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WASHINGTON LETTER

Do-Nothing Policy Still Rules Republicans

SOME "TEASERS" FOR PRESIDENT PASSED.

But the Legislation Urged by the Democrats, President Roosevelt and the People Will Be Left On Table—What Has Happened.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, D. C., April 20—Our Republican friends in Congress are so much behind the times as to still continue to be doing business at the legislative stand under the "continuation of the legislative day of Monday, April 6", as the Congressional Record puts it. That day is, therefore, the longest legislative day in the history of Congress and is still continuing. This is part of the plan to prevent the wicked Democrats from forcing the Republicans to pass some of the reform legislation recommended by President Roosevelt and approved by the Democrats. Under the continued strain of the do-nothing policy, which is producing remonstrance and protests from their constituents, most of the Republican congressmen, especially the leaders, have lost their tempers if not their usual foresight and political cunning. They are making history that they feel is not to their political advantage and yet cannot contrive a way of escape. While President Roosevelt fires special messages from the White House at them the Democrats have them beleaguered, and although the gag rules prevent the minority from discussing legislation to any great extent, yet the Democratic leaders find opportunity to tell some unpalatable truths.

Aldrich Bill.

The Republicans of the House are considering the question of holding a caucus on the emergency currency legislation, so that the Aldrich bill can be forced through under a special rule, without amendment or debate. This bill has been so changed in the Senate that it will be an entirely different measure from what it was when introduced in the Senate, and many declare it is now practically worthless. But something must be done towards emergency currency, if only to point to with pride as a Republican accomplishment.

Struggle for Early Adjournment.

Another struggle going on is to reach an agreement for an early adjournment, without getting a lecture from the President and perhaps an extra session called to consider the bills recommended by him. The date for adjournment agreed upon by the Republican leaders of both Houses is May 10, but I am informed by a leading Republican Senator that he does not think it possible to get through with the necessary business before a month later, but then this particular Senator is inclined to back up the President's recommendations and so may be committed to the consideration of such legislation.

The Senate seems determined not to be held responsible for the do-nothing policy of the House of Representatives, for the Army appropriation bill was passed, carrying over \$100,000,000, in about eighty minutes, and the Employers' liability bill without amendment, as it came from the House of Representatives, although the La Follette bill and others on the same subject were pending. It is currently reported that the Employers' liability bill as passed is unconstitutional like the former bill passed at the last session.

State of Legislation.

The present state of legislation is that three of the big appropriation bills have passed both houses and gone to conference. These are the army, the fortifications, and the legislative bills. There are numerous items of disagreement between the two houses on each of these bills, especially with regard to the army and the legislative bills. The Indian bill is now a law. The agricultural, the District of Columbia, the Pensions, and the Post-office appropriation bills have passed the House and

are now in Senate committees and will be reported and passed very shortly.

The principal measures in the House which remain to be disposed of are the sundry civil appropriation bill, the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill, the Military Academy appropriation bill, and the Aldrich currency measure, and all these will be acted upon without much difficulty, as recommended and urged by President Roosevelt. From the present disposition of the Republican leaders they will probably turn down the increased number of battle ships in spite of all the influence the President can bring to bear.

As showing the strained conditions between the White House and the Capitol the usual appropriation for \$35,000 for the expenses of the President and his friends in traveling has been omitted from the legislative appropriation bill and as free railroad trains are no longer legally available, the President will have to pay his railroad fare and the fares and expenses of those who accompany him like the balance of us after June 30.

The Republican presidential situation is still unsettled. The virtual failure of the friends of Gov. Hughes to control the New York delegation, and the split in the Massachusetts delegation, evidently helps Secretary Taft; but I am assured by Republicans who should be well informed, that the nomination of Taft is still in doubt. I am also told by those interested in the nomination of Senator Knox that if Taft is not nominated on the first ballot the reactionaries will finally center on the man for whom the Republicans of Pennsylvania have just declared.

DEATH OF MR. WILBORN.

Well Known Citizen Passes Away After Lingering Illness.

Mr. John W. Wilborn, a native of Randolph county, and a prominent business man of High Point, died at the home of Mrs. J. R. Reitzel, at High Point last Thursday, aged 48 years. Mr. Wilborn had been in ill health for several months.

Mr. Wilborn was a graduate of Trinity College and for many years was a minister of the M. P. church. When his health failed he devoted his time to school work, and during 15 years was the head of important schools in North and South Carolina. He was a member of the Jr. O. U. A. M. and at his death was Grand Prelate of the Knights of Pythias of North Carolina.

He is survived by his wife and many relatives in this section of the State.

York-Johnson.

Last Thursday evening at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Johnson, of Jamestown, their daughter, Miss Iva Bell, was married to Mr. O. F. York, the popular assistant ticket agent of the Southern at Greensboro.

Friday morning Mr. and Mrs. York left for Bristol to spend several days with relatives and friends.

Mr. York is well known in Randolph county and formerly lived in Columbia township.

Murchison Hanged.

Sam Murchison, the negro murderer of Chief of Police Benton of Fayetteville, was hanged in the Cumberland county jail last Thursday. Before the execution Murchison declared that his mind was fired by "blind tiger" whiskey and he did not realize the awful deed he committed on February 23d.

Moore County for Good Roads.

At a meeting recently held at Pinehurst a Good Roads Association was organized with Leonard Taft as president and G. H. Humber secretary and treasurer. A good roads rally and barbecue was held at Pinehurst last Saturday.

Boy Gets 10 Years.

Morris Leans, son of Atha Leans, of Louisburg, was last week sentenced to 10 years in the penitentiary for robbing his father of \$5000 a few weeks ago. The boy acknowledged his guilt but refused to tell where the money was hidden.

Met in Blacksmith Shop.

The Anson county Republican Convention met in H. C. Sailor's blacksmith shop at Wadesboro Saturday. The body stood "pat" for Taft and Adams.

Congressman Webb's Speech On Prohibition.

Speech Made in Congress and Reported by Mr. Bryant in the Charlotte Observer.

Representative Webb, of North Carolina, made a speech on the liquor traffic in the House last week. It was thorough, conservative and concise. A number of people complimented him on the way in which he acquitted himself.

In beginning his remarks Mr. Webb quoted Robert G. Ingersoll's famous paragraph on the curse of whiskey. Continuing he said:

The problem of the regulation of the whiskey traffic and absolute prohibition has agitated the minds of the people of the United States for the last fifteen years more than any other one question.

No careful observer of the times will deny that public sentiment against the whiskey traffic is growing stronger and stronger every day. Will any member sitting before me deny this? Has not this mighty sentiment against the traffic and saloon reached this capital city and this legislative hall? Only a few years ago our rooms were maintained in this Capitol Building. Now not a drop of whiskey is allowed to be sold anywhere within its mighty confines. The Congress took this step against the traffic. A few years ago the army canteen flourished among our soldier boys, but not so now. This Congress has forbidden it.

In 1906 Congress passed a law requiring the collectors of internal revenue to place conspicuously in their office, for public inspection a list of all persons who have paid a special license tax in his district and they shall furnish a copy of such list of persons to any prosecuting officer of any State, county or municipality upon demand by such officer.

The Helphurn-Doliver bill passed this House by almost a unanimous vote on January 27th, 1903, and died in the Senate. I verily believe, sir, that if a vote can be secured on that measure by the membership of this House, it will pass again by practically unanimous vote; and if it does so pass, it will not die so easily at the other end of the Capitol.

Saloon Has no Defenders.

The minister of God thunders against the traffic because it destroys morality and blights human souls; business men oppose it because it retards prosperity and undermines business ability; the economist condemns it because it destroys two billion dollars annually and gives nothing in return therefor. Even the owners of saloons demand sober men for bar-tenders. Great labor organizations are against the traffic because it brings poverty to so many of their members and unhappiness to so many homes. In fact there is scarcely a class of men that will now defend the open saloon.

Those individuals who defend the saloon do so largely on the ground that it is the only way to control the traffic; not that the saloon is a good thing, but that it is the best solution of this vexing question. I have no fault to find with the man who honestly and sincerely believes this, but I do think that his judgment is faulty. The courts of the United States, almost universally, have condemned the whiskey traffic. I have only time to quote from one judicial tribunal, and that is the Supreme Court of the United States, the greatest law body on earth.

Supreme Court View.

"We cannot shut out of view the fact, within the knowledge of all, that the public health, the public morals and the public safety is endangered by the general use of intoxicating liquors; nor the fact established by statistics accessible to everyone, that the idleness, disorder, pauperism and crime existing in the country are largely traceable to this evil."

Let it be understood that no man has the inherent or natural right to sell whiskey. The right to sell it depends upon the will of the people, for the United States Supreme Court in the case of Crowley vs. Christensen, 137 U. S. 85, has declared:

"There is no inherent right in a citizen to thus sell intoxicating liquors by retail; it is not a privilege

of a citizen of a State or of the United States."

Therefore, no barkeeper can cry that he is deprived of any inherent or natural right when the people, by their vote, tell him that he must not and shall not sell whiskey within the borders of a county or State.

I believe that the number of cotton mill owners who favor the liquor traffic in the great State from which I come—and it has more cotton mills than any other State in the Union—can be counted on the fingers of one hand. I am equally sincere in the belief that less than five per cent of the honest, industrious, homebuilding cotton mill operatives in North Carolina are in favor of the liquor traffic. It is the one great curse among them and they are using their best efforts to stamp it out of existence.

John Burns' Opinion.

The famous labor leader in England, John Burns, member of Parliament, recently declared to a great audience of working men in London, in discussing the liquor question:

"I deem it my duty to say that but for drink and its concomitant evils our problem would be smaller and our remedies more effective."

No one knows better than the laboring man the blighting, desolating effects of whiskey or to what depths of misery and shame it will drag him.

The merchant opposes the whiskey traffic not only on moral grounds, but because he has learned that the saloon in an inveterate foe to thrift and industry and lessens the capacity of his debtor to meet his obligations.

The farmer is opposed to the liquor traffic. He takes the high moral ground that he has no right to license a system whose chief business it is to destroy character, increase crime, enlarge the pauper class and darken homes. He opposes it on another ground out in the rural districts, far from the protecting hand of policemen and sheriff, he knows the danger of his wife and daughter from the drunken negro whose blood is heated and whose brain is unbalanced by the use of bad liquor. The negro seems to have inherited an appetite for intoxicants, and like the tiger when he tastes blood, the negro likewise when he becomes intoxicated, becomes enraged.

Let the farmers consult their wives and daughters as to whether or not any open saloon should exist in any county district of our fair State. For that matter, if you will leave the vote to the women of our State as to whether or not the saloon should exist in town or country, I guarantee the whiskey traffic would not have one ballot in its favor.

Prohibition Territory.

More than one half of this great republic of eighty millions of people have already adopted prohibition laws. The following Common wealths, aggregating a population of more than nine million people, have adopted absolute State prohibition, to-wit: Alabama, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, North Dakota and Oklahoma.

The people of the United States are waking up to the fact that the whiskey traffic is the most reckless destroyer of property, character and life that exists in our midst. Hon. Carroll D. Wright, while United States Commissioner of Labor, said:

"I have looked into a thousand homes of the working people of Europe; I do not know how many in this country. I have tried to find the best and the worst; and while, as I say, the worst exists, and as bad as under any system, or as bad as in any age; I have never had to look beyond the inmates to find the cause; and in every case, so far as my observation goes, drunkenness was at the bottom of misery, and not the industrial system or the industrial conditions surrounding the men and their families."

Intoxicating liquors each year cost the people of the United States more than the price of their annual product of wheat, cotton, gold, silver, led and precious stones. The tariff taxes collected by the United States government for a whole year

would scarcely pay the liquor bills of our people for sixty days.

The speaker gave figures to show how much is spent by the people of the country for liquor.

A Score of Crime.

The whiskey tariff, he said, is a faithful source of crime. In nearly eighty cases out of every one hundred crime has been committed where the defendant was under the influence of intoxicants. Someone will say "I am opposed to prohibition because it does not prohibit." Such a person might as well say he is opposed to the law against homicides and theft, because these do not prohibit such offenses.

Furthermore, the argument that prohibition does not prohibit is not a sound one, as is shown by the experience of those States that have adopted prohibition.

Mr. Webb backed this statement with statistics and quoted noted authorities.

From high testimonials, he continued, we can easily gather that prohibition is a blessing and a benefit morally and industrially to those States that have adopted it. Then why should not the voters and citizens who love peace, revere the law, hate crime and weep over sorrow, unite in one grand phalanx and on May 26th drive the saloon forever from the borders of our beloved and fair Carolina.

In concluding Mr. Webb quoted Henry W. Grady on liquor traffic.

MAY WIN ON FIRST BALLOT.

Prominent Politician Declares State for Craig With Large Majority.

A recent interview given out by a prominent politician on the nomination of a candidate for Governor at the Democratic State Convention in June, declares that Mr. Craig will be nominated on the first ballot, from all appearances of the primaries held so far in the State. The following table shows his strength in ten counties whose delegates have been instructed:

	Craig.	Kitchin.	Horne.
Graham	2	0	0
Polk	3	0	0
Buncombe	22	0	0
Yancy	7	0	0
MitCHELL	3	0	0
Burke	6 1-2	1-2	0
Ashe	5.07	3.37	1.56
Alexander	4 1-2	0	1-2
Iredell	13 1-2	1 1-4	1-4
Stanley	3	1	3
McDowell	6	0	0
Swain	3	0	0
Wilkes	1.98	6.16	.86

Watauga county instructed unanimously for Mr. Craig since the above was printed.

Mr. Craig now has more than 100 votes and no other candidate has more than 15.

Unusual strength is expected in the central and eastern part of the State, and though Mr. Craig should not be nominated on the first ballot he will finally be nominated by 100 majority, says the interview.

Mysterious Suicide.

Phillip R. Meade, son of Rev. W. H. Meade, rector of the Episcopal church, committed suicide at Chapel Hill Saturday. The deceased was 35 years old and was a perfect specimen of physical manhood and a noted ball player. Mr. Meade had been despondent for some time and it is believed that he had troubles of which no one knew.

Ruined by Wreckless Gambling.

Clarence Mohler, manager of the Union News Company branch at Raleigh, disappeared last Friday and an investigation of his books shows him to be short in his accounts about \$300.00. He came to Raleigh from Staunton, Va., and for several months he has been known to be a wreckless gambler.

Surry County Apples.

J. B. Sparger, of Mt. Airy, reports that in Surry county the prospect is good for an immense apple crop this year. He thinks the season too far advanced to suffer from frost and the heavy bloom warrants the prediction of the heaviest crop in ten years.

State Fair in October.

The Forty-Eighth Annual State Fair will be held at Raleigh in October. The Fair will open Monday the 12th, and close Saturday the 17th.

CLOSE OF SCHOOL.

Program for the Closing of Graded Schools.

REV. T. M. JOHNSON TO PREACH ANNUAL SERMON.

Closing Concert by Pupils—Dr. Cranford Will Address Graduating Class On the Evening of May 8th.

The Asheboro Graded Schools will close Friday May 8th. The program for the commencement season is about completed.

The annual sermon before the faculty and pupils of the Asheboro Graded School will be preached in school auditorium at 11 o'clock a.m., Sunday, May 3d, by Rev. T. M. Johnson, of Asheboro, N. C. On Thursday following, May 7th, at 7:30 p. m. an entertainment will be given by intermediate and higher grades. The regular graduating exercises will be held at 7:30 p. m. May 8th. Following these exercises the literary address will be delivered by Dr. W. J. Cranford, of Trinity College, Durham, N. C.

The exercises of the colored school will be held on night of April 30th, and May 1st, with literary address on Monday night following.

Program for closing exercises of colored graded school has been arranged as follows: Thursday night April 30th—primary grades entertain. Friday night May 1st—intermediate and grammar school grades entertain.

Sunday May 3rd—Annual sermon. Monday night May 4th—Annual address by Dr. J. D. Chavis, A. & M. College, Greensboro, N. C. Strong programs have been prepared. Public is invited to be present.

COUNTY CONVENTION.

Number of Votes to Which Each Township is Entitled.

Township.	Votes Cast.	Conv. Vote.
Trinity	171	7
W. New Market	66	3
E. New Market	17	1
Providence	107	4
Liberty	149	6
Tabernacle	147	6
Back Creek	74	3
Randleman	264	11
W. Franklinville	67	3
E. Franklinville	125	5
Columbia	228	9
Concord	126	5
Cedar Grove	56	2
Grant	46	2
Coleridge	123	5
New Hope	140	6
Union	93	4
Richland	99	4
Brower	46	2
Pleasant Grove	52	2
Asheboro	213	9

In another column will be found the call of the Democratic Executive Committee of Randolph county, for the county convention to be held at the courthouse at Asheboro on Saturday, May 2nd, at 11 o'clock. It will be interesting to know the number of votes to which each township is entitled. Below is the list of townships, the convention vote and the number of votes recorded by Hon. R. B. Glenn for Governor in 1904:

Township.	Votes Cast.	Conv. Vote.
Trinity	171	7
W. New Market	66	3
E. New Market	17	1
Providence	107	4
Liberty	149	6
Tabernacle	147	6
Back Creek	74	3
Randleman	264	11
W. Franklinville	67	3
E. Franklinville	125	5
Columbia	228	9
Concord	126	5
Cedar Grove	56	2
Grant	46	2
Coleridge	123	5
New Hope	140	6
Union	93	4
Richland	99	4
Brower	46	2
Pleasant Grove	52	2
Asheboro	213	9

DANVILLE, VA., "DRY".

Eighteen Saloons and Two Breweries to Cease Business May 1st.

The town of Danville, Va., was voted "Dry" in an election held last Wednesday by a majority of 45 out of 937 votes cast. It was the most enthusiastic election ever held and only eight votes remained to be cast when the polls closed. The election means that eighteen saloons and two breweries must cease business on May 1st.

Col. W. P. Wood for Lieut.-Governor.

Having seen the name of Col. W. P. Wood mentioned in various newspapers for Lieutenant-Governor, I want to call attention in this way to the fact that I believe he is the man for the place. Having served two terms in the House and one in the Senate and having served as chairman of the Finance Committee, the most important committee in the General Assembly, his experience and ripe wisdom and sound judgment would especially fit him for the position of president of the Senate.

J. A. PARKS.
Ramsour, N. C., April 21.