

FOUR MONTHS OF PROHIBITION.

Judge Broyles, of Police Court Fame, Reviews Effects of Prohibition in Atlanta.

The following address of Judge Nash E. Broyles, of Atlanta, delivered before the seventh annual convention of the Georgia State Sociological Society recently will be of much interest to those who are keeping up with the prohibition campaign. Judge Broyles spoke as follows:

"I have been requested by your honored president to address you briefly this evening on the subject 'Four Months of Prohibition in Atlanta.' I accepted with pleasure the honor of speaking to such a body of thinking men, and, in the beginning, I promise all here that if 'brevity is the soul of wit' my paper tonight shall be exceedingly witty. As you all know, the state prohibition law went into effect on January 1 last, and up to May 1 Atlanta has had exactly four months of prohibition.

"The police court is undoubtedly the best place in our city to judge of the results of such a law, and whether or no it is being enforced. Atlanta has always been noted for her obedience to law and order. Her arresting officers have often been criticised, and, in my humble opinion, unjustly so, for making so many arrests of drunken people upon her streets and highways. These critics say that in many other cities a man can become intoxicated and reel and stagger along the streets, among women and children, without any fear of arrest, unless he becomes obstreperous and violent, and that so it should be in the metropolis and the Gate City of the South.

"What a spectacle for our women and our children! What an example for our rising generation! Thank God we have a higher standard in Atlanta! No man, high or humble, rich or poor, public official or private citizen, can so disgrace himself and tarnish the fair name of our city without being haled to the justice seat and paying the penalty—and this not harshly to punish the drunkard himself, for we have only sympathy for his weakness, but to keep him from committing greater crimes as he is liable to do in his intoxicated condition, and also to make our streets safe and sightly for our women and children.

"This has been the policy of our police department when the open saloon was with us, and it has been even more strictly enforced since the saloon left us.

"Is the prohibition law enforced? I cannot speak for other cities in Georgia, but I say emphatically and deliberately that in Atlanta prohibition is enforced as absolutely as any other law on our statutes. Some 'blind tigers' there are, but they are not running openly and defiantly. Instead they are hiding tremblingly in their darkest lairs and creeping about in abject fear of the law.

ONE DEFECT IN LAW.
There is, however, in the opinion of all the officials of the criminal courts of Atlanta, one serious defect in the prohibition law, and that is the failure to state the exact amount of alcohol in a beverage that will outlaw it. Under a recent decision of the Georgia court of appeals this failure to so state the amount of alcohol allows almost any kind of a malt beverage containing 2 or 3 per cent, or even more, of alcohol, to be sold without violating the law, and these beverages can be sold not only to adults, but to minors.

"Think of it—to children as well as men! Will not our legislature at the coming session in June protect and guard our children from this evil?

"Has prohibition decreased

drunkenness and other crimes in Atlanta! I refer you to the docket of the police court for the first four months of 1907, when the saloon was with us, and the first four months in 1908, when the saloon was absent. I simply give the figures. As Daniel Webster said of Massachusetts, 'There she stands; she speaks for herself.'

"Number of cases tried for the first four months of 1907, 6,056.

"Number of cases tried for the first four months of 1908, 3,139.

"Showing a decrease during prohibition of 2,917.

"Number of 'drunks' for the first four months of 1907, 1,955.

"Number of 'drunks' for the first four months of 1908, 471.

"Showing a decrease during prohibition of 1,484 cases of drunkenness in four months.

And yet there are many people who know nothing of the facts running up and down the state and yelling at the top of their voices that 'Prohibition does not prohibit.'

"Yes, these dry, inanimate figures speak to those who listen a wondrous story. They tell of hundreds, yes, of thousands, of faithful wives into whose pale and wan faces the roses are beginning to bloom again.

"They tell of hundreds, yes, of thousands, of little children who no longer pale and tremble at the sound of their father's footstep upon the threshold of their humble homes! They tell of hundreds, yes, of thousands, of long suffering and devoted mothers who no longer sit late into the night waiting and praying for their wandering boys—but now, with her boy safe with her at home, there is a new light in her patient eyes, and a new song in her devoted heart, and what song could it be but that grand old hymn, 'Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow!'"

Who Holds You Down?

What object is more pitiable than that of a healthy, strong, well-educated young man whining about the hard times, or the lack of opportunity in his land which is so packed with chances? In what other country or what other time in the history of the world, were the times better or the opportunities greater?

Tens of thousands of young people in this country try to excuse themselves or their failure to do something worth while by saying that it is the fault of society, that it is due to economic conditions, to the fact that a few good-for-nothing idlers get all the money and all the good things, while the many do all the work and bear all the burdens.

Young men and young women idle away their lives, waiting for something to turn up, for somebody to boost them; while other boys and girls, with half their chance, educate and lift themselves out of poverty.

The varietal nonsense that ever entered a youth's head is that the good chances are in the past, that somebody must help him or he can never start.

The mainspring of your watch is not outside of its case. No power or influence outside of the watch can make it keep good time. Its mainspring is inside. The power which will carry you to your goal is not in somebody else. It is in yourself, or nowhere.—Success Magazine.

Legal Holiday.

Next Wednesday, May 20th, is the anniversary signing of the Mecklenburg declaration of independence and is a legal holiday in North Carolina. The banks, will, therefore, be closed on that day.

The Two-thirds Rule.

When the first National Convention of the Democratic party, assembled in 1832, it adopted the rule that two-thirds of the votes cast should be required to nominate a candidate for the Presidency or Vice-Presidency; and every National Convention held since that time has been governed by that rule. The object of the rule is to protect a respectable minority amounting to one-third of the membership of the convention, against the domination of a majority of less than two-thirds, and thereby to insure greater harmony, and prevent the disruption of the party.

At this time, however, it is said a move will be made in favor of abrogating the two-thirds rule, and selecting by a bare majority vote. The rule was made, according to John Sharpe Williams, the able Democratic leader of the House of Representatives, for the protection of the South, and Mr. Williams insists that it should be retained. Most Southern Democrats take the same view, though ardent friends of Mr. Bryan are said to favor its abolition, but they are mostly confined to the Western States. It is noticeable that no Democrat of prominence in any state on the Atlantic seaboard has so far advocated the selection of candidates by a bare majority vote. If the two-thirds rule had been rescinded in 1896, the revolt of the gold Democrats would have been much more serious. The rule was originated by Martin Van Buren before his election as President to prevent a large dissatisfied minority, for it was considered that less than one-third would have no hope of successfully bolting nominations made by such a large majority as two-thirds. To rescind the rule in the interest of any particular candidate would be likely to bring disaster. The politic time for such a change would be when no serious contest for nomination is pending. No one questions the right of the majority of a convention to make its own rules, even to entirely disregarding all former precedents. The question to be decided is, what is the best policy?

Catawba Clippings.

Mr. A. M. Wilson had shipped from Kentucky last week a fine thoroughbred horse. It is a dark bay, weighs 1250 pounds and is well broken to harness. Good judges of horses say it is one of the finest horses ever brought to Catawba county.

Mr. S. H. Jordan, of Conover, has recently imported a pair of English Beagle dogs. They are specially expert in rabbit hunting and it is intended to get a supply of jack rabbits from Texas to turn loose in the country. Running jack rabbits with beagles, Mr. Jordan says, is equal to fox hunting.

One day last week a young son of Mrs. Candace Mauney was riding a mule, and going under the Catawba Power Company's line of wires he reached up and caught hold of the telephone wire, which is on the poles under the power wire. He received a shock that knocked both him and the mule down, and his leg was burned by coming in contact with the trace chain of the mule's plowgears.—Newton Enterprise May 14th.

County Meeting.

The Farmers' Union of Lincoln county will meet at Reepsville Thursday, May 28th, 1908, at 10 a. m. All are requested to be present as we have some important business to attend to.

W. A. Bess, Pres.

"Refused."

The great majority of our readers are always prompt to renew their subscription or when a man wants his paper discontinued he has the manhood to pay up before he stops the paper. A very few however, are not so thoughtful. Occasionally we send a statement to a fellow who instead of paying up or coming in and making some explanation for his failure, will ask the postmaster to mark on the paper "refused" and return to us. Repeatedly we write courteous letters to the brother and he "keeps on saying nothing." Under such circumstances the delinquent cannot be better described than in the following which we clip from an exchange:

"A man may use the mole on the back of his neck for a collar button; he may give his children a penny to go to bed without any supper and steal the penny from them after they go to sleep to fool them with again next night; he may stop his watch at night to save wear; use a period for a semicolon to save ink; pasture his grandfather's grave for hay; but a man of this kind is a gentleman and a scholar compared with a man who takes a newspaper from one to five years and when asked to pay for it will put it back in the postoffice marked "refused"—that he don't want the blooming thing nohow."

SAYS the Yorkville Enquirer:

"ONE of the many reasons for the bull movement in cotton during the past few days is that foreign stocks are running low, and Liverpool fears a squeeze before the new crop begins to come in. However this may be, there seems to be but little question of the fact that the farmers of the South can exercise complete control of the situation if they will only stand firm and refuse to be tempted by trifling advances of only a few points each. In all the few years that the farmers have been tating notice, they have never had the situation so fully and completely within their power. However they are much like the elephant with regard to the man on his back. It does not comprehend its tremendous power compared with the insignificant power of the man."

Death of Mr. Brittain.

Mr. Quincy I. Brittain died Sunday night, at the home of his brother, Mr. J. B. Brittain, on the Lloyd place. Mr. Brittain was in his 23rd year and was a promising young man of fine physique. He was taken suddenly ill last Thursday afternoon, being seized with violent cramps and vomiting. The doctors think his death was the result of ptomaine poisoning. The deceased was the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Q. Brittain who, with one sister and four brothers, survive: Mrs. D. F. Hood, of near Plateau, and Messrs. T. A. Brittain, of MeAdenville; W. G. Brittain, who is out West, and J. B. and J. P. Brittain, of near Lincolnton. The burial took place at Pleasant Grove church yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock, Rev. M. B. Clegg conducting the funeral service.

Death of Mrs. Susan Shelton.

Mrs. Susan Shelton, wife of Mr. M. J. Shelton, died at her home at Denver, Lincoln county, Wednesday after a long illness. Mrs. Shelton was a woman of estimable character and her death will be felt as a great loss by the entire community. Mr. Lock Shelton, of Gastonia, a brother-in-law of the deceased, went to Denver yesterday to attend the funeral—Gastonia Gazette, May 15th.

FROM THE CAPITOL.

Breezy Comments on Current Events as Seen By a Keen Observer.

Special Correspondence.
Washington, D. C. May 14.

Washington is full of delegates to conventions. There are four conventions being held here this week, all of great national importance. The American Water Works Association, the National Drainage Association, the Civic Association, and the Convention of Governors. The most important of these conventions was the assembling of the governors of 45 States, with practically the whole of the United States government, with President Roosevelt as Chairman and host. Such an array of the leading men of the nation has never been seen before, and the most conspicuous figure at this gathering was Governor Johnson, of Minnesota, whom his friends expect to see nominated for President. If Gov. Johnson were not a candidate, he would still command general attention, as he evidently possesses those two good qualities—common sense and fearlessness, combined with honesty of purpose and the power to express his opinions and impress them upon others.

The Republican leaders are determined on an early adjournment of Congress, and have tentatively agreed upon May 23, but the controversy between the President and Congress over the control of the army has become acute. In the Senate, on the 12th inst. Senator Rayner, of Maryland, read a letter relating to the punishment inflicted on Col. Stewart, of the regular army, without a trial, and made a fierce attack on the President, charging him with usurpation and the substitution of martial law in the place of the Constitution, and the laws of this land. This, Mr. Rayner characterized as military despotism. Senator Foraker gave notice that he would speak again on the Brownsville affair within a day or two.

The letter of the President to Senators Stewart, of Vermont, and Smith, of Michigan, in which he declared himself supreme over the army and navy without regard to any law of Congress, will probably be placed in the Congressional Record before the debate closes and may result in action by the Senate, which would postpone the adjournment of Congress.

The much amended currency bill will be discussed in the House in a day or two, and will probably be passed practically as agreed upon at the Republican conference. It may be called a purely inflation measure with the government guaranty of the notes, and will undoubtedly involve the Treasury in endless trouble in the future, as all makeshift financial measures do. There are two reasons for passing it at this late day; first, because this Republican Congress must show it has done something; and second, because the Wall Street bankers are demanding this inflation.

The principal reform legislation that the Democrats have been fighting for is all to be neglected, including the repeal of the tariff tax on wood pulp and print paper, and the bill to prevent political corruption by the publication of campaign expenses of all parties. The measures recommended by President Roosevelt for the amendment of the anti-trust law, to limit injunctions against Labor Unions, and allow railroads to combine and pool, have not even been reported from committees.

The remarkable thing about this early adjournment is that, although the President's program of reforms is almost entirely rejected, yet it appears that he is willing to see

Congress adjourn without further effort to force Congress to consider those reform measures.

In consequence of this practically do-nothing Congress, a large number of Republican Congressmen will wend their way home with but little heart to face their outraged constituents, especially those whose districts are close and doubtful. Many of these already see their Democratic opponents' looks of delight at the standpat policy these Republican members have endorsed and voted for; the gag rules adopted to prevent the Democrats from discussing and amending measures, and with all that, the lack of practical legislation.

The Democrats have worked together as one man under their able leader, John Sharpe Williams, whose constant victories in debate over all the Republican leaders has united the Democrats in their legislative program, without a hitch.

The officials of the National Prosperity Association have been here soliciting the help of the President in their effort "to keep the dinner pail full; to keep the pay car going; to keep the factory busy; to keep the workman employed; to keep the present wages up."

This excellent, fetching program appealed to the President, and he eagerly endorsed it. The prosperity Association is backed by the money of the Railroads, and its literature declares "our prosperity came with the prosperity of the railroads; it declined when adversity struck the railroads. We do not believe we can have the full measure of prosperity again until the railroads are prosperous."

This quotation is most interesting in view of the fact that the railroads are making arrangements for a sweeping advance in rates, and they badly need some public opinion on their side and have taken the faith cure method of securing it. Look on the bright side of things, they tell us, and have faith in the future, and "the pay car will keep going"—if the railroads are endorsed in increasing their rates. Perhaps increasing railroad rates will produce prosperity, but whether the people, by paying this assessment of some hundreds of millions, will want prosperity by that route is doubtful. It is disagreeable to turn a deaf ear to such a beautiful plea as the Prosperity Association suggests; but one cannot help suggesting that perhaps if the railroads would reduce rates, the wheels of the industry might move the faster. There is nothing like low rates to foster business and keep the idle cars moving.

It is said that the president's change of heart on the subject of railroad rates and the labor legislation proposed by him in so many spectacular messages to Congress was produced by the receipt of thousands of telegrams from members of the Manufacturers' Association, of which the virile Mr. Van Cleave is the leading spirit. If the Manufacturers openly threatened to bolt the G. O. P. and cut off its supplies of boodle for corruption of the floating vote this year, no wonder that Mr. Roosevelt was silenced. Perhaps that is why he is now willing to forego anti-injunction bills, prosecution of railroads, and running amuck after corporations, until the Republican dough-bags are replenished again.

ROBERT MILLER.

Speaking at Zion.

Capt. C. E. Childs will address the people of the Zion neighborhood at Zion church on the fourth Sunday, May 24th, at eight o'clock p. m., on the subject of Prohibition. All are cordially invited to be present.