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## EDITORIAL BRIEFS

How are you holding out with those New Year resolutions?

What has become of ex-Governor Glenn? He hasn't been heard from in three days.

Senator Money as leader of the minority party has proven that they are simply after the jobs.

Ah Hung, a Chinese actor, has been shot to death. There was something in a name in his case.

The Democrats will first have to locate Dr. Frederick Cook before they can run him for President.

Where is the man who said we would have no real cold weather this winter? Guess he froze up last week.

See that the date on the label of your paper reads "1910." If it does not, you haven't begun the New Year right.

If the Democrats should nominate Parker for the Presidency, would he again draw that gold telegram on them?

If the Federal Government discovers a few more sugar fraud cases it may be able to wipe out the National debt.

Even if it is too cold for you here you had better try to stand it as it might be too hot for you in the other clime.

A German professor says he hopes to go to the North Pole in an airship. Just so he never gets back to tell the tale all will be well.

A judge in Milwaukee has decided that the jurors may have a toddy before breakfast and a pint of beer with each meal. Milwaukee is still famous.

Mr. Bryan has gone to Cuba in search of campaign matter. Does he expect to run for President of Cuba, too?

Congressman Champ Clark says this country needs more mules. We have no objection, just so they are not of the Democratic backing variety.

A man in Tennessee has an invention to make whiskey odorless. As whiskey is prohibited in Tennessee, the invention would seem to be useless.

Mr. Bryan calls the insurgent Democrats "embezzlers of power." He probably thinks they are infringing on his right to run the Democratic party.

A new party has been organized in New York to restore character to the Democratic party in that city. Why not increase the membership so as to apply to the Democratic party at large?

Mayor Gaynor, of New York, has started a reform movement by turning the Tammany pie-eaters out into the cold. The new Mayor has begun his administration well, if he can only hold out faithful to the end.

Ex-Governor Vardaman is a candidate for United States Senate from Mississippi and the race issue will be his campaign slogan. His opponents should make anti-Vardaman their slogan, which should be sufficient to beat him.

The Baltimore Sun thinks that few communities ever realize what they owe the doctors. Well that depends upon the doctors themselves—but most of them send out their bills very promptly.

Some Democrats complain that Congressman Champ Clark is too humorous for a leader. But doesn't it take a person with a keen sense of humor to lead the minority without at the same time losing their religion?

A whiskey concern in this State is advertising its whiskey as on sale at drug stores in the State or from his concern direct. We were under the impression that a liquor dealer could not sell whiskey in this State, or ship it from one portion of the State to another section of the State.

Carrie Nation landed in Washington a few days ago and proceeded to smash up plate glass with her hatchet. She was promptly landed in jail. If Carrie is crazy she should be placed in an insane asylum. If she is not crazy then she should be confined elsewhere so long as she do live.

## SENATOR McLAURIN WAS A FUGITIVE.

Was a Friend of the Assassins of Lincoln and Was Charged With Aiding in His Murder—Later Proved His Innocence.

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 30.—The News-Scimitar says to-day: "To have been sought at one time by the Federal authorities under a \$10,000 reward for his capture, dead or alive, for his alleged part in the conspiracy that resulted in the murder of a President of the United States, and now to be appointed as a member of the highest legislative body of that country, is the strange experience of Col. James Gordon, of Okolona, Miss., who has been named Senator by Governor Noel, of Mississippi, as successor to the late Senator A. J. McLaurin.

"Mr. Gordon was one of several Confederate leaders suspected of being in conspiracy with J. Wilkes Booth to kill President Abraham Lincoln. He escaped arrest and probably death only by the intervention, it is stated, of a Yankee colonel with whom he had crossed swords in a fight in Virginia.

"During the earlier years of the war Colonel Gordon had formed an intimate friendship with Booth, and after the assassination of President Lincoln the reward of \$10,000 was offered for his capture. Colonel Gordon went to Canada and it was several months after the close of hostilities before he found it safe to return home.

"During one of the campaigns in Virginia Colonel Gordon had crossed swords with the colonel of a New York cavalry regiment. Both were wounded in the conflict, but they afterward became fast friends.

"Colonel Gordon wrote a letter to this New Yorker denying that he had any part in the conspiracy and stating that he desired to return home. The former foe took the matter up with General Dicks, then in command of the army forces in New York, who sent him a passport and an invitation to come to New York and surrender, which he did. He afterward satisfied General Dicks that he knew nothing of the Lincoln conspiracy.

"He took the oath of allegiance and returned to his home in Chickasaw County, where he has since resided."

## FROZE TO DEATH ON TRAIN.

A Professor of Greensboro Dropped From Steps of Train Frozen to Death.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 30.—Swinging to the outside of the vestibule of a swiftly moving passenger train, L. D. Surratt, a young teacher of high standing, was literally frozen to death to-day and fell as the train came to a standstill.

His body was stiffly frozen and was picked up by the crew of a south-bound freight train.

Passengers on the northbound train reaching Greensboro this afternoon report that a man, now identified as Surratt, boarded the train at Lexington, but just before the train pulled out he ran back to get a package left in a buggy at the station. He was seen to catch the closed vestibule.

No one paid particular attention to the incident, supposing the trainman had opened the entrance for the passenger. Hanging to the steps, the man met the terrific gale blowing in the face of the fast moving train. His position subjected him to the only resource, to crouch on the steps of the car until the next station was reached.

## IMMENSE TRUST COMPANIES MERGE.

J. C. Morgan and Associates Will Control \$21,000,000.

New York, Jan. 4.—J. Pierpont Morgan and associates may control, through further trust company mergers in New York now under consideration, the enormous sum of \$21,000,000 in deposits alone. This is approximately \$25,000,000 more than the deposits of the National City Bank of this city, the largest financial institution in the United States.

Reports of additional trust company consolidation are given credence in view of yesterday's announcement of the merger by J. P. Morgan & Company of the Guaranty Trust, Morgan Trust and Fifth Avenue Trust Companies, with combined deposits of about \$150,000,000.

## "Whiskey is Whiskey" Does Not Suit Texas Pure-Food Chief.

Austin, Texas, Dec. 30.—The State of Texas will not be bound by the decision of President Taft defining legal whiskey, according to the announcement of Dr. J. S. Abbott, State Dairy and Food Commissioner.

After an analysis of several samples of whiskey legalized by the ruling of President Taft, Dr. Abbott declared that it does not conform to the requirements of the pure-food laws of Texas, and he caused a quantity to be seized. A conference with the Governor and Commissioner has been asked for by a representative of the rectifiers.

## Says Labor Unions Shut Out Negroes

"If So, How Much, and Why?" Washington Star.] The question could be made even harder by phrasing it thus: "Are you a Democrat; if so, how much, and why?"

## RAILROADS OBJECT

Enter a Protest Against Further Railroad Legislation By Congress.

## THE PRESIDENT STANDS FIRM

Mr. Taft's Special Message to Congress Will Also Cover the Subject of the Conservation of Natural Resources—May Propose Amendment to Sherman Anti-Trust Law—Case Against American Tobacco Trust Now Before the Supreme Court—Case Against Standard Oil Will be Argued in a Few Days.

(Special to The Caucasian.)

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4, 1910.—As announced several weeks ago in The Caucasian, the President did not cover the question of rate regulation in his annual message to Congress at the beginning of the session in December, because he had a commission composed of the Attorney-General and members of the Interstate Commerce Commission and other prominent lawyers at work on a bill. The substance of that bill has already been made public, as published in The Caucasian about two weeks ago.

## Railroad Magnates Protest.

The provisions of the bill so prepared were such as to cause the presidents of the leading railroads of the United States to come to Washington during the past week and ask an interview with the President to protest against several of its most salient features. These railroad magnates have come, have made their protests and pleas, and have gone; but the President has refused to yield to their protests and demands; hence the administrative measure for strengthening the Interstate Commerce act will be as formally announced. The provisions in it, against which the railroad magnates protested most strenuously, were:

(1) The creation of an Interstate Commerce Court to pass upon rulings of the Interstate Commerce Commission and of an appeal from the Interstate Commerce Court direct to the Supreme Court of the United States. Just why the railroad should object to this provision of the bill it is hard to say, unless they want to delay the trial of cases instead of expediting them. Under the law, as it now stands, cases can be delayed for years before they ever reach the Supreme Court for final adjudication.

(2) The new provision against which they protested most strenuously was that giving to the Interstate Commerce Commission power to change and make rates on its own motion which should become effective at once and stay in effect during the trial of any case with reference thereto.

(3) These magnates also protested most vigorously against the provision providing for the supervision as to the capitalization of all railroad companies and other companies doing interstate commerce business. The people of the United States have been most derelict in their duty in permitting the great corporations to water the stock without limit, and then insist upon their right to charge a rate high enough to make dividends on stock that represents nothing but water. A correction of this glaring evil should have been made many years ago.

(4) They protested against the provision making more specific the law about the consolidation of parallel and competing lines, and also prohibiting one such competing line from owning stock in another.

It was reported for a while that some of the Senate leaders known as "Conservatives" would oppose the President's bill, but since the failure of the railroad magnates to secure a back-down on the part of the President, it is understood that these stalwart Republican leaders have changed their attitude and will now support the President. It is understood that their changed position is due to the fact that they see that the President is determined, and that if they should not support him, that the insurgent Republicans and those Democrats, who are not controlled by the interests, would join hands and back the President and put through the measure any way.

## The Conservation of Natural Resources.

The President is also at work upon his special message to Congress covering the subject of the conservation of natural resources. On account of the controversy as to whether or not the Roosevelt policies in this regard were being carried out by the Interior Department, this message of the President will be looked forward to with special interest.

## The Anti-Trust Law.

It is understood that the President is also working upon the proposed amendment to the Sherman anti-trust law, so as to strengthen the same, and also amend the same so as to permit combinations of capital where they do not cause a restraint of trade or result in the power to arbitrarily increase prices. This message will also be looked forward to

with unusual interest, for it is a very delicate question just how such an amendment can be made so as to strengthen and not weaken the Sherman anti-trust law.

## The Tobacco Trust and Standard Oil Cases.

The decision of the New York Circuit Court holding that the American Tobacco Company was a trust in restraint of trade and illegal under the Sherman anti-trust law came up before the Supreme Court on yesterday, and argument to cover three days is now in progress. At the same time, the appeal of the Standard Oil cases, found to be also in restraint of trade, is before the Court and will be heard sometime within the next 60 days.

These two decisions will attract the attention of the people from one end of the country to the other as no other case probably has for a quarter of a century. Congress will probably not take any action for amending the anti-trust law until the decision of the Supreme Court in these two most important test cases has been rendered.

## BRIEF NEWS ITEMS.

Mr. Virgil Walker has been appointed superintendent of the Norfolk and Southern lines south of Albemarle Sound.

According to returns to the State Labor Commissioner, North Carolina has 312 cotton, woolen and silk mills with 55,123 employees.

Mr. W. T. Lee, of Haywood County, has announced himself as a Democratic candidate to succeed Mr. S. L. Rogers as Corporation Commissioner.

Mrs. Mary Hooker died Tuesday in a hospital in Durham. She was formerly of Hillsboro, and was a sister of the late Josiah Turner.

Chas. W. Morse, the former ice king of New York and high financier was placed in prison at Atlanta Monday to serve fifteen years for violating banking laws.

Four stores at Lucama, Wilson County, were broken open and robbed Saturday night, and it is reported that three stores at Kenly were robbed the same night.

Norman J. Harrelson, of Albemarle, Stanly County, was arrested Tuesday and placed under bond for passing forged notes. He confessed and implicated two others.

A number of farmers' institutes will be held throughout the State beginning January 10th. These will be under the auspices of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

A special from Norfolk, Va., announces that the Gould interests will build an electric railway line from Washington to Norfolk via Richmond. The route will be about two hundred miles.

Claud Little, charged with being an accessory to the murder of Cora Allen, was given a preliminary hearing at Wadesboro, Tuesday, and bound over to court. Jealousy was the cause of the murder.

The Empire Manufacturing Company has been organized at Goldsboro with a capital of \$200,000. The company will engage in a general lumber and manufacturing business. Mr. N. O'Berry is president of the company.

Dr. J. H. Marsh, a prominent physician of Fayetteville, died Sunday. The business houses of the city closed Tuesday during the hour of the funeral, which was attended by the largest concourse of people that ever attended a funeral in that city.

At New Bern Monday afternoon James Collins, aged eight years, and John F. Jones, aged seven years, were arrested for stealing a mule and wagon from a Mr. Holton who lives on the east side of Neuse River. The boys claimed they found the team on the road, but there was evidence to show that they had offered the mule and wagon for sale for \$15. The boys were locked up in jail to await trial.

## Glad Morehead Won Out.

That element in the Republican party in the State which believes in ordinary decency and fair play, are gratified at the action of the President in recognizing the rights of Representative Morehead, of the Fifth District, in naming the Census Supervisor in his District. The rank and file of the party don't propose to be Duncanized, for they believe in common decency and fair play, and are not Republicans for revenue only.

## Southern Politicians an Enemy to the Confederate Soldier.

In his address at the dedication of the Confederate monument in Oxford Saturday, Governor Kitchin expressed the hope that the State would increase the appropriation for pensions to Confederate veterans. We presume he would object, though, to have them placed on the Federal pension roll along with those who wore the blue. They should receive their pensions from the general government, and eventually they will, when the politicians of the South are through using them.

## MANN BILL PASSED

Carried Thought the House By a Majority of 17 Votes.

## WAS FOUGHT BY DEMOCRATS

The Bill as it Goes to the Senate Authorizes the President to Have Completed the Panama Canal and to Appoint a Director-General of the Canal and Canal Zone, Thus Doing Away With the Canal Commission—Will Have One Circuit Court in Zone.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 5.—With the Democrats fighting every inch of the way, the Mann bill providing for the administration of the Panama Canal Zone and centralizing the government there in the President of the United States, passed the House today by a vote of 119 to 102. The vote was along strict party lines.

Representative Mann, author of the bill, claimed that precedent for delegation of such power in the executive was found in similar action by Democratic Congresses at the time of the Louisiana Purchase and again when Florida was ceded to the United States by Spain. Defending his party, Representative Harrison, of New York, said that disturbed international conditions made such action necessary, but that despotic government in those territories was continued no longer than was necessary to establish loyal government.

Speeches were made by Representatives Underwood of Alabama, Hardwick of Georgia, and others in opposition to this action. A motion of Mr. Hardwick to strike out the section entirely was lost by the close vote of 85 to 90.

The bill, as it goes to the Senate, authorizes the President to have completed the Panama Canal and to appoint a director-general of the canal and the Canal Zone, thus doing away with the Canal Commission. It invests the judicial power of the zone in one circuit court and such inferior courts as the President may constitute and allows appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States in civil cases involving \$5,000 and in criminal cases punishable by death or life imprisonment. Trial by jury is granted in all criminal prosecutions for felony.

Since the expiration of the Fifty-eighth Congress there has been no act in terms authorizing the Government of the Canal Zone, but President Roosevelt continued in existence the civil government on the zone after the act of April 28, 1904, became effective automatically.

## SITUATION IN THE SOUTH.

Republican Party Will Not Grow so Long as the Machine Politicians Are Permitted to Dictate—Morehead's Hard Fight, and What it Means—Charlotte Business Men Would Organize if Given Any Encouragement—Interesting Political News.

Observer Bureau, Congress Hall Hotel, Washington, D. C., Dec. 29.

The Republican leaders are looking to the South for Congressmen to take the place of Western Republicans who insure until they are out of the pale or Democrats that defeat Republicans. They see a fallow field in Dixie and will work it if they feel that such a step is necessary. The House of Representatives, as organized now, has 239 members, 219 Republicans and 170 Democrats, with two vacancies which will be filled by Democrats, making a Republican majority of 47. Democrats—that is ultra-enthusiastic ones—hope to carry the next House. They do not think that the Republicans can win with the Payne-Aldrich tariff and Uncle Joe Cannon the issues. Therefore, a very interesting question is: "What will North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, and Georgia yield in the way of Republicans?" Those who do the figuring say that the Tar Heel State should add two to the three already here, Virginia one to its list, and Tennessee two, making four. Georgia, it is argued, may not elect a straight Republican, but three or four Democrats can be relied on for support for certain matters in a pinch.

## The Real Situation in Dixie.

But independent men, who were encouraged by William Howard Taft in 1906, are not so much interested as they were in the campaigns of 1908. Their hopes have vanished, and there are two reasons for this: First, President Taft has permitted organization Republicans of Southern States to dictate most of his appointments, or to queer the new element, which is composed of recruits from the Democratic party, at the White House and the Aldrich-Cannon Congress has given the Southern manufacturer the hot end of the tariff poker. It is well known here that many, if not a majority, of the leading manufacturers, bankers, and prominent merchants, along with a goodly sum of well-to-do farmers of the South, favor a protective tariff,

sound money, and ship subsidy—three things that the Republicans stand for—and would like to send Congressmen to Washington to help carry out their policies, but will not make the effort when the President permits the old pie-distributing crowd to continue business in the same old obnoxious way.

## Cold on the Trail.

One incident will serve to show the change of conditions. Two years ago when the news of John M. Morehead's election reached Charlotte, a little party of mill men, who had assembled informally in the Southern Manufacturers' Club to enjoy a quiet smoke and a cheering cup, pledged themselves to send one of their associates to Congress in 1910. A practical politician in the crowd asked: "How much is your enthusiasm good for?" The person to whom this was addressed replied: "My check for \$500."

"And yours?" said the man with the pencil.

"The same."

"And yours?"

Three thousand dollars were raised inside of ten minutes. Republican enthusiasm ran high. Lukewarm Democrats took courage when they heard of Morehead's election. But the White House has humiliated Morehead—the business man, the ideal Republican—judging from the Taft speech at Greensboro in 1906. Instead of giving him the glad hand, President Taft has made him fight at every turn in the road for his just dues. Morehead has won, but, every time, after a bitter contest.

## One Instance in Many Years.

The election of Morehead was one of the most remarkable elections held in the South for many years. The negro had kept men in line for the local Democracy year after year. Hundreds of people who believe in the principles of the Republican party could not afford to vote their convictions until the black voter was eliminated. Twelve years ago North Carolina passed an amendment to its Constitution, disfranchising the illiterate negro, and since that time political contests have been between white men. The colored man has not participated to any significant extent. Therefore, the independent spirit among the citizenry has increased. The Republican victory in the Fifth District, resulting in Morehead's election, was the first one of the kind South of the Potomac River. Grant, an old-line Republican, defeated Crawford in the Tenth, but he did it by beating the bushes and driving in mountain Republicans who had grown gray in the faith. Had the byways and hedges of Burke, Madison, Mitchell, and Yancey been worked as those of Wilkes, by Cowles, and Henderson and others, by Grant, the majority of Webb might have been reduced by 2,000, or perhaps swept away. The gains of Grant and Cowles came largely from Republican precincts, but those of Morehead from Democratic. The very independence that President Taft encouraged in his famous brick-bat speech asserted itself.

## One More Man in Virginia.

Although the Republicans of Virginia made a poor showing in the gubernatorial election this year, they are going to try to capture the Fifth Congressional District next fall. The Parsons-Saunders contest may have something to do with the coming fight. If the Republican is seated, he and he thinks that he will be, some green-back will be put in Virginia. It has been said here frequently that many Virginians who have loyally supported the nominees of the Democratic party are tired of it, but they have nowhere to turn. Two, and even four years ago, one heard much talk of Republican gains in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee, but recently it has almost ceased. Southern Democratic leaders say that the Republicans will get a back-set in North Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky in 1910. Cowles, it is argued, will be the only Republican returned from the Old North State, and Slem from Virginia.

## That Charlotte Fund.

In Charlotte, where the hurried campaign fund was raised, the manufacturers have lost their political zeal, not because of any change in local conditions, but the apparent change in Mr. Taft. At present the talk there is of an independent, who would represent the manufacturing interests of the District. This, however, may not result in anything tangible.

To President Taft credit for this indifferent state of affairs is due. To him the Democratic organization owes a vote of thanks. Men who stood willing to take the leap have ungirded their loins and gone back to the camp of their fathers. At the very moment when they were ready to make the spring they got a cold deal from the President.

This is the information that comes to Washington, and what is true of North Carolina is true of Tennessee and other Southern States.

## Affraid of His Work.

The appointment of Connor, Judge of the Eastern District Court of North Carolina, gave President Taft no cold feet. He has already promised to divide the census supervisors equally between the Republicans and Democrats, but he back-pedaled when the hue and cry of certain Republicans reached his ears and gave every

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## THE TOBACCO TRUST

Case Now Being Prosecuted Before United States Supreme Court.

## WHOLE INDUSTRY IN THE TRUST

Assistant Attorney-General Declares That Object of the Trust is to Control the Price of Tobacco From the Field to the Manufactured Product—Wants the Octopus Dissolved—Thinks Sherman Law Sufficient to Control Monopolies.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 4.—After addressing the court for almost three hours and a half in the Tobacco Trust case, which is now under argument before the Supreme Court of the United States, Special Assistant Attorney-General McReynolds concluded his argument in prosecution of the case at 1 o'clock to-day and was followed by Attorney Delaney Nicol, of New York, who spoke in behalf of the tobacco company.

Mr. McReynolds contended that the whole tobacco industry from the purchase of the leaf to the completion of the manufacture was in the control of the trust, because of its interference with interstate commerce. He contended that the power of the combination extends everywhere.

Indeed, he asserted that it had been the purpose of the combination to gather in and control the entire tobacco business, and he declared that if the tobacco company could not be reached under the Sherman law it would be impossible to prevent monopoly with the result that the fancied security against extortion and wrong under which the American people live would be a myth.

"In that event," he said, "we would be at the mercy of any set of men sufficient strong to gather in all their competitors unto themselves."

## STRONG RACE FEELING IN CUBA.

Row Started Over the Price of Drinks Charged Two Negro Congressmen—A Government Paper Attacks Americans.

Havana, Cuba, Jan. 3.—A strong race feeling has been engendered by the trouble which arose last night at the Hotel Plaza, an American house, over the refusal of the bartender to serve drinks to two negro Congressmen. This resulted in a riot, which, although no one was seriously injured, made necessary the calling out of the police reserves. To-day the clerk of the hotel was arraigned in the correctional court and fined \$70.

An enormous crowd of negroes, including a strong representation of the veterans' association, attended the court session and demanded exemplary punishment on account of the insult to the colored race. Senator Morua Delgado, President of the Senate and leader of the negro element, conducted the prosecution, and insisted upon the extreme penalty, which is a fine of \$1,000 and six months in jail.

The decision of the court to inflict a minor penalty was greeted with strong expressions of disapproval. After the adjournment of the court, the two negro Congressmen, heading a procession of 400 negroes, marched to the hotel crying, "Viva Maceo, Viva La Patria." They entered the bar and demanded drinks, which were served with no further protest.

The incident has caused much excitement, and there are grave fears of a serious race clash. Many Cubans are sympathetic with the attitude of the American hotel management, but to-night a strong guard of police has been posted in front of the hotel.

El Triunfo, a Government organ, publishes a bitter editorial, declaring that all blacks and whites in Cuba are on a plane of absolute equality, and that "the Americans must be taught by the strong arm of the law that they shall not be permitted to introduce into Cuba the anti-negro sentiments prevailing in the United States."

## In the North.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The real problem which faces the negro is making a living, rather than the attainment of social equality, said R. R. Wright, of Philadelphia, who spoke before the American Negro Academy this morning at Lincoln Memorial Church.

This, he said, applied to the situation in the North, where the negro is given the same legal status as the white man. The labor unions in the North, in refusing to allow the negro membership in trades organizations, membership in labor unions, he said, are responsible for the difficulty which the negro finds in securing employment.

## State Boundary Line Dispute.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3.—An order was issued to-day by the Supreme Court of the United States in the boundary line case between the States of North Carolina and Tennessee giving each of the States ninety days to take testimony. The order takes effect immediately, as complainant, North Carolina will be the first to proceed.