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Wednesday, June 11, 1913.

The Governor's Stand

While Governor Craig does not say so, one may infer that the special session of the legislature which will consider the constitutional amendments will also deal with the question of freight rate discrimination, as it affects North Carolina. In the interests of economy it is more than likely that the one session of the legislature will consider the constitutional amendments and the freight rate question. That there is, and has been discrimination in freight rates in favor of adjoining states and against North Carolina is apparent from the following statement of Governor Craig yesterday:

"We have not heretofore realized that the Southern railway hauls freight from the Ohio river cities through Paint Rock, Asheville, Marion, Statesville, Salisbury, Greensboro and to Lynchburg; that it charges Asheville a higher freight rate for this freight from the west than it does Statesville; that it charges Statesville a higher rate than it does Salisbury; Salisbury a higher rate than Greensboro, and Greensboro a great deal higher rate than it does Lynchburg. The further it hauls this freight the less it charges for it. This same condition applies to all the cities of North Carolina. They are all discriminated against in favor of cities in Virginia and cities of other states by railroads doing interstate business. The discrimination is purely arbitrary. The railroads themselves do not pretend to justify. It cannot be justified. It is not strange that people from one end of North Carolina to the other are aroused on this subject. How can cities of North Carolina compete with cities of other states when common carriers by arbitrary edict issued by financiers of New York have denied to the cities of North Carolina simple justice and equity?"

What the governor cites is largely common knowledge. In specific instances cited by Mr. Leake Carraway, of Charlotte, secretary of the North Carolina Just Freight Rate association, there have been differences of \$20 and \$25 in shipments from the far west to Virginia and North Carolina. Four cases are quoted herewith: The Boykin Grocery company recently received a car of fruit jars from Sand Springs, Okla., to Berkeley, Va., at \$4.00 from Berkeley, Va., to Wilson, N. C., at \$105.60. C. Woodard company received a car of flour, the freight from Grand Rapids, Mich., to Norfolk, Va., at \$5.21 from Norfolk, Va., to Wilson, N. C., at \$3.68. Mackay Bros. received a car of gear wood, the freight from Zanesville, Ohio, to Norfolk, Va., at \$7.00 from Norfolk, Va., to Wilson, N. C., at \$75.60.

As a matter of fact the railroads of this state do not contend that there is no discrimination—the figures speak for themselves. The people of North Carolina are not asking for special favors—only equality with other sections of the country. The stand which Governor Craig takes on this question is one that is greatly to his credit, and one that will make to the glory and lustre of his administration. Of him it may be said that he is a governor and not an ornament.

The Bottle Doomed

One of the great Eastern railroads has issued a drastic order touching the consumption of liquor, or any kind of intoxicants, not only during work hours but at any time. In substance the order decrees that men "addicted to the use of intoxicants in any shape or form can not find employment with this company." Those of a legal frame of mind may be inclined to put rather liberal construction on the word "addicted," but the intention of the company is undoubtedly to bar the man who is even a "moderate drinker." In fact the man who drinks at all had better not apply for a position. The world is surely moving on, and

we are a long way from the day when the "good fellow" with generous paunch and ruddy countenance had carte blanche into all walks of life. The drinker and the drunkard are alike anathema today; they are wanted nowhere; no trust is reposed in them. The long trail of wrecks which alcohol has marked as its own today preaches an eloquent sermon to old and young alike, and no one can doubt that the next generation will look upon the drunkard as a curiosity and a thing to be shunned by all decent men.

A recent article in the Birmingham Age-Herald declared that not only has alcohol become taboo in all business walks of life, but it is rapidly becoming an outcast even in the field of politics. "The day of the statesman who makes a specialty of drinking himself into a drunkard's grave has passed," said the writer. The day of the old style convention when the great political leaders would gather from all parts of the state, and the rank and file would be on hand to whoop them up 'til Liza Jane. The most effective persuader on the average delegate was to take him off in the corner and pour oil of joy in his system until he was amenable to reason. If he got too far gone they would abstract his proxy from him and send him home in a cart. All this kind of thing is past. In the next great political struggle the emblems of the two principle parties may be emblazoned upon their banners—upon the one a bunch of grapes, and upon the other the homely but cheerful feature of the good old American cow.

Yes, we are moving on, steadily and surely. The banquet, too, that abominable which has survived the years is doomed. The cheap and ready wit and the exuberant oratory of "we have with us tonight" is going out with rum and whiskey. Within the next four or five years the present generation will look in vain at the festive board, where great issues are discussed, for that which at one time cheered and inebriated.

Notes and Comments

The new booklet just issued by the Southern railway, dealing with the advantages of Western North Carolina, is a thing of beauty and a joy forever.

For nine months in the year we cry for summer amusements, and when excellent attractions are here we will not go to them. What's wrong?

"No sort of weather for the bvd," says our afternoon neighbor, The Gazette-News. From which we infer that it is not safe to don the short ones.

In yesterday's game the English polo players didn't even make a notch. But keep your eye on the second game.

Well, Asheville could have taken the two games yesterday, but she wanted to be courteous to the Bulls on their first appearance.

Asheville has already broken into the internal revenue department.

"THIS DATE IN HISTORY."

- June 11, 1646—The first patent in America granted to Joseph Jenks, a machinist of Lynn, Mass. 1672—Peter the Great of Russia, born. Died Feb. 8, 1725. 1776—John Constable, famous landscape painter, born. Died March 30, 1837. 1782—Colonel Crawford put to death by the Indians near Upper Sandusky, O. 1847—Sir John Franklin, famous explorer, perished in the Arctic region. Born in England in 1784. 1887—Rev. William B. Stevens, fourth Episcopal bishop of Pennsylvania, died in Philadelphia. Born in Bath, Me., July 13, 1815. 1888—Lord Stanley of Preston, assumed office as governor general of Canada. 1902—King and queen of Serbia assassinated at Belgrade.

"THIS IS MY 56 BIRTHDAY."

Leland O. Howard. Dr. Leland O. Howard, who is reputed to have the widest personal acquaintance among scientists of any man in America and who, because of his vast knowledge covering the various fields of science is frequently called "the living encyclopedia," was born in Rockford, Ill., June 11, 1857. Dr. Howard is an entomologist by profession, though many other branches of science have claimed his attention. In 1878 he became an assistant in the bureau of entomology of the United States department of agriculture and since 1884 he has been the chief of the bureau. For nearly fifteen years Dr. Howard has held the position of permanent secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has been honored with membership also in many foreign scientific societies.

CHAPLAINS IN SESSION.

WASHINGTON, June 10.—Roman Catholic chaplains of the United States army and navy are gathered here today to confer on problems dealing with the religious needs in the military establishment. The conference is the first of its kind. It will continue three days.

Railroad cars with platforms and vestibules that would collapse in event of wreck have been patented by an Ohioan to lessen the danger to passengers.

The English city of Birmingham is the principal source of the world's supply of pew's harps, one family having carried on their manufacture for 88 years.

Voice of the People COURTS AND CRITICISM.

To the Editor: Your editorial on "Courts and Criticism," deserves the consideration of all right-thinking persons. I believe it to be the judgment of sober-minded men that there should be found a stain upon the ermine in any section a condition to be deplored, yet in the trite but terse phrase, there is much food for thought in the opinion of the writer whom you represent as holding that "the criticism of national institutions was the forerunner of anarchy." I would agree unreservedly with the writer, if he means the promiscuous and malignant criticism of public men whether national or local. Few thoughtful men will deny that there are unfortunately numbers of wild-eyed, misguided men, who like the wild asses of the desert kick at everything and everybody.

No one realizes more than President Woodrow Wilson, whose eloquent quotation you give in your editorial, whether we are tending in the matter of irrational criticism of our public men. He gives the following instance in an article on "Hide and Seek Politics" in the North American Review (May, 1912): "A sheriff in one of the states suffered a prisoner to be taken from him by a mob and hanged. He made no show or pretense even of resistance. The governor of the state wrote him a sharp letter of rebuke for his criminal neglect of his duty. He replied in an open letter in which he bluntly requested the governor to mind his own business. The interesting feature of his reply was not his impudence, but the fact that it could be written with perfect impunity. He was never called to account for what he had done."

Public men are frequently pursued with relentlessness. Nothing is held too private; nothing too sacred. The question is, How far shall this be permitted, and how long? One who debauches public office is a greater criminal than one who commits an indictable offense against an individual. "Impeccability" to such an one, from severe criticism ought by no means be granted; but every man has the right to have the truth told about him. The arduousness of public life has made many men, most worthy and capable, shrink from accepting public office. One wonders whether: will ever become true in America, as it was in Rome at one time, where the burdens of public office was so great that a monument was erected to him who accepted public office.

Appropos of the courts, however, cases may be cited wherein judges have been guilty of breaches of public faith. Likewise instances may be multiplied wherein the courts, both federal and state, have apparently stood in the way of social, economic and political advance, through their application of the "legal rules of thumb." All these things, however, go to the strength of proving that judges are merely human. On the whole, nevertheless, the student of government must grant that both the federal and state courts have been the only effective protection against oligarchy, one the one hand, and the excesses of populism on the other. What of personal liberty, what of protection we now have against the taking of private property without due process of law, and the infringement of property and personal rights, have been due altogether to these courts, their painfully slow procedure to the contrary notwithstanding.

The supreme court of the United States is the most powerful court as well as the most powerful institution in the world, and is without a parallel in history, either ancient or modern. At one touch it can wipe out the legislation of a state like N. Y. York, wealthier than nearly all of the ancient kingdoms combined, yet it is a court "which has no guards, palaces or treasures, no arms but truth and wisdom, and no splendor but its justice, and the publicity of its judgements." Upon it has never rested the faintest suspicion of partisanship. It was just as honestly convinced of its course when it decided the Dred Scott decision as when it upheld the Union in the war between the states. Its influence is due to the distinguished ability of its members as well as their integrity and self-restraint. The courts of our land have kept us free from excesses of the French revolution more than any other agency of government.

The point is simply this. Freedom of thought and freedom of expression is absolutely necessary in a democracy to government like ours, but unrestrained freedom of expression ought to be another matter. He who claims the political rights of a free citizen ought not to disclaim the moral obligations that go with them. ROBERT C. GOLDSTEIN.

ANOTHER VIEW.

Editor The Citizen: With regard to the segregation of the people who come to Asheville for their health, would it not be well for those of us who gather our skirts about us and pass over on the other side, to consider the meaning to real benefits that the city and the community at large has derived from these very same people. What was this city but a little village twenty years ago, whose money has paved and lighted these streets, whose money supports the innumerable and big shops and other concerns; what other city on the continent looks to the sick to finance the board of health? The average expense of a patient is a hundred dollars a month, and this goes on indefinitely; all give it willingly and cheerfully as a means to an end. And what do they get in return? God's beautiful air and sunshine, which fortunately no one can take from them. But what else? Hopes that are doomed to disappointment; plans that come to nothing; dreams that cannot be realized; health that rarely comes satisfactorily, and if ever—very, very slowly. All leave friends and associations behind more precious than anything they have on earth to enter upon a life of sorrowful loneliness and surrounded by an afflicted child with hysterical "T. B. Phobia," whose one desire is to banish "God's burden bearers" from civilization. Yes, Asheville is certainly a city of sorrows, a battlefield, although the stricken or dead are not visible. They are here, too. Ah! live and let live! Let us be kind to one another. Diseases and pains come to all alike, whether we

fly from them or not, rich or poor, black and white, and let us remember "lest we forget," "let him that standeth take heed lest he fall."

B. A. COURIER, Asheville, June 8.



The Melon Season.

(Baltimore Sun.) The \$60,000,000 "melon" which the Standard Oil company proposes to put in New York next week is enough to make the public's mouth water. After all, it comes out of the people's garden. This is the melon season and nearly everybody is interested in that juicy fruit. Can't the authorities at Washington find a way to send a few slices of these trust melons to the people's table?

Alfalfa Associations.

(Savannah News.) Alfalfa associations, after the order of corn clubs, except that the former are among grown farmers, are being formed in South Carolina. One farmer, a member of the alfalfa association of Rock Hill, has 40 acres in it and is planning to plant 75 acres in the fall. Why shouldn't similar associations be formed in Georgia? Already a quantity of alfalfa is being grown in this state, but by any means as much as there should be. Alfalfa growing means cattle raising, and Georgia can't have too many cattle.

More Publicity.

(Charlotte Chronicle.) The agricultural and other departments at Washington are wise in accepting the suggestion of Ambassador Walter H. Page that they give more publicity to their work. The agricultural department, for instance, has been publishing valuable pamphlets for years for free distribution among the farmers, but only during the past few years have the farmers of the country generally known that they could secure them. The result is that probably more of these pamphlets have been distributed during the past few years than during the previous 25. Secretary Houston especially is preparing to put into operation the suggestion of Mr. Page.

The Worst Kind of Praise.

(Macon News.) The house of representatives acted wisely in refusing to consider a resolution which proposed thanks to Speaker Clark for his statement that there is not a representative whose vote can be purchased.

This resolution was introduced by Mr. Austin, of Tennessee, who asked unanimous consent for its adoption. Mr. Underwood objected and there the matter ended.

Self-praise is the worst praise, and, besides, the declaration of the house as to its own virtue would not establish the fact.

About 1,900 years ago, Pliny, the younger, observed: "The splendor of an action, which would have been deemed illustrious if related by another, is totally extinguished when it becomes the subject of one's own applause."



Unconscious Brown.

Often times musicians complain of lack of appreciation, but here is a pleasant instance of one who won more admiration than he had ever aspired to.

A Chinese minstrel in Washington went to hear the Marine band play. Particularly was he impressed with the trombone player, so much so, in fact, that he offered him a handsome engagement in China.

"I have never seen a juggler," said the visitor, "who could swallow as much brass pipe as you and spit it out again, and yet the people here regard it with utter lack of enthusiasm."—Harper's Magazine.

Time For Tears.

Mrs. Browning had a new domestic named Agnes. "Agnes," said the mistress, "did you put the clothes in soak?" "Oh did not," answered the girl; "did you want me to, mum?" "Why, certainly," was the reply. "Very well, mum," said Agnes. About two hours later Agnes presented herself to her mistress.

"Oh have put them clothes in soak, mum," she said, "but the pawnbroker will give me only chew dollars on the whole outfit. Here be th' money, an' it's sorry O'm that ye bees so harrud up."—Harper's Magazine.

Fine Weather Prolongs Her Life.

"Ever notice it?" "What?" "The office boy never buries his grandmother on a rainy afternoon."—Boston Transcript.

A New Beast.

One of the students in an English university, wishing to turn an honest penny during his vacation, decided to introduce a new and popular encyclopedia into the country districts. Needless to say, he had many queer and amusing experiences. At one place he found an old farmer working in the fields.

"I'd like to sell you a new encyclopedia," said the agent. "Well, young feller," said the farmer, "I'd like to have one, but I'm afeard I'm too old to ride the thing."—New York Globe.

Superfluous Teaching.

A benevolent old gentleman one day saw a rural looking man sitting on a stone wall swinging his legs and gazing earnestly at the telegraph wires. Going over to the yokel he said: "Waiting to see a message go 'long, eh?" The man grinned and said "Ay." The benevolent old gentleman got on the wall for the next quarter of an hour tried hard to dispel his ignorance.

"Now," he said at last, "as you know something about the matter, I

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hope you will spread your knowledge among your mates on the farm. "But I don't work on a farm," replied the rural citizen. "Where, then, may I ask?" "Mo and my mates are telegraph linemen and we are testing a new wire."—New York Globe.

PARCEL POST DEFECT.

(New York Sun.) The evidence concerning the operation of the parcel post given before the postoffice department investigating committee is of considerable interest to the public. It was not to be expected that a system that has been inaugurated only a few months should work smoothly in every detail. That minor reforms would be required was only to be anticipated, and the parcel post service has been further handicapped by recent legislation respecting the hours of postal clerks. When, however, responsible merchants declare in their evidence that their use of the parcel post has been reduced by nearly two-thirds since its inception and that they have been compelled, however unwillingly, to give their business back to the express companies, it is obvious that something is seriously wrong. The almost universal complaint seems to be of carelessness in the handling of packages. One merchant testified: "Our early experience with the parcel post was that about one-half of these packages (i. e., packages liable to be damaged through crushing) arrived at their destination in a damaged condition." And similar testimony was given by other witnesses. If the parcel post department cannot handle any but packages that are impervious to rough treatment it is evident that its usefulness to the community, as well as its potentiality of becoming a source of profit to the government, will not be of much account. In other countries where the system is in effect damages to packages in transit is comparatively rare, and there appears no reason why a similar security should not be obtained here.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT. Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., May 29, 1913. Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p. m., on June 17, 1913, and then opened for a new heating boiler, breeching, stack, etc., in the post office and courthouse, Asheville, N. C., in accordance with the specifications, copies of which may be obtained at this office, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect. O. Wenderoth, Supervising Architect.

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MOBILE PLAYER SOLD. FIFTY ARE DROWNED. MOBILE, Ala., June 10.—The manager of the Mobile club announces the sale of Walter Tolson, the young college hurler, to the Roanoke (Va.) team of the Virginia league, and he will report immediately. ST. PETERSBURG, June 10.—Fifty persons were drowned by the sinking of a dilapidated boat while crossing the River Techepta on the Russian Ascension day, June 5, according to delayed dispatches today from Vyatka.