

Probably the most significant thing that has happened in politics for some time is the recent election of Judge Dunne, a Democrat, as mayor of Chicago. The significance lies in the fact that his platform was for the immediate ownership of the street railways by the city. We take this as a very strong indication of the spread of this doctrine in the minds of the people. Nor can it be charged in this instance to Democratic radicalism, because the Republican opponent of Judge Dunne was also in favor of municipal ownership as soon as it became expedient, and the election seemed to turn on the question of which candidate offered the best hope of success. Government ownership may turn out to be an economic fallacy, but it is at present the quickest protest that the people can make against corporate greed and tyranny run mad, and it is therefore grasped as the first weapon at hand. We have never been much of an octopus hunter, but we believe the time has come when a fight is necessary to preserve both public and individual rights in this country.

The Rev. Mr. Bradford, chaplain of the House of Representatives of Illinois, lifted up his voice at the opening session one day last week in the most remarkable prayer that many folks ever heard of. It was for the President's safety during his hunting trip in the West. He said: "We invoke Thy choicest blessings upon our country at large. Bless the Chief Executive of this great nation personally and officially, and as he is soon to reach 'the happy hunting ground,' on which he has fixed his faraway gaze, and where the wild beasts abound, whether these monsters of the mountains fly from him in fear or fly at him in fury, may he find himself protected by the shield of the Almighty, so that on his return to his home in peace and safety, like thy servant David of old, he can testify to the people that the Lord delivered him out of the paw of the lion and out of the paw of the bear, and let all the people praise Thee, Amen and Amen."

Brother Bradford is either crazy or he is an irreverent clown whose passion for joking stops not even at sacred things.

We do not take any stock in the repeated assertion that the farmers who have signed pledges to reduce their cotton acreage will not "stick." Of course, the men who have not signed the pledge are left to do as they please, but to say that any number of those who have signed will not keep their solemn obligations, is a charge too serious to make, and we refuse to believe it. The great number who have signed the pledge will keep it, and the farmers who have not signed will be bound by their own judgment as to whether it is good policy to plant little or much. One thing seems to be certain—that there will be a considerable reduction. Another thing that most people seem to be agreed on, is that the man who does reduce, regardless of what his neighbor does, is going to turn out to be the wise one.

John Paul Jones, the man who first taught the world to respect the American flag, was a most spectacular sea fighter. Every schoolboy knows him as the man who, when summoned to surrender, sent back the defiant answer that he had not begun to fight, though his ship was then in a sinking condition. Though he did invaluable service in the American cause and was a terror to the British, his body was buried in an unknown grave in Paris, and was quickly lost sight of. Numerous searches have been made for it, but without success until the other day, when it was found by Admiral Porter, the American minister at Paris. The search was a success only after five years of patient labor, carried on at the admiral's own expense. The body had been preserved in alcohol and the recognition seems to have been complete. It will be brought to this country and re-entered.

The extent of the rural free delivery system in North Carolina is indicated by the fact that for the first quarter of this year the postmaster at Raleigh, who is the postmaster of the State, paid to rural carriers \$149,894. With the continued increase of routes, there will be brought into the State from this source in this year alone over \$600,000, and the sum will rapidly increase with the expansion of the system. This itself is a big thing, to say nothing of the vast benefit the system is to the people.

Will some of our contemporaries who are talking of "crops" and "clumb," "hung" and "drug," give us a few remarks on the over-correct individual who feels "badly" and takes a dose of medicine? To close out right quick and for cash, we will sell you a 2-lb. pkg. of Premier Coffee, two Sterling Silver Spoons with each package, for 90c., regular price 70c. a package. Bruner & Huey.

COTTON STILL ROYAL PLANT.

JORDAN BRINGS A MESSAGE OF DETERMINATION AND HOPE.

Says It's a Libel on the Farmers that Acreage Will Not be Reduced. Cotton is Worth Ten Cents a Pound and Will Bring it for Farmers Will Stand—Real Cleaning of Tag Sales and the Reason Southwest is Selling—Farmers Must Come Together With All Classes in the South and Dictate the Price of Cotton.

Mr. Harvie Jordan, president of the Southern Cotton Association, spoke for an hour to a big gathering of farmers and business men in the court house in Monroe Friday. He is a handsome man, plainly, but neatly dressed, with fine head, positive eyes and mellow voice. The court house was filled with an enthusiastic crowd, and the smooth, positive statements of the speaker were freely applauded. Mr. Jordan believes that cotton is still king, but the farmers must take the situation into their own hands and demand its regal rights. He wants the farmers, business men and all classes in the South to hold together and dictate to the world the price of their labors. Regarding the present situation, he says hold on, reduce acreage and make other crops. He says that there is no question that acreage will be greatly reduced and less fertilizer used under cotton. He knows the situation thoroughly, and has studied the cotton question through all its various ramifications from the field to the rag bag. He is a farmer himself, and said that as far back as he could trace his ancestry there had been none but farmers in his family.

The speaker was introduced by Mr. R. B. Redwine. Mr. Jordan began by highly complimenting the Union county organization and President Broom's faithful and intelligent work. His speech, he said, was about the great Southern staple in general, and the purposes of the Southern Cotton Association in particular. The organization of this association was not an accident, but grew out of necessity in the great crisis that confronts the South.

"The farmers know all about growing cotton, so much so that we have now 2,000,000 bales more than the world needs. What we need to learn is how to sell it. Not a man in the audience can tell me what became of the crop of 1903. We all know that we made 10,300,000 bales, but not a one knows where it went, what it cost the manufacturers, where they sold the cloth nor what it brought. This is true of business men as well as farmers. But these are the things we must know. The Southern Cotton Association proposes to take up this matter and find out every detail about the consumption of cotton and put it into the hands of all.

"American cotton has only four competitors—wool, flax, silk and foreign grown cotton. But none of these articles are competitors until our cotton reaches 14 cents a pound. Up to that figure we have a complete monopoly. After that figure is reached they can bring in some of the short staple of India, mix it with better grades and use it. Yet we are asked to sell our cotton at 7 cents! The enormous value of the South's cotton crop is not appreciated. Its product turns the balance of trade in our favor and makes the United States a creditor nation. It brings back more money from abroad than all other products and manufactures combined. The crop of 1903 could have paid one dollar a bushel for every bit of corn made in the United States. Our cotton and cotton goods exports last year were over \$1,000,000 a day. Now, when we understand what a good thing we have, doesn't it look like we could get together on a business basis and get the full benefit of it?

"Farmers set the price on nothing that they buy or sell. Other people hold both ends of the rope, and if they didn't hang us they would be fools. The farmers of the West have already freed themselves. The farmers of the great wheat growing States have organized, put up big graneries and sell at their own price. They have fixed a minimum price of 90 cents a bushel for wheat and 40 cents for corn, and when it goes below these prices they simply lock up the store and wait for the world to get hungry and pay their price. As a result they are getting 43 cents for corn in the face of the biggest crop in the world. When they sold as we sell our cotton, wheat and corn went to 25 and 15 cents. We put our whole crop on the market in 90 days, make an enormous over-supply for the time, mills buy their supply at the depressed price, the demand is relaxed, the balance of the year, and the speculators fix the price. This is a cold business proposition, and we should not fall out with others for taking advantage of a business situation which we make. We have no enemies; we are our own enemies. The farmer has devoted his time solely to production and allowed others to dominate the selling.

"We can't handle our crop without a system of warehouses. I have just come from the great Southwest, where it is reported that farmers are selling fast. They are selling but it is not because they have lost faith in the holding movement. It is because they have nowhere to keep the cotton except in open fields, and it is simply rotting, and they are compelled to sell it or lose enormously. Every bale of cotton that goes to a gulf port now is marked 'damaged.' 'Don't store cotton in mills. Store it at home out of sight. I store mine in a corrugated iron building and turn the key. I don't want everybody to know what I have. The average farmer will put his cotton out where it can be seen or die. Since 1900 I have not sold a pound for less than 10 cents. There is no spinner in the world who can spin the cotton I make unless he gives me 10 cents for it. I am going to have something to do with the price if I have to go it alone. The cotton mills can pay 10 cents for cotton and declare a dividend. But they can't pay 16 cents one time and 6 cents

another. They want a stable price and the mill men in Georgia are putting money in our association so that they can say to the world, 'You can't get it for less than 10 cents.' We want to fix a stable price and encourage the growth of mills in the South. We want this section honeycombed with mills, for they bring wealth to us. We have to submit to a price set out by men 3,000 miles away, and the Englishmen say that Southern business men and farmers act like brainless fools, all because we do not know how to sell it. Long staple cotton was selling a few years ago for 9 and 10 cents and two men controlled it. I went to the growers and called a meeting and asked them if they knew what became of their cotton. They did not. I told them that J. & P. Coats and other thread manufacturers formed into a trust, took one pound of it for 10 cents, made 8 dozen spools of thread out of it and sold it back to them for \$4.80. Since that time they have put up the price of long staple cotton to 25 cents a pound.

"Since December 3rd, the bankers have stood loyally by us and some of them have strained themselves. But the best financial aid a farmer ever had is a full corn crib and smokehouse—that will solve the problem. Providence never intended the favored South to be dependent upon any other section. Yet the only time many farmers can claim they own their cotton is while they are sitting on the bales hauling them to town. Seventy per cent of the farmers of the South are tenants, and landlords ought to encourage croppers to break up the infernal credit system. The cotton consuming world will have you clinched as long as you follow it, and make all debts due in October and sell cotton as at present. Market some each month, make all you need, and hold your cotton till buyers come and ask you what you'll take. Then you won't have to run buyers down to ask what they'll give.

"Break up the system of marketing it on the street. This is primitive and out of date. Union county farmers ought to build a big warehouse where farmers could take their cotton, store it, take receipts, and let the buyers go there and bid against each other for it. We need to use more brain and not so much brawn.

"I am greatly encouraged in the belief that there will be a good reduction in acreage. With a full knowledge of the situation, I declare that unless we do, cotton will next fall for 4 or 5 cents. No doubt about it. We are now at two forks of the road: one leads to prosperity and happiness, the other leads to ruin. The cotton world has started in amazement at what has been done since last December. By merely a threat to organize at New Orleans, when cotton was 6 cents, we run it up \$10 a bale. What can we do if we stick together? There will be \$275,000,000 more in a small crop next year at 10 cents than in a large one at 5 cents. Yet the weak-kneed are getting scared and listening to the tons of bear literature that are being sent out. It is a lie that the farmers will not keep a solemn pledge. Two hundred thousand have signed in Texas and they will stick to their word. But never mind what your neighbor does, you reduce. If you do you'll be better off, for if all reduce it will be a good price; if not it will be low and you'll be better off for having made less. If I did not know that there was to be a reduction I would not plant a seed.

"They say that as many fertilizer tags as ever have been sold. But this means nothing. I have had this matter carefully investigated. This year, for the first time, guano manufacturers are sending out goods on consignment; all these are tagged, but the tags will be redeemed when the season is over and the goods are not sold. One man, too, found five or six tags on one sack.

"Hold on to your cotton. If we did make a big crop the other side has sold two crops. The time is coming when they must deliver the spots, and the spots are in our hands. It is an outrage that our cotton should be sold months and months before we make it and without saying a word to us about it. We must prevent this. We cannot do it alone. We must join with all other interests in the South and then it can be done. In 1860 the South called every man who could carry a musket to shoulder it. Those who skulked are disgraced to this day and their families after them. Every man is again

called to duty to defeat this intolerable system that is robbing the South.

"On the first Tuesday in May there will be a rally in every parish or district in the South to report on acreage. That will be the final meeting. We will then have the facts. If this meeting, followed by the government report on June 3rd, shows a good reduction we will be well, if not dissatisfied will follow."

Prior to the speaking, a business session of the Union county association was held. In view of the reports that farmers would not keep their pledges, President Broom called on a number of farmers to say how it was in their own neighborhoods. The following replies were made:

Thos. E. Williams—We will stick to reduction of acreage and fertilizer. P. B. Blakeney—Farmers will stick. Dr. W. H. Gribble—25 to 30 per cent. reduction. S. A. Lathan—We say we will stick and we are in earnest. D. A. Price—Some will use as much guano as ever, but it will not be under cotton, but corn and other crops. A. J. Brooks—Marshville will keep the pledge. G. R. Winchester—Using a good deal of guano, but under corn. R. B. McCain—Reduce acreage considerably, also guano. A. A. Seerest—Goose Creek will stick to the pledge. Robt. Davis—All will stick. Capt. B. F. Richardson—Reduce considerably, most every body will. J. W. Williams—Everybody would rather cut half than to plant more.

After the speaking the crowd gathered on the west side of the court house and were photographed by Mr. T. N. Hale.

Trizah Items.
Waxhaw, R. F. D. No. 1, April 15. The closing exercises of Trizah school took place last Friday night and Saturday, according to former announcement. Quite a large crowd attended the exercises both on Friday night and Saturday. On Friday night after the opening exercises, consisting of a dialogue, pantomime, etc., the public debate took place. The question discussed was, "Resolved, That women should be allowed to vote." Messrs. Hall Nelson and Clarence McMurray represented the affirmative, and Messrs. Ernest Huey and Roy Dunn the negative. Both sides handled the question well, but the judges decided in favor of the affirmative. Mr. Clarence McMurray won the medal given for the best debate. On Saturday morning the reciters and declaimers' contest took place. Nine girls contested for the medal and all did their part well, and it was really hard to tell who did the best, but the medal was awarded to Miss Bertha Reichford. We cannot praise the boys quite as much as the girls, but Mr. Hall Nelson won the declaimer's medal. Just at this point the crowd was dismissed one hour, when they retired to the grove and partook of a sumptuous dinner that was set before them. After dinner the program was the presentation of medals, after short talks by Rev. Mr. Brock, Prof. H. N. Nisbet and Mr. Smith Medlin. The day was an enjoyable one and no doubt will long be remembered by those present.

Mr. Brock and Miss Medlin deserve much credit for their good and successful work during their short stay with us. We were loath to give them up, and bid them God's speed wherever their lot may be cast in the future.

Miss Annie Stover is visiting her sister, Mrs. W. S. Walkup. Mrs. T. B. Nisbet and children are visiting relatives at Matthews. Misses Maude Williams and Ola Broom of Waxhaw visited at Mr. J. C. Nelson's last week. Mrs. Bessie Melow closed her school at Jacksonville last Friday and has returned to her home in Charleston, S. C.

Mrs. Dr. H. C. Houston visited relatives and friends in this neighborhood last week.

Seven Boxes Sardines this week for 25c. cash. Bruner & Huey.

Van Camp's Pumpkin and Pumpkin Pie, three 3 lb. cans, 25c.; 90c. a doz. Bruner & Huey. Five pound package of Buckwheat and a bottle of Maple Syrup for 10c. at Bruner & Huey's.

SPECIAL NOTICES.
Advertisements will be inserted in this column at the price of one cent a word, cash in advance. IDEAL Massage Cream and Skin Food, for cleansing and beautifying the skin. Contains no oil or glycerine. Removes freckles, pimples, blackheads, moths, tan, sunburn, chapped face and hands. Price 35 cents. For sale by English Drug Co. FOR SALE—Good medium size mule, 8 years old. Henry Penegar, at Piedmont Buggy Co.'s.

NOTICE—Those desiring insurance on their life will do well to see me before they have their policy written. Bear in mind, we carry all the latest policies. D. W. Benton, R. F. D. 1, Indian Trail, N. C. **NOTICE**—I wish to call the attention of all who owe me that your accounts are due when service is rendered. Come in at once, and save yourself the trouble of telling your neighbors how badly you have been treated. If you can't pay all or a part in cash, I will accept any reasonable settlement. This is my last call, and a word to the wise is sufficient. Settlement can be made with nurses at my office at any time, when I am not in. Very respectfully, J. P. Monroe.

HENDERSON & SNYDER wants to write your fire insurance. HIDES WANTED—Bring your mink hides to me and get highest prices. W. E. Richardson, at Crew Bros. GOOD horse for sale at a bargain. Collins & Biggers. COTTON SEED WANTED—25 car loads. Highest price paid. J. M. Fairley. SEE Henderson & Snyder for fire insurance on anything you want. ROOMS TO RENT—Two on Washington street, furnished or unfurnished, with board if desired. Mrs. J. H. Petteway.

FOR SALE—I offer my 4 room house and acre lot on alley G for sale. Terms 1/3 cash, balance on 12 months time. Good well on lot. For further information apply at Journal office. W. R. Hunter.

Specials in Hand Bags.
We have on sale this week a new lot of Hand Bags from \$1. to \$5. We would like very much to show you the newest Spring styles.
The W. J. Rudge Co.

Wood's Grass AND Clover Seeds.
For clean fields and clean crops, Sow Wood's Trade Mark Seeds, the best qualities obtainable. Wood's Seed Book gives the fullest information about Grasses and Clovers, best time and methods of seeding, kinds best adapted to different soils, quantities to seed per acre, best combinations for hay or pasture, and much other information of the greatest value to every farmer. Wood's Seed Book is mailed free on request. Write for it, and Special Price List of Farm Seeds best adapted to different soils, quantities to seed per acre, best combinations for hay or pasture, and much other information of the greatest value to every farmer. T. W. Wood & Sons, Seedsmen, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. **WOOD'S SEEDS** Awarded GRAND PRIZE - ST. LOUIS, 1904. GOLD MEDAL - PARIS, 1900.

The Supreme Court last week confirmed the constitutionality of the Union county liquor law of 1903, in which the possession of more than a quart of liquor is made prima facie evidence of keeping it for sale. The case was against Sampson Barrett and was carried up on appeal by his lawyers, Messrs. Redwine & Stack. The case before the Supreme Court attracted some attention, and aroused some adverse criticism on its alleged severity. But the law is set in its real light in the following extract from the Raleigh letter to the Charlotte News:

"Mr. T. J. Jerome, who is here from Union county, says the people there are very well satisfied with the special law they have making the possession of more than a quart of liquor prima facie evidence of keeping it for sale, that being a crime as well as the actual selling. He says that in order to prosecute on this basis it is necessary for some reputable citizen to go before a magistrate and make affidavit that he has ample reason to believe that a man is keeping liquor for sale, and on the strength of this the man is cited to show that he is not guilty and must go on the stand. He has not heard of an instance where any citizen has suffered a hardship from the operation of the law."

Anson and Union Not Good Places for Safe Blowers.
Waxhaw Messenger and Intelligence. It's about time professional burglars, who go about the country plying the nefarious business of safe cracking, were learning that the atmosphere of Anson and Union counties is not good for them. There have been many safes robbed in the State in the last few years, but we do not recall that any "cracker" has ever been arrested in this State except in this and Union county. It will be remembered that the Morven safe crackers, Ellsworth and Travor, took the train at Lilesville, were arrested at Marshville, and were afterward convicted and sentenced to terms in the penitentiary of 10 years each. Again, some two or three years ago, a posse of Union county officers, after a dangerous and exciting chase, ran down and captured three professional crackers about seven miles from Monroe. These men were carried to Charlotte and convicted in the Federal Court of robbing postoffices and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

And last comes the arrest at Lilesville, Saturday, of two noted criminals, both of whom will doubtless be convicted and imprisoned.

Dudley News.
Dudley, April 14.—Mr. Eugene Funderburk of Lancaster visited relatives here recently. Mr. Chester Funderburk, who has been in business at Lancaster, has come home to attend to his father's farm while he (Mr. T. A. Funderburk) is in the hospital at Chester.

The Chesterfield Baptist Union will convene with the Dudley Baptist church on Friday before the 5th Sunday in April. The writer spent a very pleasant week in the town of Chesterfield recently. Chesterfield is improving a great deal since the railroad came there. A large brick hotel is one of the many improvements that has been added to the town. A nice new Methodist church will soon be commenced. It is a thriving little place. E. F. Ralston Health Oats and Wheat and Pancake Flour, to close the lot at 10c. a package, regular price 15c. Bruner & Huey. Van Camp's Pumpkin and Pumpkin Pie, three 3 lb. cans, 25c.; 90c. a doz. Bruner & Huey. Five pound package of Buckwheat and a bottle of Maple Syrup for 10c. at Bruner & Huey's.

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WORLD CHALLENGING BARGAINS



This great establishment is now all aglow with bargain offerings of most dazzling brilliancy, bargains such as only this great concern, with its dozen or more stores throughout the Piedmont section, can give. A perfect avalanche of bargains for this week and next. Throngs of purchasers will take advantage of these extraordinary offerings.

A Display of Millinery Unequaled.
Since our first opening day eager, enthusiastic women have crowded this popular department, showing an intense and pleasing interest by making quick and liberal purchases from by far the **Most Complete Spring Millinery Stock** ever seen in Monroe. In amount of sales in this department our most sanguine expectations have been realized; and to-day our young ladies are as busy as bees filling the many orders taken in this more than successful department.

Shoe Store Talk.
A look through this splendid showing of Shoes will convince you that we have what you want and the prices speak for themselves

Queen Quality
A woman is only as old as she looks. Queen Quality Shoes give her such comfort that she looks ten years younger. They fit.



We have just received a special factory line of Ladies' Shoes. We call them **Belk's Special.** We believe this to be the best line of Ladies Shoes on the market for the price. All shapes and styles, only \$1.50. **Children's Shoes** Beginning at 19c. up to the finest. Infant's Sandals, Oxford, etc. For this week we are offering a special \$1.25 Men's Shoe, sizes 6 to 11, for \$1.00.



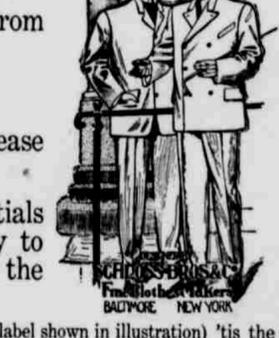
Queen Quality and Krippendorf-Dittman Shoes for women. New arrivals. \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50. All shapes, colors and kinds.

BELK BROS.

Wholesale and Retail. Cheapest Store on Earth.

YOUR SPRING SUIT IS READY AT D. WILL FLOW'S.

A good many hundreds of men are thinking seriously of their Spring Suits and we are going to help a large majority of them to a most satisfying solution of the question—
Our showing of Clothing cannot be equaled
The Fabrics are the snappiest from both foreign and domestic mills
The Styles are the very best
The variety so great that we can please the most particular
The workmanship and other essentials embodied in our clothes are only to be found in the highest class of the finest tailoring



THEY carry the badge of Superiority (the Schloss label shown in illustration) 'tis the sign of the Best Correct Clothes for Gentlemen of Superior taste—and is considered a valuable ally for the dressy clean cut man of limited purse. When you buy a suit from us you make an investment that will yield you a daily dividend of satisfaction—a dividend that is as certain as the setting of the sun
It is impossible to wake you realize through cold type the merits of our Clothing—better call on us—see the garments and learn how great is the advantage of trading with us.
We have the exclusive agency for Stetson's and Snow's High Grade Shoes.

D. Will Flow,

Outfitter to Particular People. Monroe, North Carolina

Do you Need a Good Farm, Saddle or Driving Horse?
If so, we have them and will sell them at bargains never before heard of. Also a lot of well broke farm and draft mules to sell at bargains.

Just Received a Solid Car Load 1- and 2-Horse Wagons
The best wagons on earth for the money, and will be sold for cash or on time. A lot of Buggies, Surries, Phaetons, Bikes, etc., at bargains that will surprise the natives. We are prepared to make or sell you any kind of Harness you want at bargains. Remember, money saved is money made.

The Sikes Company.