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A PLEASANT OUTING.

Several of the State officials accompanied by one or two advisors left Raleigh Tuesday for Lake Mattamuskeet and other points of interest in Eastern Carolina. They will make the trip from Washington in nice automobiles driven by competent chauffeurs. The trip will doubtless be a pleasant one for the party, providing the automobiles do not meet with any accident.

The party will first go to Lake Mattamuskeet to get the lay of the land. Tuesday's News and Observer carried the following in its news columns:

TO LAKE MATTAMUSKEET.

"State Officials Go to See the Lay of the Land.

"Lake Mattamuskeet is to be officially looked at and investigated to-morrow, and there left here yesterday a contingent of the State officials to do this.

"In the party were Secretary of State J. Bryan Grimes, State Auditor B. F. Dixon and Superintendent of Public Instruction J. Y. Joyner. Going also to see the lake and the country it is proposed to drain was Mr. Joseph Daniels, editor of the News and Observer. Governor Kitchin is already in Eastern North Carolina and will join the party at Washington to-day. Attorney General T. W. Rickett will go to-day and be with the party.

The State officials are going to investigate conditions as to the drainage of the lake and the Mattamuskeet Railway, in both of which the State has an interest. To-day the party will go from Washington to Belhaven by automobiles over the suggested route of the Mattamuskeet Railway from Washington to Belhaven. To-morrow it will go around Lake Mattamuskeet in automobiles and at noon will take part in a drainage conference at Swan Quarter."

If the officials wanted to find out the lay of the land, this information could have been obtained more easily, and with less expense to the State, by reference to a North Carolina history and geography. We will await with interest the report of this committee when they return, to see if they have fuller information than the following, which was gained by us without any cost to the taxpayers of the State:

"The lay of the land" is flat and in the middle of Hyde County. Lake Mattamuskeet is fourteen miles long and seven miles wide and is the largest lake in North Carolina. The water is very shallow, in fact, it is only two and a half feet deep over a large area and only seven feet deep in the middle of the western end. The bottom is mostly of fine sand mixed with mud. The lake is fed by drainage from farms and swamps and discharges into the Alligator River and Yeosocking Bay through canals, and surrounding are a number of small lakes. The Indians claimed that Mattamuskeet was once a cypress swamp, but during a dry spell the trash in the swamp caught fire and the peat soil was also burned to several feet in depth in some places, and the burned area later filled with water, forming the lake.

The above is history with which every high school boy is familiar. If further information was necessary a report of this lake and its surroundings has previously been made by a civil engineer, and his report could have been obtained, probably without cost, and would have been more accurate than any information that can be gained from simply viewing the lake and the surrounding country.

We make no charges to the State for the information we have given in this article, but watch and see if the tax-payers do not have to foot a big bill to pay railroad fares, hotel bills and the ride in the beautiful automobiles over the country in Hyde County.

THE FISH COMMITTEE.

Isn't it rather unusual for the legislature to appoint a committee to investigate matters which they have never had opportunity to know anything about? The last legislature appointed a committee to investigate the fishing districts of Eastern Carolina and recommend to the next legislature just what laws are needed to regulate the fishing industry in this State, and we are informed that not a single member of the committee live on the salt water, or anywhere near it, and, therefore, have

had no opportunity to know what kind of laws the fishermen want or need. There were members in the legislature from all the counties in the extreme east, and even if their word could not be taken for what they needed, and it was determined to appoint a fish committee anyway, wouldn't it have been the proper thing to have at least named some of the members from the fishing districts on the said committee? As it is, they will have no voice in the framing of the laws under which their people will have to conduct their business.

P. S.—We have not yet learned whether the fish committee are making their investigations in automobiles or in flying machines. However, we suppose their expense account, which the tax payers will have to foot, will give this information.

DEMOCRATIC SWEETNESS.

The following sweetness was specially prepared by the Wilmington Star:

"If we want Republicans to come over to the Democratic party we must call them nice and clever fellows who have been misguided and got into the wrong pew. If they are undesirable citizens they wouldn't be welcome recruits. Molasses will catch more flies than vinegar."

Now, what do you think of that? The Republicans have no taste for Democratic molasses, as they know there are always bitter dregs at the bottom of the barrel. However, it is the duty of the Democratic press to treat the Republicans as nice and clever fellows, always remembering that a great number of them came from your party—with more to follow.

A dispatch from Washington dated August 6th stated that Congressman Heflin, of Alabama, and Congressman James, of Kentucky, had a row with some printers in a saloon in Washington on the night of August 4th, which came near resulting in trouble. What? Congressman Heflin, from the Democratic State of Alabama, which is now as dry as a cinder, in a row in a saloon in Washington and Congressman James, the big Democrat of Kentucky, who was lauded to the skies by the News and Observer last fall—these men raising a row in a saloon! Will wonders never cease?

Democratic papers often quote their platform in order to explain where they stand on certain questions. But what can they prove even then. The Durham Herald commenting on the Democratic platform, says:

"When the Democratic platform declared for free lumber that left one in no doubt as to what it meant—if it had really meant it."

Whether they meant it or not, the Democrats have not lived up to their platform—in fact, they have done just what they said they would not do. Under such conditions, are the voters willing to trust them again?

"The consumer that votes for a party which unreasonably taxes him for the benefit of manufacturers of the products which the consumer consumes, would be comparable to Lieutenant Sutton, who, that Naval Court would have us believe, lent a helping hand to his assistants by killing himself."—Wilmington Star.

The tax-payer who votes for a party which unreasonably taxes him in order to increase salaries and create new offices for party pets—well, he is not voting for the best interest for himself or his neighbor. Had you thought of that?

In a speech at Richburg, S. C., a few days ago Senator Tillman took occasion to score the railroads for discriminating against the South in the matter of passenger rates. Wasn't it Tillman who lost his railroad passes in Chicago a few years ago while on a lecturing tour? It may be that the railroads refused to renew those passes because they did not want them handled so carelessly.

Medical authorities say that the new disease known as pellagra is caused from eating corn-bread made from molded or rotten corn. This being the case, the pure food law should be vigorously enforced in this State, as the disease is rapidly spreading in this State, and, in fact, throughout the South.

And we used to think that it was only the Republicans who made a business of asking for office.—Durham Herald.

Even those who may have thought that at one time certainly has no reason to think so in the light of recent events.

Every one should read the Bilkins letter this week. It is not only amusing but contains many historical facts of interest. The Major says that his next letter will be about Burma, the birthplace of the Buddhist religion.

HE WILL NOT ARRIVE.

The New York World quotes Senator Daniel as saying that "if the right man arrives to lead Democracy in the next campaign, the triumph of that party will be assured." The World commenting on Senator Daniels' statement says:

"In the Democratic party the search for him might prove more fruitful if it were more intelligent and conscientious."

From which it will be seen that the World, like others who are abreast with the times, sees that there is no chance for the Democratic party. Every time that they have had an opportunity to strengthen their party they have thrown the opportunity away and have thus shown to the world that they are not competent to lead. The right man will lead the Democratic party next time—but he will lead to defeat. The man to lead to success will be found in the Republican party. Mr. Daniels himself is not in accord with his party, and in fact very few of the Democratic leaders are in accord with each other.

A FISH LEGISLATURE.

(By A. V. Decker.)

The forthcoming report of the Fish Commission is likely to throw a lurid darkness upon the perpetual fish question that enhances the importance of and yet satisfies the grumblers who work the fishes for a living in Eastern North Carolina. The report ought to be ready for the Legislature of 1911.

The Commission having appointed itself on the principle that the least one knows about the subject to be investigated the more likely he is to reach the merits of it; at least had a very pleasant free outing. Not one of them hailed from a tidewater county. Some of them perhaps knew the difference between a small catfish and a bull-frog's tadpole on account of the horn attachment to the catfish; but what does that matter when they were outfitted with two stenographers, as well as a learned doctor, posted on the longevity of rocks and the causes of fissures and eruptions?

The Commission proper was strictly non-partisan. There was not even a Sampson County Republican on it. It was, surely, composed of elegant county gentlemen, dwellers in small inland towns. Some of the members had heard of such a thing as a fish, even if they did not credit the rumor. Some had seen nets used for catching partridges—fyke nets.

They were ill-prepared to encounter the maze of fish nets and fish lore. Such odd shaped names as Fyke, Pound, Dutch, and Gill nets was a distressful dilemma to them. To be sure, they had seen a fish committee of the Legislature unceasingly squabbling, but they carefully avoided listening to what was said at the meetings.

It is intimated that this Commission will take another outing next winter to see the fishermen where they catch wild fowl in fine nets! There were 75 ducks (drowned) shipped to the Raleigh market in one batch last March! The Commission has got a good thing on hand, and it is conscientious within the limit of its knowledge.

It is also intimated that the report will favor the establishment of a permanent Fish Commission. This is a bad break—creates more offices, and looks like a belief in hereditaments.

There should be established a biennial conference or fish Legislature to meet in off legislative years, the session to hold only sixty days. This Legislature to be composed of men from tide-water counties only. Give it full scope to grieve and to appease, they should adopt the suggestions as law without argument, nem con. This would save the State dollars, and free the Legislature from abominable turmoil!

There are as many kinds of fishermen as there are fish. A man's next door fish neighbor will not agree with him as to time, size, quantity, and method of taking fish. The rugged, natural fisherman, who works only for a living, is less harmful than the town outfitter of boats whose sole object is commercial; and with whom season, size, flesh nor feather have a living chance.

Gulls, herons, swans, and other rare and beautiful feathers tempt him to slaughter.

The Commission will also devote much of its report to the matter of Pound nets. In rivers, creeks, inlets and estuaries the use of any such nets ought to be absolutely prohibited. In open sounds, or other big waters, they might be permitted, but the mesh should be uniform and large.

This would permit millions of small fish to grow. Pound net fishermen will object to large meshes, on the ground that sharks and other predatory fishes will make havoc with the nets, etc., forgetting that they are sharks after present profit without regard for the future. This objection is based on the ground that the large mesh gills the fish, and makes it a tempting and easy prey for the shark.

Whatever the Commission reports will be unsatisfactory. The trouble has been living one hundred years, and is likely to live to one thousand years. It produces animosity, stimulates courage, provokes the acquisition of knowledge, and is nobody else's business except those fishermen, who always go to church together after a successful season.

His Own Party Bought Up.

Mr. Tillman says the South Carolina Senate was bought up by the railroads, and yet his party was in a majority.—Durham Herald.

Should Office Holders be Delegates to Conventions?

Editor Caucasian:—I note in the New York World, under headline: "Taft Bars Politics in Taking the Census," and then gives Mr. Taft's letter as follows in part: "A provision that any supervisor or enumerator who uses his influence with his subordinates or colleagues to assist any party or any candidate in a primary or general election, or who takes any part other than merely casting his vote in elections, national State or local, either by service upon a political committee, by public address, by the solicitation of votes, or otherwise, shall be at once dismissed from the service."

Does this mean that a member of a political committee, township, county or State, cannot hold a position in the census work without first resigning, or does he mean that during the taking of the census, which will be during the month of June, 1910, that he cannot discharge the duties of a committeeman or engage in and be interested in political work?

I have long since thought that no office holder should be a political organization holder or delegate to a political convention. If this was a rule laid down in State and National platforms, then it could not be said that our conventions were run and manipulated by office holders, as is charged by the Democrats on the Republicans of the past. Would it not be well to take this note out of their political whistles for the future, by making such a rule in the by-laws of our political organization.

C. L. JENKINS.

Fairview, N. C.

Locating Her Car.

A hearty laugh at the pointed query of an interesting four-year-old girl was enjoyed a few days ago by a number of persons waiting on a platform at Broad Street Station for the departure of a westbound accommodation train. The little lady had been gazing intently at a Pullman observation coach, and after a brief mental contrast of the more pretentious car with the ordinary passenger coach which she was about to take, asked her mother: "Mamma, what kind of a car is that one with the beautiful windows and pretty plush covered chairs?" "That is a parlor car, my dear," was the reply. "Well, I guess ours must be a kitchen car, then, isn't it?" was the very suggestive question, which as yet has not been answered to the child's satisfaction.—Philadelphia Record.

A FATHER'S UNNATURAL CRIME.

Frank Martin Arrested at Mt. Airy on Charge of Assaulting His Own Daughter, Who is 11.

Mount Airy, Aug. 22.—There was an arrest in this city last night that created intense excitement and will, if the story told by a daughter of Frank Martin, a middle-aged white man, is true, send him to the electric chair, for the crime is that of outraging his own daughter.

The alleged crime was committed night before last while no one was in the house except the perpetrator and his victim, and she, a girl of about sixteen, was just recovering from a spell of typhoid fever and too weak to scream or offer resistance.

When her grandfather, the parent of Martin, called yesterday morning the girl told him the story of her disgrace at the hands of an inhuman father. He promptly had the girl removed to his home for protection, and the story leaked out.

When Martin was arrested and brought up town a large crowd assembled in the streets and there was considerable indignation, but no threats of lynching. However, Sheriff C. H. Haynes decided to send the prisoner to the county jail at Dobson and not risk him in the city prison. He will be given a hearing as soon as the young woman is able to testify. While Martin has borne a good reputation in the past there seems to be no doubt of his guilt.

Now, Listen!

Greensboro Telegram.

It is announced that Democrats and Republicans will share alike in the census appointments in the South. And won't this be the case in the North, East and West? The fact that the South is specified is due, of course, to the circumstances that some Southern Democrats are not averse to Federal appointments, if only an inconsequential one. Yes, Democrats are very near as fond of jobs as Republicans, if not quiet.

Charleston Should Explain.

Clinton News Dispatch.]

Those Charleston people who raised so much sand over the appointment of Crum, as collector of the port, can now turn upon the city government for appointing negro policemen over them. But then we suppose those negro policemen are Democrats. If so, there will be no kicking.

The Funniest Thing.

Colonel Henry Watterson says "There is no denying that the funniest development of the present era is the new discovery of 'revenue duties' by Democrats who talk revenue tariff and vote protective tariff."—News and Observer.

We wonder how "funny" Mr. Bryan thinks it is. We have not heard the echoes of any "latter" from the banks of the Platte.

WASHINGTON'S PLAGUE SPOTS.

lie in the low, marshy bottoms of the Potomac, the breeding ground of malaria germs. These germs cause chills, fever and ague, biliousness, jaundice, lassitude, weakness and general debility and bring suffering or death to thousands yearly. But Electric Bitters never fail to destroy them and cure malaria troubles. "They are the best all-round tonic and cure for malaria I ever used," writes R. M. James, of Louellen, S. C. They cure Stomach, Liver, Kidney and Blood Troubles and will prevent Typhoid. Try them, 50 cents. Guaranteed by all druggists.

HALLEY'S COMET IS COMING.

A Washington Astronomer Says That in 1910 We Will Witness One of the Most Beautiful Sightings the Heavens Ever Disclosed.

A special from Washington to Monday's Baltimore Sun gives the following account of a beautiful sight that will be seen in the heavens in 1910:

"If you live until next spring you are going to witness one of the most magnificent sights the heavens have ever disclosed before your eyes," said a well-known member of the astronomical force at the United States Naval Observatory this afternoon to the correspondent of the Sun. "Halley's comet comes only once in a lifetime, and many persons are born, live and die without ever catching a glimpse of its marvelous dash of fire across the skies. It was last seen in 1835, and few persons now alive can say they have ever witnessed it."

The comet in its full refulgence, is not due until 1910, but by spring it will probably be near enough to be visible by naked eye. It is now somewhere off in space, but not yet visible to astronomers. They confidently expect some one to pick it up before the end of 1909, and after that it will increase in splendor and size until it reaches its nearest approach to the earth, some time next spring, after which it will disappear, not to be seen again in 75 years.

Halley's comet has been visiting the vicinity of the earth ever since 500 or 600 years before Christ," said the astronomer. "Halley was an Englishman, whose name was given to the comet because he was the first to announce that this particular comet came near the earth at regular periods once every 75 years. He went over the records, and by a series of computations found that what had previously been regarded as a series of different comets, was nothing more than the same comet, and that this, the most magnificent of them all, came around regularly once every 75 years. That was during the latter part of the eighteenth century, and Halley announced that this comet would next appear in 1835. He never lived to see it come, but his successors found that his prediction came true."

Wilmington Boy Seriously Injured in Fight With Kentucky Negroes.

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 22.—In a bloody street car fight between prominent white youths and negroes early today three of the youths are in a hospital, including Victor von Borries, of Louisville, and Edward Prince, of Wilmington, N. C., son of the comptroller of the Atlantic Coast Line. He may die. The boys were severely slashed with razors.

Didn't Intend to Burst the Trusts.

The Legislature did not intend to bust the trusts, in fact the party is not as strong on trust-busting as it used to be.—Durham Herald.

BETTER THAN SPANKING.

Spanking does not cure children of bed-wetting. There is a constitutional cause for this trouble. Mrs. M. Summers, Box W, Notre Dame, Ind., will send free to any mother her successful home treatment, with full instructions. Don't send no money, but write her today if your children trouble you in his way. Don't blame the child, the chances are it can't help it. This treatment also cures adults and aged people troubled with urine difficulties by day or night.

LAST EXCURSION OF THE SEASON TO RICHMOND, VA.

VIA SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

The Southern Railway announces the last excursion of the season to Richmond, Va., on September 8th. Train will leave Goldsboro 6.40 a. m. Raleigh, 8.40 a. m., Durham, 6.50 a. m., Monday, 10.45 a. m., Friday, September 10th, giving you one whole day and two nights in Richmond. Round trip rate from Goldsboro, \$3.50; tickets also on sale at same basis from intermediate points. This being the last excursion of the season everybody should take advantage of these low rates.

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