

Mount Airy News.

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AFTER MR. WILSON

More and more as time goes on does it become more apparent that Mr. Wilson is the most powerful man in public life at this time. The very fact that he is able to retain his influence with his own party and, sick or well, meet his opponents on every occasion and usually meet them as victor, makes him a man to be considered seriously by his political opponents. His great influence and his great popularity is evidently annoying to the Republican politicians who see in him a man who is most likely to turn this country over to the Democrats for another eight years. For was it not the intellect and good judgment of Mr. Wilson that did so much to put to rest the Republican party in the last two national campaigns? And it is more and more evident that he will again see the country safe in the hands of his friends.

All this opposition to Mr. Wilson creates many scenes that in a way are almost amusing. Just last week Mr. Wilson saw fit to ask for the resignation of his cabinet Mr. Robert Lansing who has been Secretary of State. Mr. Wilson gave his reasons as plainly as language can express thought at the time he asked for the resignation. The following is the key note of Mr. Wilson's letter asking Mr. Lansing to resign:—

"While we were still in Paris I felt, and have felt increasingly ever since, that you accepted my guidance and direction on questions with regard to which I had to instruct you only with increasing reluctance, and since my return to Washington, I have been struck by the number of matters in which you have apparently tried to forestall my judgment by formulating action and merely asking my approval when it was impossible for me to form an independent judgment, because I had not had an opportunity to examine the circumstances with any degree of independence."

Now we confess that one could hardly find a better reason than Mr. Wilson assigned for his action. A careful reading of the above will make it clear that it was either call on Mr. Lansing to resign, or retain a man in the cabinet who appeared to Mr. Wilson to be trying to assume the duties of President.

Mr. Lansing was not acceptable to Mr. Wilson and that was sufficient reason for calling for his resignation, but the Republican senators have tried to make much of this affair and are doing all they can to make it reflect for the bad on Mr. Wilson.

It appears that this is only carrying out their plan to lose no opportunity to do everything possible to destroy Mr. Wilson's great popularity and influence. It is not enough for them to say that he made a mistake when he asked for Mr. Lansing's resignation, they go further and question his mental soundness and get gay about discharging his mental specialists too soon. Thus they would create, if they could, the idea in the minds of the people that Wilson is unsound in mind and hence unable to discharge the duties of his office.

The remarkable feature of the whole matter is the smallness of the game that United States senators seem to be able to play. It would be going too far to question the sanity of the whole number of Republican United States senators, but it does look as if it would greatly aid them if they could call in a mental specialist who could give them some sound advice if he could not strengthen their mentality. They are only making themselves look small in the eyes of the nation by the petty politics they are playing. And the pity of it is they are not accomplishing anything by their small methods, but rather embarrassing the whole people by doing nothing when there is so much to do.

While President Wilson had a Democratic Congress back of him he got legislation that gave the people sugar at about 10c the pound. Most of this sugar comes to this country from Cuba. And have you noticed that since the country made choice of a Republican Congress sugar has gone up to 20c. One charge that has always been made against the Republican party is that it has always been the party of the rich man, and has always played into the hand of the very rich at the expense of the general public. It certainly appears that this has been done in the case of sugar. If a Democratic Congress could control the price it is very evident that a Republican Congress could have done the same if it had cared to do so.

ARE PROHIBITIONISTS UNREASONABLE?

The question of the soundness of the methods of prohibitionists is often being brought into question these days of national prohibition. So long as a man could order his drink from some state, even if it was a far distant state, he did not complain, but now that it is almost impossible to get it at any price blind tigers and illicit stills are springing up all over the land.

Many sensible people are wondering if the last state of our effort to crush out the drink evil has not been carried to an extreme that is not justifiable. At this time there are many who have been educated to think of liquor as a medicine, and to try to live and stay healthy without the presence of some in the home, to them, is unwise.

There never did come a reform that had the hearty consent and approval of all people. There are a great many now who would not doubt have the laws against stealing removed from the books. The gambler and the libertine can see no good in the laws that have been made to protect the weak from their unlawful deeds.

The fact remains that the Constitution of these United States now forbids the manufacture or sale of liquor. And this was written into the Constitution by three fourths of the states of the Union. Therefore one can safely conclude that prohibition is here to stay.

To say that it is unreasonable to be zealous in trying to enforce the liquor laws is just as unreasonable as to say that our country should be easy with the gambler and the thief and the libertine. The man who undertakes to enrich himself now by the illegal sale of liquor is about the worst enemy making has to deal with.

The immortal Shakespeare said, He who steals my purse steals trash but he who steals my good name filches from me that which enriches him not and leaves me poor indeed, or words to that effect. The man who illegally sells liquor to his neighbor not only takes his neighbor's money, but takes his capacity to earn money. He not only takes his neighbor's money and his capacity for earning money but he takes his good name and business standing, which leaves him poor indeed. Society has pity for the petty thief, for he may steal to satisfy his hunger; men look with a degree of sympathy on the man who flies into a passion and makes a deadly assault on his fellow man, has sensible people have a perfect contempt for the libertine who violates the highest laws of society and to satisfy his own selfish nature brings disgrace on his neighbor. It is along with this last class of criminals that the liquor dealers of the future will be classed, and properly so, for the liquor dealer in these times of prosperity has no earthly excuse for his methods of enriching himself at the expense of those about him. And so one may expect the courts to be hard on the violators of the liquor laws in the future, for the public demands severe punishment because of the graveness of the crime.

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Surry's Roads And Schools

Possibly not many have stopped to think just what the new roads and good schools of this county are doing for the development of this section. In a talk with Mr. C. M. Ball, of the Linville-Ball-Hutchens Land Company, of this city, this week some facts were learned that are well worth considering and making widely known.

The above land company is now doing a large business in selling land in this and other counties. They do not by any means confine their sales to land in this immediate section, but manage in the run of a year to make many sales in distant counties. To illustrate. Just this week they sold a 100 acre farm in Chatham county, near the town of Pittsboro to Mr. John Creed, of Round Peak. Mr. Creed will move to his new purchase and make that his home. That means a citizen leaves the county, you notice. Now it is common talk that many citizens are leaving the county and going to other sections of the state, especially to some of the counties about Richmond, Va.

Mr. Ball says that while this is true there are many citizens coming to Surry county from other sections. During the past few months many have moved here from Stokes, to say nothing of other counties and those who have come back after spending some time in the west.

Mr. Ball says that it is noticeable that most of those who are coming to Surry from other counties are particular about where they buy land for their new home. Usually they have lived in some out of the way place possibly far from a school or good road. But when they buy land for the new home they want land on one of the good roads of the county and try to get in a good neighborhood and near a good school. This feature of the subject was well illustrated a few days ago when Mr. Allen Simmons sold his farm on the good road near White Plains and near the graded school at that place. The farm contained 91 acres and was divided up into eleven tracts and sold to the highest bidder. The entire farm brought \$108 an acre and was bought by men who will move to their new purchases, develop it, build a new home and live near a school and on a good road. Five citizens who live in other sections will move to White Plains as the result of this one land sale.

Mr. Ball says that there is a strong tendency on the part of citizens in the back sections of this and other counties to sell out and move nearer to town and schools and own less land even if it does cost them more money per acre.

All of which shows that our people are waking up to the value of good schools and other modern convenience.

Mr. Cornelius has bought the timber on ten thousand acres land and in the country at the end of this road and he has a lease on the road for a long period of time. He is a business man of means and is in position to not only make his enterprise a success but will be a great factor in the developing of the country where he will operate. Since the railroad has been out of business a large section of country has been greatly handicapped, for there are no good roads in that section and the people had long been accustomed to the use of the railroad.

There are no better people living than a large majority of those who live along Mount Airy and Eastern line. But the country has also a scallawag population, just as other sections have, and this don't-care set has always annoyed the management of this road more or less. We suggest to the good people in that section of the country that they get busy and try to assist the manager in protecting his property and making it safe from the depredations of the criminal and the thoughtless. This can be done by the law-abiding people in that section better than by any one else, and no country can hope to prosper and attract business men and capital where the laws are not enforced to that degree that life and property are safe.

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Mrs. Welch Dropped Dead

Mrs. Della Welch, wife of G. C. Welch, prominent merchant of this city, died at her home on Church St. Wednesday morning between eight and nine o'clock. She had been ill and confined to her bed some weeks ago but had apparently fully recovered and was about her daily duties. She had planned to visit her daughter Etta on the day of her death. She went to the barn to get feed for chickens and while in the feed way dropped dead of heart trouble. Her husband had just gone to the store possibly an hour before. He was notified as also was her son, Walter. The body was removed to the house and the undertaker called.

All the immediate relations live close except one who is expected to arrive tonight. One son, Edgar, was away on an extended vacation trip but was finally reached by wire at Baltimore.

The funeral will be held Friday, 10 A. M. at the Friends church in charge of T. Wesley Wooten, assisted by G. Raymond Booth and T. H. King, interment in Oakdale cemetery.

Della Hutchens was born fourth month, 1856. She was married twelfth month, 9th, 1877, to George Calvin Welch. To this union were born eight children. She departed this life second month, 19th, 1920, aged 63 years, 9 months, 28 days.

Mrs. Welch was converted in her early girlhood and soon after united with the Society of Friends, of which she was a consistent member until her death.

Della Welch was first of all a faithful wife and a devoted mother but her interests were as wide as the earth itself. She was active in the W. C. T. U., Ladies Aid, and Missionary work, or in anything else that would help and uplift humanity. Perhaps the greatest service, though she never thought of it as such, was her rare sweet smile and her ever ready words of encouragement in times of need.

With the passing of this good woman the home loses its queen, the church a sainted mother in Israel and the community one of its most esteemed and respected citizens. Truly it can be said she walked with God and she was not, for God took her.

Mrs. Welch is survived by her husband, G. C. Welch, six children, Ida, Etta, Emma, Walter, Alice and Edgar, one brother, Nathan Hutchens, and one sister, and nine grand-children. —Contributed.

Shot May Have Been Intended For Caudle

Winston-Salem, Feb. 16.—According to reports coming from Yadkin county, there are a number of people who are inclined to the opinion that the bullet which ended the life of Sheriff Zachary last Friday night, fired it is charged, by Ralph Baily, was intended for Rev. T. A. Caudle, the Baptist divine who is pastor of a church in the section where the crime was committed. It is said that the



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preacher has not only argued against blockading, but has assisted the officers in locating illicit plants. The opinion seems to be quite general, according to reports received here, that Friday night's tragedy will result in Rev. Mr. Caudle being asked to resign his pastorate. The funeral of Sheriff Zachary was held at the Presbyterian church in Yadkinville Sunday afternoon and was attended by an immense throng of people.
Bunker-Simmons
 Mr. Oliver Bunker and Miss Mamie Simmons of White Plains were united in marriage Feb. 7th.
 The bride is the attractive and accomplished daughter of Mr. Allen Simmons and the groom is the son of Mr. William Bunker, he is a prosperous and progressive young farmer and they have the good wishes of a host of friends, they will reside near White Plains.

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