

MORNING POST

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The Post will publish brief letters on subjects of general interest. The writer's name must accompany the letter. Anonymous communications will not be returned.

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THE WEATHER TODAY: Fair.

We can all now give a brief spell of attention to Fort Arthur again.

It's cruel to give a man much-coveted political preferment and then muzzle him with a platform.

The convention in Greensboro was evidently of the opinion that the freedom of the press is sufficiently grounded as one of the bulwarks of liberty.

Dr. von Hermann, who is on his way to Europe, is expected to turn green when he learns of that artificial rain Greensboro furnished for the convention.

"Winston gets second place" is the headline of a convention story giving an account of the nomination of the Democratic state ticket. True, and she got first place, too.

The Charlotte Chronicle appears to have very little concern about party loyalty. Really, the freedom of the press is a dangerous thing, when it comes to matters political.

If those gentlemen who were alarmed at the artificial rain at Greensboro had only read The Post that morning the dreadful fright would have been averted. It was the only paper, by the way, which told what Greensboro was going to do on that score.

We assure the esteemed Wilmington Messenger of our appreciation of its sympathy. We are worried, but not beyond the point of endurance. The convention declined to make a declaration on that compulsory primary business. It was too "mild" to wake up the sleepy delegates. In fact the action of the convention on other matters is ample proof that it is folly to try to compel Democrats to do anything they don't want to do, and the man with the resolution is probably willing to let it go at that.

That unique publication, Everything, by Al Fairbrother at Greensboro, is one year old. The colonel celebrates the anniversary by coming out with attractive colored covers and four pages more of the "pure and painless." This publication is bi-monthly, has a large subscription and large newsstand sales. It is also a popular article of commerce in the hands of railroad news butchers. Col. Fairbrother also issues a Boston edition that is meeting with marked success. Everything is a winner, and is in a class by itself. It needs no "be-ware of imitations."

THE MAKING OF PLATFORMS

The Democratic party in North Carolina owes it to itself to take more care in the deliberations of its conventions. It has been pointed out that the most important work of the convention, the adoption of a platform, is often left until the closing hours when the few remaining delegates are tired and listless.

The platform adopted, which is a good one, as far as it goes, was the work of a few men, and probably less than one-third of the delegates to the convention knew what was in it. Some of them probably do not know yet. Those who heard it read were worn out and too tired to object to its provisions.

Many people think the platform should have been silent as to the Watts bill. But Watts bill advocates declared that could not be, as the Republican platform denounced that bill and to ignore it would be fatal to the Democratic party.

The Republican platform also denounces the management of the Atlantic and North Carolina Railroad and the Atlantic Hotel and charges the Democratic party with corruption and extravagance, declaring in favor of a lease of the railroad and hotel property. That issue will have to be met by our Democratic campaigners, just the same as the Watts bill will have to be met, and a little wholesome party law, written in the platform, would doubtless have gone far to relieve the situation.

The convention had the courage to endorse the Watts law; and it should have had the courage to declare either for or against the lease of the Atlantic and North Carolina railroad and hotel. Neither of these propositions have been submitted to the people and the party has as much right to speak plainly about one as the other.

CONVENTION NOT A MOB

We do not in any sense agree with some of our contemporaries that the Democratic state convention in Greensboro was a mob. It was not a mob, and there was nothing of a mob spirit manifest in any of the proceedings. It was enthusiastic, and at times boisterous; but the convention at no time lost its head. That it was careless about part of its work we think is true.

It has been pointed out that Senator Simmons was treated with positive discourtesy and disrespect, when as chairman of the state executive committee he called the convention to order and attempted to make a speech. The convention was so boisterous the speech could not be heard and when the senator had spoken about ten minutes he gave it up and named Congressman Small as temporary chairman.

These circumstances have been presented and contrasted. The incident has been suggested as an indication of the waning of Senator Simmons' star, and as evidence that Congressman Small is growing unpopular. Neither view is true, we think. It was not an evidence of unpopularity or disrespect to either of the gentlemen that the convention would not hear them. At least we are sure no disrespect was intended. The convention was in a good humor, but the delegates were there for business and wanted to get at it.

you; and what you have prepared to say is all right; but we haven't time to hear you talk about it. Your records are clear, and do not need our endorsement."

And by its action the convention said to Governor Aycock: "We don't know whether we are with you or not, and we are willing to hear from you. You have been much discussed and your actions have been criticized, your administration has been assailed by the Republican party, your educational policy has been attacked by members of our own party, and there is some division about it. Go ahead and give us an account of your stewardship. Your administration has to do with things which directly concern us at home and in our local affairs."

And that the governor's account of his stewardship was satisfactory was shown by the enthusiastic shouts which greeted the speech.

No, it was not a mob, and the mob spirit was not there. No intended discourtesy was shown, but the convention was mistaken in not hearing the two first speeches. It had met for a purpose that was paramount in the minds of the delegates—the nomination of a candidate for governor, a man to succeed Aycock—and when a convention of Democrats thinks it is right it is ready to proceed to business, and stay all day and all night to accomplish it.

But the term "mob" does not fit the case, it is offensive, should be withdrawn, and due apologies made.

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL PLATFORM

There is nothing new in the Republican platform except a proposition to reduce southern representation. So declared John Sharp Williams, the minority leader in the House, in an interview yesterday in the Washington Post. On the question of the revision of the tariff Mr. Williams says:

"The platform says in effect that tariff reductions are not to be safely committed to any other hands than those of the friends of the inequalities, discriminations and extortions of the present law, because it says that they ought not to be committed to any other hands than the Republican party. We think they ought to be committed to the hands of the friends of the common weal."

"The promise to reduce tariff taxation whenever conditions demand any alterations is idle, deceptive verbiage. Will any sane man assert that there are not conditions demanding any alterations of any of the schedules of the Dingley bill? Has not the Republican party had full power to make those alterations? Has it made them? Does the Republican party think that the practice on the part of a manufacturer of constantly selling his product cheaper abroad than at home constitutes such a condition? Does it believe that when a schedule of the tariff law shelters trusts in this practice there exists such a condition demanding a lowering of the rate at least to the point where foreign competition may enter whenever such a trust thus exploits the American consumer by extortionate and unreasonable prices? Who answers? Not the platform."

Under the Republican tariff, which that party had the power, but declined, to alter, steel rails are sold to Canadian railroads at \$18 per ton, and to railroads in the United States at \$28 per ton. For instance, it will cost \$50,000 more to buy steel rails for the Raleigh and Pamlico Sound railroad than for a road the same length in Canada.

In concluding his interview Mr. Williams, speaking of the proposition to reduce southern representation, says:

"I will not now go into the minor details of the platform. It simply stands pat everywhere except in one respect, and that is a respect in which it could well have afforded to let well enough alone, if things are, indeed, ever well enough in this world. That is the plank on which it promises if it finds the suffrage of any state unconstitutionally limited by special discrimination to reduce the representation of that state in Congress and in the electoral college."

"The adverb unconstitutionally is useless and fools nobody, especially when one remembers that the author of the phrase, or, at least the voice that read it, was the author of the old force bill. Whether or not the suffrage has been unconstitutionally limited is a matter for the courts to determine and a report of a Republican Committee on elections in the last congress so confesses it. If a man be unconstitutionally denied the suffrage, then, after a determination to that effect, he can vote; that is his remedy, and the right remedy, and, having voted, of course, there can be no reduction of the representation on this account."

"But all this deceives nobody, as I said. The real object of the Republican party in so far as this plank is concerned, however suspicious the phraseology in which it is clothed, is to reduce Southern representation without reducing that of Massachusetts, Connecticut and other states, wherever in the south the negroes are disfranchised, not as such, but because of ignorance, by an educational qualification, or because of any other right reason, in any other constitutional way. Disfranchisement of a negro for ignorance in Mississippi is a horrible thing; disfranchisement of a white man for ignorance in Massachusetts is a part of higher civilization."

"Let not the business interest of the country deceive itself. Let those controlling it prepare for another period of uncertainty, unrest, business disturbance, and race war in the southern states, instead of that peace and prosperity which both races now enjoy and which has been rendered possible only by home rule and by white su-

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premary. Let the south not deceive itself, either. If the Republican party were sincere in its proposition to reduce southern representation on the ground of the disfranchisement of the negro race in the south, thereby condoning the disfranchisement or unconstitutional limitation itself, you would accompany that proposition to repeal the fifteenth amendment.

"Their duplicity is shown in this: They wish to maintain the amendment which forbids the negro, for radical reasons, from being disfranchised, and on the pretense that he is, for radical reasons, disfranchised, they would have the negro not counted as a basis of representation in the southern states, where he chiefly resides. It is not the white man, as a white man, who is injured by a recurrence to the tendencies of force bill days—he can and always will maintain himself—it is business, commerce, manufacturing, agriculture, and the negro himself."

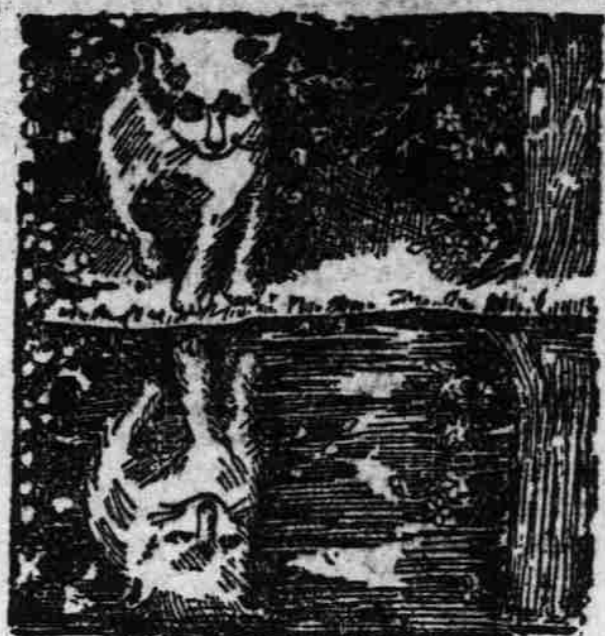
The papers are again printing stuff about Judge Clark, which tries to prove that he falsified the Confederate war records that he might wear a title of some sort. It's all time lost. It comes too late. Whether the record is true or false in regard to Confederate veterans cuts no ice now, and we really haven't time to fool with it. We boys are in the saddle. The Confederate veterans—and we can all say with unctious, God bless them, and shed tears when we recite their glorious and illustrious deeds—are back numbers and must keep off the race course Pensions, a term that is distasteful to a man of spirit and independence, is the banner of promise we invite them to rally 'round.

A story published in the Washington Post of yesterday says that Col. Bryan has been outgeneraled by Grover Cleveland to the effect that the Princeton sage has shrewdly paved the way for the nomination of Judge Gray for president. The story says that Gray is Cleveland's real choice, but that he adroitly secured a promise from Bryan to support Gray before he (Cleveland) let it be known who he was for.

If there was any discussion of the primary system in the late convention it was perhaps while the delegates were making so much noise it could not be heard. The convention listened only to that which it wanted to hear.

Work on all Experiences Can anything be worse than to feel that every minute will be your last? Such was the experience of Mrs. S. H. Newsom, Decatur, Ala. "For three years," she writes, "I endured insufferable pain from indigestion, stomach and bowel trouble. Death seemed inevitable when doctors and all remedies failed. At length I was induced to try Electric Bitters and the result was miraculous. I improved at once and now I'm completely recovered." For Liver, Kidney, Stomach and Bowel troubles Electric Bitters is the only medicine. Only 50c. It's guaranteed by all druggists.

Gerome's famous statue, "The Eagle of Waterloo," will be unveiled on the field of Waterloo on the anniversary of the battle, June 18.



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