

# Sylvan Valley News

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## CANDIDATES ARE BUSY AT NATION'S CAPITAL

### PROGRAM FOR CONGRESS OUTLINED

Chas. A. Edwards Gives Interesting Article About National Affairs.

So far as presidential politics is concerned the boomers of both parties' candidates are booming along in the same old way, and where there is hilarity in some headquarters there is corresponding gloom in others.

The republican standpatters or reactionaries and the republican progressives are still hammering one another to the delight and delectation of all democrats.

The Roosevelt people are making all the claims and the Taft people are getting all the delegates. Roosevelt is going to be the worst disappointed man in the United States after the Chicago convention. It is impossible for him not to be so now on account of his exaggerated ego. A few down and out politicians who want a change in the republican administration, simply because they are down and out, told Mr. Roosevelt that he had only to come out with the statement that he would accept the nomination to set the country absolutely on fire. It agreed so well with his own estimate of his popularity that he expected to see the light of the blaze even at Oyster Bay. When the crash comes at Chicago next June poor old Roosevelt and his ambitions will fall flatter than a pumpkin pie from the top of the Washington monument. He will be the worst discredited man in the United States and his advisers will have done him the greatest injustice and his overweening egotism has done the greatest injury that ever came to any man who was ever president of the United States.

The democratic program in the house of representatives is being put through with clock like regularity. The leaders are getting a move on themselves because they are anxious to clean up the program and have everything done so that congress can adjourn before the national conventions are held in June. They have put through the free sugar bill and will this week put through the excise bill, which means the income tax and send the whole kit and bin over to the republican senate. It is then up to the senate to make the next move. The democrats then intend to take up the cotton schedule, and lastly the woolen schedule and that probably will be all the tariff legislation they will attempt at this session of congress. After they do this they will have kept their pledges to the people of the country to reduce the tariff on the necessities of life, and then whether a republican senate kills those bills or a republican president vetoes them, it will make no difference to the democrats. The people of the country will then know who it is keeps their pledges and who it is that goes back on them.

So far as presidential politics is concerned, the last week has shoved Mr. Clark in the front as a leader in this race. He has captured Kansas, and his boomers and managers say that he will also capture Iowa, Wisconsin, Arkansas, South Dakota and Minnesota. They are also claiming Illinois. If he does so it will look very much as though Mr. Clark had a good chance to receive the nomination.

The Wilson people are still giving it out that there is a combination between Clark, Harmon and Underwood and that they are not fighting one another. In the interest of justice and fairness it would be well to say that this statement is not correct, for the Clark, Harmon and Underwood people are all fight-

ing one another for delegates in the states of Illinois, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Arkansas and Tennessee. If there were a combination amongst the people they would not be fighting one another in those states, and it does no good for one presidential aspirant to fight the work of another in the same party because it develops discord and hurts the candidate after he is nominated.

CHAS. A. EDWARDS.

## SABBATH DAY OBSERVANCE

I wish to write a communication or two for our county paper on God's law regarding the observance of the Sabbath day. I take the ground that running trains on the railroads, either freight or passenger, and publishing newspapers on the Sabbath day is a plain violation of the law of God and a great sin.

God says: "Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgressions, and the house of Jacob their sins."—Isaiah, 58:1. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God; in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man servant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it."—Exodus 20:8-11.

And while the children of Israel were in the wilderness they found a man that gathered sticks on the Sabbath day. And they that found him gathering sticks brought him unto Moses and Aaron, and unto all the congregation. And they put him in ward, because it was not declared what should be done unto him.

And the Lord said unto Moses, "The man shall be surely put to death; all the congregation shall stone him with stones without the camp. And all the congregation brought him without the camp, and stoned him with stones, and he died, as the Lord commanded Moses."—Num. 15:32-35.

This example was evidently introduced to illustrate the foregoing law. A certain person was observed gathering sticks on the Sabbath day in contempt of the commandment, and he was condemned as a presumptuous offender to be stoned, for a warning to the rest, which sentence was executed the next day.

These men who run trains on the railroads, publish newspapers, trading, paying wages, settling accounts, writing letters of business, trifling visits, journeys, excursions, dissipation or conversation which serves only for amusement, cannot consist with "keeping a day holy to the Lord," and sloth is a carnal, not a spiritual, rest. These are as much works of presumption and sin against the law of God, as gathering sticks on the Sabbath day.

Suppose these were all stoned to death? Then what?

Works of piety, mercy and necessity are allowed by the law of God; all other work is positively forbidden.

Read Matt. 12:10-13, Luke 13:14-17. People violate the law of God to make money, obtain things that perish with the using, and pleasures that will end in eternal pain.

F. M. JORDAN.

## HOTELS AND BOARDING HOUSES

If you want your hotel or boarding house advertised please tell us the name of your place and give us full information at once as to daily, weekly or monthly rates, and the number of guests you can accommodate, so that this may be included in our list of such places throughout this section of North Carolina. Address Greater Western North Carolina Association, Asheville, N. C.

## BATTLESHIP MAINE IS CONSIGNED TO WAVES

### SIDNA EDWARDS IS CAPTURED

The Outlaw Gang is Now Surrounded and will Surely Be Taken.

#### Buried After Fifteen Years.

With all the pomp and solemnity a mighty nation can pay its heroes of war, the last of the battleship Maine's dead were laid away Saturday in Arlington cemetery. Side by side with the bodies of men brought back from Havana after the war they were buried while the nation paid its last measure of honor to the "unidentified" of the great catastrophe.

Seldom in the country's history has there been paid a higher tribute to the memory of any man or men than was paid today to the 61 dead bodies of the Maine. Government business here was suspended by executive order. President Taft, members of his cabinet, the highest officers of the army and navy and the marine corps, department officials and members of the diplomatic corps participated in the exercises. Over 2,000 government buildings, Congress flags hung at half-mast. Congress adjourned for the day. The booming of minute guns and the tramp of soldiery added a touch of the military pomp and an elaborate program was followed in the ceremonies of burial beginning with the removal of the dead from the U. S. S. Birmingham, which brought the bodies from Havana and ending with the firing of three volleys over the graves in Arlington. The exercises were held on a broad plaza fronting the south end of the war, state and navy buildings. The speakers were President Taft, Father Chadwick, chaplain of the Maine, and Chaplain Bayard, U. S. N. The marine band furnished music and an army battery stationed near the Washington monument fired a 21 gun salute as the ceremonies at the navy building ended, and the quiet march to Arlington began. Conspicuous among officials for whom reservations were made just behind the president on the steps of the big granite building were Rear-Admiral Charles D. Sigbee, who commanded the Maine at the time of the explosion; Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright and other officers of the battleship at the time.

#### Sidna Edwards is Captured

Sidna Edwards, a tall, rugged mountaineer of 22, sat calmly in the darkness of the little brick jail at Hillsville Friday night, the first catch of the posses who have been scouring the mountains for those of the Allen gang who got away after the court house assassination of March 14, when a judge, prosecutor, sheriff and two bystanders were killed and two others seriously wounded. A reward of \$1,000 had been offered for young Edwards.

Tonight young Edwards, emaciated and worn from a week's wandering in the thicket, protests his innocence of the indictment of murder against him, and the hunters spurred on by a day's success, are up in the Blue Ridge hunting on the same charge his brother, Wesley Edwards, his uncle, Sidney Allen, and his cousins, Claude and Fred Allen.

Detectives LeGrand Felts and W. W. Phaut, heading a posse, came upon Edwards at 4 o'clock Friday morning asleep in an empty hut a mile from his home. He was unarmed and when he woke the detectives were at his side. He made no resistance and went to a farmer's house near Lumburg, Va., and started for Hillsville with his captors early Friday morning. Jack

Allen, his uncle—one of the Allens who was not at the court house on the day of the tragedy—joined his nephew on the way to town and galloped along with the party. In the presence of Detective Felts, Edwards talked freely.

"I know nothing of the cause of the court house shooting," he said. "I walked into the court room when I saw Uncle Floyd jump up and say something. I could not hear what it was. Right away somebody began to shoot from about Clerk Good's desk, but I don't know who fired the first shot. I saw Uncle Sidna after the shooting began. I did not see my cousins or my brothers. As soon as I could, with my lame foot, I got out of the court house and stood at the bottom of the steps. I saw Uncle Sidna and Mr. Good shoot at one another. After it was over I got my mother's horse and rode home. Before I left I saw Uncle Floyd on a horse and then I saw him lying on the ground. If he had been able to ride we would have taken him away with us. I saw my brother Wesley on the road and that afternoon I saw Uncle Sidna at his store. I have never seen any of them or heard tell anything about them or where they are since that evening.

"I stayed at home until Sunday and had started to a neighbor's when I saw the officers. I was in plain view from the road and they could have taken me then, but I didn't go back home because I heard the officers had orders to shoot all of us on sight. I went about and lived the best I could until the officers run up on me. I did not have a pistol at the court house, or while I was trying to keep from being arrested."

It is understood that witnesses before the grand jury which returned the indictments testified that Sidna Edwards handed a pistol on the court house green to Sidna Allen to enable the latter to continue his pistol duel with Clerk Good.

## FIVE AND A HALF MILLION PLANTS

Attention, ye cabbage growers, and other farmers who will not believe that the world moves, and that Transylvania does not hold the world in a sling, and read the following. A little settlement, with intensive cultivation and liberal fertilization, has become, at certain seasons, the greatest express office in the South. This land is no better than ours, but as long as we fall back on our haunches and believe we know it all and sneer at book farming, just that long we delay the happy millennium of being abreast with our neighbors. To scratch the ground, run a straight furrow, and plant unselected seed and infertile plants, and be stingy with fertilizers, is to be a back number. Just read the following and be wise:

"Five and one-half million cabbage plants, shipped out over the Atlantic Coast Line in six Southern Express cars, was the new record established by Charleston county yesterday. To ship out in one day nearly \$5,000 worth of cabbage plants is a record that, it is believed, has never been duplicated anywhere on the face of the earth, and that probably stands as something new under the sun.

"It took the combined forces of the biggest cabbage kings of the world, all of whom plant in this section, to do this stunt. The plants came from such well-known cabbage men as Norman H. Blitch, William C. Geraty, C. F. Hethington, Carr-Carlton Company and G. L. Sands. The cabbages are to be distributed throughout the South and as far West as Missouri.

"Norman H. Blitch, of Meggetts, is said to be the largest grower of cabbages in the world. He plants more than 1,000 acres, and it costs him annually more than \$125,000 to cultivate his crop. William C. Geraty, of Young's Island, is said to be the largest shipper of cabbage plants, shipping more than 50,000,000 annually, worth approximately between \$40,000 and \$50,000. Several years ago his bookings were for 100,000,000 plants—about 100 carloads?"

## "RAISING THE LEVEL" IN EDUCATIONAL WORK

### AN ESSAY BY A GRADUATE OF PENROSE SCHOOL

Several Pebbles are Necessary, Not the Least of Which is Good Roads.

The following essay was written by Miss Jeannette Talley and read at the commencement exercises of the Penrose High School last Friday. Miss Talley belonged to the first graduating class of the high school.

"A crow, perishing with thirst, saw a pitcher and flew to it, hoping to find water there. He found a little water in the bottom of the pitcher, but it was so low he could not reach it. Then he looked around to see what he could do and spied some pebbles. He brought these one by one and dropped them into the pitcher until the water was brought within his reach."

Like the crow thirsting for water, there are boys and girls thirsting for knowledge. They have flown and are flying to our rural schools. They find knowledge there, but often so many hindrances are in the way that they must remain unsatisfied.

It should be the purpose of all who are interested in the cause of education to contribute to the work of raising the level of the life-giving water of knowledge, so that it shall be more and more accessible to an ever increasing number. Much has already been done. We quote the following from a work on education:

"Four hundred years ago there were no public schools in Europe. There were no schools for girls anywhere. The great mass of the people was kept in a state of ignorance and barbarism. The school teachers of that time were a decidedly disreputable lot of men. The school buildings harmonized well with the appearance and character of the keepers who infested them. A writer of that time says that the future teachers and rulers were instructed in nasty, filthy houses, among cats and mice, flies, house-bugs, and whatever else there was of bursaria."

The barbarism and ignorance in instruction and discipline were appalling. The level of the water has been very perceptibly raised since that time. How has it been accomplished? It has been done by the self-sacrificing labors of men whose hearts were open to progress and who could see the need of their own and of the future generations. It has not been done by those who were willing to accept anything as good enough, which did not disturb them in their personal and present ease. Nor has it been done by those who indulge the habit of opposing whatever is attempted by others.

The names of those persons who are worthy of honor in the educational field are many, but there are a few who stand out so prominently that it is fitting to mention them here.

There was Martin Luther who had the courage and strength to break down the iron barred door of Roman Catholicism and thereby point captive souls the way to the freedom of universal intelligence.

Roger Ascham, the Greek tutor of Queen Elizabeth, who adopted as his motto "Multum non multa," insisted that the child should be taught to understand, not merely to memorize, and to be filled with a love of learning, a desire to labor, a will to take pains.

These two lived in the sixteenth century.

In the seventeenth we have Comenius, the first author of methodically arranged text-books.

To the nineteenth century be-

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