russian shells, none of which reach so far now. In the meantime the Japanese are reported as landing heavy guns at Harbin and placing them in position to more effectively bombard Port Arthur.

Aside from a somewhat determined assault upon the defenses around Port Arthur on Wednesday and Thursday, when the Japanese are said to have made some little headway, the actual operations have been at practically a standstill during the past week. The land forces have doubtless not been in condition to do more than carry on a desultory outpost engagement, and further preparations are being awaited at Port Arthur.

An official dispatch from a Japanese commander makes mention of the capture of thirteen prisoners at Liao Yang. Come to think of it, the taking of prisoners is a rarity in this war—or at least such a thing is seldom mentioned in the dispatches from the front.

Killed His Brother.

Morganton, Sept. 10.—Edward Speagle, aged 13, shot and instantly killed his 16-year-old brother, Hugh, at the Speagle home, six miles from Morganton, Saturday night. The weapon used was a shot gun. It is said that the boys have frequently quarrelled and one of many similar altercations is alleged to have resulted in the tragedy. The slayer is in jail here.

It appears that, after supper, Hugh dressed and said he was going to church, and that Ed, the youngest boy, expressed the wish to go with him, but his company was not desired by the older boy. This led to a heated discussion, whereupon Ed rushed into the house and grabbed a shot gun, which was loaded with No. 4 shot, and discharged the contents at his brother, the lead entering the left side immediately above the heart.

There were no eye witnesses to the tragedy. The youthful prisoner claims that their father, who was under the influence of liquor, was sitting on the porch and that he did not want either of the boys to go to church, and that angry words passed between all, that thereupon Hugh struck his father, and Ed rushed for the gun in order to scare the older boy, when the gun was accidentally discharged.

Washington Letter.

From our regular correspondent. Washington, Sept. 15, 1904. I called this morning at the suite of rooms occupied by the Democratic Congressional Committee. Congressman Cowherd and Col. Edwards have returned from New York and are pushing things again. A swarm, bevy or flock of girls are very busy sending off cart-loads of franked documents. Another document due to come from the printers this week is a franked postal card, about twice the average size, bearing upon its back the colloquy that took place in the White House between Congressmen Dalzell and John Sharp Williams, in which Dalzell remarked with a good deal of energy that the only hoodlums in the United States were the foreigners. A round million of these will be sent out and Mr. Cowherd says it is "gravely suspected" that they will make a stir.

It is not betraying any confidence to say that the national Democratic headquarters at New York are not in entire harmony with the Congressional headquarters here as to what ought to be done, the Fifth Avenue magnates holding that the election of Parker is the only thing to be thought of at present and the Washington managers insisting that the election of a Democratic Congress is at least as important. Nor is there absolute agreement as to policy between Messrs. Sheehan and Belmont, and the vivacious bouncer from Indiana, Mr. Taggart. The pie-counter Hoosier boy has notions of his own and they are very likely wise and expedient notions. But whatever difference of opinion there is will disappear next week if, as reported, Mr. Taggart is to go West for the campaign, establishing headquarters at Indianapolis and Chicago.

Congressman Marcus Kline, of Pennsylvania, one of the four Democrats from that State, has been in town this week and is not at all averse to expressing his views as to how the campaign ought to be conducted. "If I were in Judge Parker's place," he said, and, laughing, added "well, I never shall be,—I would in the forthcoming letter of acceptance answer Roosevelt's letter so briefly that everybody would read what I said. I would not use five hundred words—say a quarter of a column. I would say 'If elected, I will recommend the rigid enforcement of the common law for the extermination of those conspiracies called trusts; the reduction of the tariff to the level of requisite revenue so that pampered manufacturers could not sell their products abroad cheaper than at home; the encouragement of our merchant marine as a business, not as a sentiment, so that if ships cannot be built and run by us, at a profit of at least two per cent, I would leave ocean transportation to those foreigners who are content with very low wages; the evolution of some system of general irrigation by which arid regions may be redeemed for culture by grants of public land similar to those which aided the construction of transcontinental railroads; the offer of absolute independence to the Filipinos under our protectorate on terms similar to those accepted by Cuba; the cultivation of peace with all nations and especially the avoidance of a swaggering and domineering manner towards South American republics; the immediate reduction of our army and navy to a peace standard; the relentless punishment of all bootleggers and the practice of a rigid economy by all departments of the government.' "I wouldn't say another word."

A Democratic Congressman said to your correspondent yesterday "An analysis of the Maine election returns is not discouraging. They show an increase of fifteen per cent in the Republican vote and thirty-one per cent in the Democratic vote. The Republican gain was in the country towns—the Democratic in the cities. This would seem to indicate that producers incline to be Republican, and consumers, Democratic. This, in turn, would seem to imply that Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York and New Jersey will go Democratic, for more than three-quarters of their population are consumers. Isn't there cause in this for hope that amounts to expectations?"

The sham "battles" that took place last week on the old Bull Run battlefields are to have their counterpart next June in a "grand naval contest" in Chesapeake Bay, where there will be "an attempt by a strong naval fleet to force the passage of Chesapeake Bay and invest the cities of Washington, Baltimore and Norfolk." The assault is to be resisted by land forces at Fortress Monroe and other fortifications. Whether cavalry will enter these belligerent maneuvers is uncertain, but some form of horse marines or ass marines will undoubtedly be on hand and there ought to be some way devised by which battle-ships can be taken ashore and meet the artillery on their own ground. Langley's balloon will probably be in evidence, and on the whole a great, noisy and dangerous time is anticipated. The Army and Navy Club here is already filled with vociferations.

The Torpedo and its Work.

[The following interesting description of a torpedo was written for THE RECORD by Midshipman J. J. London, who will graduate at the Naval Academy next February, and is now at home on a four weeks' furlough.—ED. RECORD.]

Many of the readers of THE RECORD have, no doubt, since the out-break of the Russo-Japanese war, expressed a desire to know the construction of the machine which has created such havoc with the Russian warships. It is, therefore, the purpose of this article to describe the torpedo, and, as far as possible, explain how its work of destruction is accomplished.

Briefly, the torpedo is a long cigar-shaped object which contains a high explosive in its head, and which works entirely automatically after being launched into the water. To describe it more accurately, the 5 meter, Mark I, Whitehead Torpedo, which is used on board our torpedo-boats, has the following dimensions: Extreme length... 16 ft. 6.8 in. Greatest diameter... 17.7 in. Capacity of air-flash... 9.9 cu. ft. Weight of gun cotton... 220 lbs. Weight of torpedo... 1161 lbs. The torpedo consists of three principal parts, viz: The Head, where the 220 lbs. of gun cotton is stored, and which explodes when the torpedo strikes the target; the Air Flask, which contains the 9.9 cubic feet of compressed air, by means of which the torpedo is propelled through the water; and the After Body, which contains the engine and two propellers, also the steering gear, retarding gear, steering gear, Obry gear, and locking gear. These three principal parts are bolted together, and can easily be taken apart, thus making the 1161 lbs. more easily handled.

The torpedo is launched from a cylinder called a torpedo tube, which is mounted on a pivot and can be trained in the desired direction. A small charge of powder in the rear of the tube serves to expel the torpedo. As it leaves the tube a latch trips the starting lever and the engine begins to revolve, so that when it strikes the water it starts at once upon its errand of destruction. Now, if the torpedo would run exactly in the line it was fired its mechanism would be very simple, but as it does not the Obry gear has been installed to steer it. This gear consists of a pivoted wheel called a gyroscope, the principle of which being that it always remains in the same vertical plane during its run. The gyroscope is also started to spinning when the torpedo leaves the tube, so that it points straight for the target and remains so. It is connected with the vertical rudders and when the torpedo swerves to the right or left of its course, as it always does, the gyroscope moves the rudder and brings it back to its course. This accounts for the zig-zag trail of a torpedo going through the water.

For several reasons it is undesirable for the torpedo to run on the surface of the water. This is prevented by means of a hydrostatic piston, which is so connected with the horizontal rudders that, when the torpedo reaches a depth at which the water pressure overcomes the pressure of a set spring on the opposite side of the piston, it changes the rudders and makes the torpedo run in a horizontal plane. The depth of the run can be controlled by the pressure put upon the set spring; five feet below the surface is the usual depth of the run.

The torpedo moves with such rapidity through the water that it would be very difficult for a large vessel to get out of its way. The speed of our torpedoes vary from 25 to 35 miles an hour, which they attain after running only a short distance through the water. The quantity of compressed air carried by each one is sufficient to carry it for over a mile at this speed. On the front end of the torpedo is attached the war nose which explodes the gun cotton when it comes in contact with any solid body. By means of a simple piece of mechanism this war nose is prevented from exploding if it does touch an object within 50 yards of the vessel firing it. At one time several foreign navies rigged wire nettings around their ships to protect them from torpedoes, but they have since been abandoned.

It requires a great deal of practice with torpedoes to make them run accurately, and as they cost over \$5,000 apiece no country can afford to fire a torpedo and then lose it. Also no two torpedoes run alike, so that each one must be fired a number of times to learn its tricks, as it were. Therefore for practice the gun cotton is taken out of the war-head and replaced by the same weight of water. There is a distance-gear in the torpedo, by means of which they can be made to run any distance and stop, thus enabling its easy recovery. When it stops it floats on the water, but sinks quickly if one or two plugs are left out, which is done in time of war, thus preventing its capture by the enemy in case of a miss. The usual distance for practice is 1000 yards, and the distance-gear is set for 50 yards over that, and so accurately does the gear work that the torpedo floats to the surface only a short distance before the target, where a boat picks it up. Sometimes, however

its gear does not work and the torpedo keeps on its run, which entails a long, hard row for the boat sent out for it. I remember an instance when the torpedo struck the target, going entirely through a barrel upon which the target was supported. This evidently jarred the distance-gear loose so that the torpedo kept straight on and ran up on the beach clear of the water a mile away. You can never be certain that a torpedo will make a good run. One may make good runs for ten times and sink the eleventh. I have known of an instance where a torpedo went to the bottom, and a diver having been sent down, followed its trail through the mud for 200 yards, and then lost sight of it completely. It was never recovered. J. J. LONDON. Pittsboro, Sept. 20, 1904.

A Daring Bank Robber.

San Francisco, Sept. 17.—Just at the close of banking hours today a man in the lobby of the First National Bank, of this city, observing the cage door leading behind the counter ajar, pushed it aside, walked in, and helping himself to a bag containing \$20,000 in gold coin, made a rapid exit. He immediately slowed down his pace, and walked into a side entrance of the Brooklyn Hotel, which leads to the dining room, closely followed by C. K. MacIntosh, an employe of the bank, who had witnessed the theft. Seeing he was pursued, the thief turned into the hotel office, where he was overtaken and seized by MacIntosh. When asked to turn over the money he said it was his own. The bag was taken from him, however, and its contents found to have been undisturbed. The daring robber, who is about 35 years old and well dressed, then called upon the people in the hotel office to see if he had not told the truth by accompanying him to the bank only a few feet away. He walked to the corner undisturbed, loaded a street car which was passing, and was soon out of sight.

Davidson Dispatch: A son of Mr. Gordon Reeves, who lives about five miles from Jefferson, Ashe county, was driving a hay rake recently when the tongue broke and the young man, aged 18 or 19 years, was thrown in front of the rake. The accident caused the horses to run away and young Reeves was rolled under the rake for some distance. He was badly mangled, one eye being punctured by a rake tooth and the sight destroyed. A brother of young Reeves was killed in an accident at a mill a year or so ago.

Lumberton Argus: During the storm Wednesday Mr. Albinus A. McLean, of Maxton, with his own eyes saw an eel fall in the street. The animal was about a foot and a half long—a typical eel says Mr. B. Frank McLean, who saw it. There was a tree near, so it is a question as to whether the eel came out of the tree or was laid down?—or wasn't it an eel-like snake?

Thomas and Chalmers White were convicted last week of murder in the second degree and sentenced to the penitentiary for six years, from which they appealed. They are prominent citizens of Concord and shot Russell Sherrill for seducing their niece.

Last week for the first time in the history of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition the attendance for the six days exceeded one million, the exact figures being 1,027,918. Total admissions to date 11,022,430.

Dr. Julian M. Baker, of Tarboro, was acquitted last week of the murder of Dr. H. T. Bass, the jury finding that he shot in self-defense.

When troubled with constipation try Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are easy to take and produce no gripping or other unpleasant effect. For sale by G. R. Pilkington.

In Praise of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. "Allow me to give you a few words in praise of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy," says Mr. John Hamlet, of Eagle Pass, Texas. "I suffered one week with bowel trouble and took all kinds of medicine without getting any relief, when my friend, Mr. C. Johnson, a merchant here, advised me to take this remedy. After taking one dose I felt greatly relieved and when I had taken the third dose was entirely cured. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for putting this great remedy in the hands of mankind." For sale by G. R. Pilkington.

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WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS, MO.

MAY—NOVEMBER, 1904. SOUTHERN RAILWAY

Account the above occasion, Southern Railway now has on sale daily, tickets at extremely low rates, to St. Louis, Mo., and return. Following rates applying from principal points in State of North Carolina:

Table with columns: Point, 60-Day, 30-Day, 15-Day. Rows include Asheville, Charlotte, Durham, Gastonia, Greensboro, Henderson, Hendersonville, Hickory, Marion, Morganton, Mt. Airy, Newton, Raleigh, Rutherfordton, Salisbury, Sanford, Selma, Statesville (via Knoxville), Wilkesboro, Winston-Salem.

Southern Railway operates Through Pullman Sleeping Car between Greensboro, N. C., and St. Louis, Mo., via Salisbury, Asheville, Knoxville, Lexington and Louisville; leaving Greensboro daily at 7:20 P. M.

For full information as to rates from all points, Sleeping-Car reservations, schedules, illustrated literature, etc., address ANY AGENT, or R. L. VERNON, Traveling Pass. Agt., CHARLOTTE, N. C. J. WOOD Dist. Pass. Agt., ASHEVILLE, N. C.

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