

# The Randolph Bulletin.

A RANDOLPH COUNTY PAPER FOR RANDOLPH COUNTY PEOPLE.

VOL. 6. NO. 1

ASHEBORO, N. C., THURSDAY, JULY 7, 1910.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR.

## DOCTOR AND WIFE IN JAIL CHARGED WITH SERIOUS CRIME.

### One Girl Dead and Another May Die as Result of Malpractice.

A special from High Point to Monday's Charlotte Observer says:

One of the saddest tragedies that ever occurred here happened last night when a young girl by the name of Bessie Thomasson of Statesville died at the home of Dr. W. L. Vestal on account of an illegal operation which had been performed by Dr. W. L. Vestal last Tuesday night.

The police were notified about the condition of the young girl just a short time before she died and when they arrived at the home of Dr. Vestal they not only found the one who is now dead, but also found another young girl who gave her name as May Owen from Linwood, and who was in a serious condition. She had also gone through the same operation.

Last night about 11 o'clock Drs. Stanton and McAnally were called to the home of Dr. Vestal to see Bessie Thomasson and they at once saw that the girl was in a most critical condition. They suggested to Dr. Vestal that the patient be taken to the hospital for treatment and made the arrangements but it was soon learned that the girl was at that time in a dying condition and that to remove her would be only hastening her death. At about 12 o'clock she died after having a number of spasms.

Before she died she made a full confession to the physicians telling about the operation and her treatment.

May Owen, the other girl, was removed to the hospital by the policeman and her condition tonight seems some better, but is yet regarded as serious.

Bessie Thomasson came here last Sunday night from her home at Statesville without the knowledge of her father, to receive treatment from Dr. Vestal. She was induced to come here by a young man named Levy Maynard of this city who it is claimed is the man who got the girl in trouble. Maynard lived in Statesville for quite a while, during which time he met the young girl and was keeping company with her. An old woman by the name of Susan Darr, who lives on Reid street, was engaged by Maynard Friday morning at 9 o'clock to go to the home of Dr. Vestal and nurse the girl. Before the coroner's inquest she stated that as soon as she arrived she learned what the trouble was and also found the girl in a critical condition. The bed linen was badly soiled and the general condition of the room was filthy. Mrs. Darr was employed to only nurse the Thomasson girl but when she arrived to the scene she found both girls in the same room suffering from the same trouble.

Yesterday afternoon Dr. J. R. Reitzel was called to see the patients by Dr. Vestal. Dr. Reitzel informed Mrs. Vestal that one of the girls was dangerously sick and should be removed to the hospital. At first Dr. Reitzel was told that Dr. Vestal was sick and wished to see him, but later they also told him that they wanted him to see two girls who had been stopping with them for about a week. Later Bessie Thomasson told Dr. Reitzel that an illegal operation had been performed on her by Dr. Vestal and that Levy Maynard and at that

105. Dr. Reitzel was again called later but could not go and nothing more was heard by the public until last night.

This afternoon at 3 o'clock a coroner's inquest was held by Coroner W. W. Wood of Greensboro, and County Attorney John N. Wilson also of Greensboro. The following gentlemen composed the jury: W. H. Ragan, A. M. Rankin, J. H. Tate, H. W. Frazier, A. P. Stanly and J. L. Sechrest. At the inquest the following witnesses were examined by the county attorney; Dr. J. R. Reitzel, Dr. W. J. McAnally, Dr. D. A. Stanton, Undertaker J. W. Sechrest, R. H. Sechrest, Mrs. Susan Darr. The verdict of the jury was as follows: "The deceased came to her death by the unlawful act of one Dr. W. L. Vestal and that Levey Maynard and Mrs. W. L. Vestal were accessories to the same."

There was a post-mortem examination held immediately after the jury met by Dr. Fortune of Greensboro, county physician, Dr. D. A. Stanton and Dr. J. R. Reitzel. At this examination all the evidence submitted was substantiated.

## RICHLAND TOWNSHIP SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The Township Sunday school convention for Richland township will convene with Pleasant Hill Methodist Protestant church on the third Sunday in July at 10 o'clock a. m. All Sunday school workers are invited to be on hand and take part in the discussions. Following is the programme.

Devotional Exercises,—by the Pastor.

Words of welcome—I. F. Hancock.

Response—M. J. Presnell.

SONG.

Enrollment of Delegates.

Why we are here,—O. D. Lawrence.

How we may increase Missionary Interests in Sunday school—J. H. Spencer.

Solo,—Miss Mabel Stuart.

Address on Sunday School Work—Prof. W. P. Lawrence.

Collection for Sunday School Work.

Reading Reports.

INTERMISSION.

1:30 P. M. The Vital Connection Between church and Sunday School—Rev. J. A. Ledbetter.

Value of the Home Department—S. S. Cox.

SONG.

The Teacher's Duty to His Class—W. J. Moore.

The Value of Class Organization—J. N. Cagle.

Three Most Desirable Qualifications of a Sunday School Teacher—A. M. Macon.

The Value of the Sunday school to the community—Rev. H. A. Albright.

SONG.

Round Table, Conducted by the President.

Report of Committee on History of Township Convention.

Election of Officers.

SONG.

Election of Delegates to the County Convention.

Place of Next Meeting.

Adjournment.

G. F. GARNER, Pres.

Miss Etta Auman, Sec.

A Hot Time Expected.

It seems at present that with 79 counties heard from, ten withholding instructions and nineteen to hear from, the Allen-Manning contest stands: Allen, 402,26; Manning, 358,26. If the convention has to decide the contest, which is not at all improbable in view of this situation, all fear of a dull time will vanish.—Charlotte Observer.

## CITIZENSHIP AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

### Responsibility for Public Health Our Greatest Civic Responsibility.

The essential difference between the citizen and the savage is the expression in his daily routine by the former of the principle, "No man liveth unto himself." This biblical axiom is the basis of civilization, because it expresses a relation that law defines and controls. It naturally follows that the clearer our mental perception, the more distinctly will we recognize the many and subtle bonds that unite our fortunes or our fates into a web of weal or woe. Knowledge gives acuteness of mental vision, and, therefore, it is knowledge that opens the gates of a higher civilization and gives to him who desires the opportunity to become a better citizen.

The relation of one man's property to another's is easily recognized, and is firmly established upon universally accepted principles of civil law. The relation of one man's life to another's has only within the last half century been established upon principles of natural law. But, as yet, the knowledge of these natural laws has not been widely enough disseminated to produce sufficient public sentiment to weld them into our statutes.

Man's greatest civic obligation is to the public health. This sounds like the exaggeration of an enthusiast. Nevertheless, it rests upon those primary and fundamental principles of law that for over four thousand years have been the basis of civilization. Writ in tables of stone by the Supreme Judge himself, these legal principles are so comprehensive as to embrace man's every possible relation: His relation to the Court of Heaven; his relation to the court of the home, and his relation to the court of man. But note, and note carefully, that the first of the five rules governing man's relation to man is the law protecting life. First, not by haphazard, but first by Omniscient design, because it is just as fundamental to the last four of these five laws as life is fundamental to chastity, property, reputation, and neighborly comfort. Note further, that "Thou shalt not kill" carries no provisions limiting its application to the 5,000 deaths occurring annually in the United States through willful acts of commission, and excluding the 500,000 deaths annually occurring in our country by an act of passive omission. Every citizen who does not take a serious interest in the public health of his or her community is a partisan to this criminal destruction of life. Like Lady Macbeth dipping her bloody hands in water, we say, "Out! damned spot," but it will not out, for all the real and feigned ignorance and indifference into which we submerge our individual and public consciences.

And now, lastly, how can the conscious citizen—this does not include everybody—discharge this obligation? He can easily inform himself, with a total amount of reading of not over ten hours, of the principal facts which will enable one to take an active and intelligent part in this work. He can be supplied, without cost, with this literature by writing the Secretary of the State Board of Health at Raleigh to place his or her name on the mailing list for the monthly Bulletin. He can read articles on this subject appearing in this paper monthly. He can vote for aldermen, county commissioners, and legislators who are informed in regard to this important problem.

## New Railroad Law Not to Be Oppressive.

Beverly, Mass., July 1.—President Taft had a long talk today with Chairman Knapp, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, regarding the administration of the new railroad rate law. At the conclusion of the interview it was made plain that the added authority given to the Commission by the new statute is not to be used arbitrarily or for the purpose of hindering the railroads in the conduct of their legitimate business. The power to suspend new rates, probably the most direct weapon placed in the hands of the Commission, is to be used only in exceptional cases.

Chairman Knapp told the President that the Commission already had refused an application under the new law for a suspension of increased rates on horse vehicles and automobiles. He said that there was nothing on the face of things to show that the new rates were unjust or unreasonable.

## COMMISSION WILL ACT SPEEDILY

The Interstate Commerce Commission will not attempt to fix definite rates for the railroads, and the power of a suspension will be applied only to rates when a preliminary hearing gives indication that they are excessive. In all such contested cases, the President was informed, the Commission will endeavor to arrive at the facts at the earliest possible moment, and it is not believed that in any case will it be necessary to avail itself of the full limit of eleven months allowed under the law.

From time to time since the new law went into effect there have been indications that some of the big railroads have been considerably worried as to the extent and the manner in which the rate regulating clauses of the new law would be employed by the Commission. Stock manipulators in Wall Street who had been informed were trying to trade upon this doubt and to make the most of the situation to their own advantage.

## LAW NOT INTENDED AS A CLUB.

It can be authoritatively stated that it was never intended that the new law should be a club or that it should be the means of profit taking by "bears" in the market. The Commission will not "run amuck" and will do nothing to jeopardize the interests of investors. There has been talk of a possible fright among European investors and the embarrassing results that might come from throwing over stocks at crop-moving time. But the President sees nothing in the situation to warrant any such views.

The new law is being "tried out" The President feels that it is in the hands of a conservative body of men. It always has been the aim of the Presidents to make the Commission, with its quasi-judicial functions, a conservative body. President Taft, above all, is anxious that this character of the Commission shall be maintained. It was at his request that Chairman Knapp came to Beverly today. Mr. Knapp left for Washington tonight.

## PRESIDENT AND COMMISSION AGREE.

Mr. Taft was pleased to find that the Commission already had its plans well mapped out and that its views of the new statute coincide thoroughly with those

## TOWNSHIP REPRESENTATION IN COUNTY CONVENTION.

Based on one vote for every twenty-five votes cast for J. Elwood Cox, Republican candidate for governor in 1908, each township is entitled to the following number of votes in the county convention to be held in Asheboro July 16th:

Trinity.....	6 votes
West New Market....	6 "
East New Market....	2 "
Providence.....	4 "
Liberty.....	6 "
Back Creek.....	6 "
Randleman.....	12 "
West Franklinville..	5 "
East Franklinville....	6 "
Columbia.....	10 "
Concord.....	6 "
Cedar Grove.....	6 "
Asheboro.....	6 "
Grant.....	6 "
Coleridge.....	5 "
New Hope.....	3 "
Union.....	4 "
Richland.....	4 "
Brower.....	3 "
Pleasant Grove.....	3 "
Tabernacle.....	8 "
TOTAL.....	117.

## RANDOLPH COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

The Republican Convention for Randolph county is called to meet in the Court House in Asheboro on Saturday July 16, 1910, at 10:30 o'clock a. m., to nominate candidates for the General Assembly and for the various county offices, to elect delegates to the State, Congressional Judicial and Senatorial Conventions, to elect a chairman and county executive committee, and to transact such other business as may come before it.

The township primaries are called to meet at the various voting precincts on Saturday, July 9, 1910, at 3 o'clock, p. m., and instruct for such nominees as they may desire and elect delegates to the county convention, based upon the representation of one delegate to every twenty-five votes or fractional part thereof, cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in 1908; also to nominate candidates for Justices of the Peace and Constables and to elect township executive committee to consist of three active Republicans for each precinct which committee shall elect one of their number chairman. It is desired that there shall be a full attendance of Republicans as these primaries and that every township shall have a full representation in the county convention.

Hon. A. E. Holton and other prominent republicans will address the convention.

Done by order of the Executive Committee, this June 4th, 1910.

C. L. HOLTON,  
Chairman.

of the framers of the bill.

It is felt that it would be a great impediment to the railroads to have every new rate suspended and put through the eleven month's period of determination as to its reasonableness. Chairman Knapp discussed this feature of the law at some length with the President, and cited the refusal of the Commission to suspend the automobile and vehicle rates as an indication that the power of suspension is not to be used indiscriminately.

The Commission is anxious that there shall be as little friction with the railroads as possible, and, with President Taft, is anxious that nothing shall be done to menace the prosperity of the railroads so long as they comply with the terms of the law.

THE NEWSPAPER.

While it may be true that there are some newspapers in some places that are controlled through their advertising columns; that the department store controls the newspapers and the interests control the department store, and the news and editorials are colored through these influences, the great majority of newspapers and true as steel. Of the critics of the press is the braying of galled jades. Every good cause seeks the support of the newspaper and obtains it, while evil doers try to use or silence it and usually without success. To expose and oppose wrong is an almost involuntary rule among newspaper workers. The rule is to learn the facts and print them—to know the truth and not hide it under a bushel. The press stands for light, not darkness. It is the greatest power in modern civilization. Thieves and rascals of low and high degree hate and malign it, but no honest man has cause to fear the abuse of its power. It is a beacon, not a false light. It casts beams of light in dark places and brings countless crimes to light. Its name is light and its aim is knowledge. Ignorance and crime flee before it like mist before the sun.—Ex.

## A CARD FROM THE CIVIC LEAGUE.

No doubt every one has noticed with gratification the marked improvement in the cemetery grounds, but it may not be generally known that every one is invited and urged to contribute to a fund for the care of God's acre.

To those of us to whom the place is sacred the opportunity to have a part in this special care is deeply appreciated.

The amount of \$300 a year is being raised, and plot owners have agreed to pay \$6.00 per year; but any part of that amount would be gratefully accepted by the cemetery committee of which D. B. McCrary is Treasurer.

License to Wed.

Since June 23 marriage license have been issued by the register of deeds to the following:

- Geo. E. Woodell, Addie Vuncanon.
- Robt. E. Allred, Annie Maie Ellington.
- J. G. Dawkins, Flossie Staley.
- J. A. Brady, Dora Kivett.
- Wm. Baxter, Pearl Luck.
- R. E. Pool, Ardelia Boon.