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Section Two, Friday Feb 22, 1901

THE PASSING OF THE CIGARETTE.

It is not surprising that the statistics show that there is a continual decided falling off in the consumption, subsequently in the manufacture of the ready made cigarette.

No doubt this falling off is due to anti-cigarette legislation, and in twelve States forbid the sale of cigarettes to minors, legislation looking to the same is pending in three more States, while seven States are discussing the prohibition of the cigarette from within their boundaries.

Thus in thirty two States the cigarette is actively opposed, and the law is sought to drive it away or exterminate it.

In addition to the law working against the cigarette, and a more potent factor for its passing away, is the action of employers of labor who refuse to be users of the cigarette.

That this action will be followed by more employers of labor there is no question, and in this way the cigarette will find its influence rapidly taken away as being in demand by consumers of tobacco in its seductive and dangerous form.

The failure of the law, which prohibits the sale of cigarettes to minors, which has been tried in several States has aroused public sentiment against the sale of cigarettes, as its use by the young has been especially detrimental to their health.

This failure to protect those who were in peril by using the cigarette has made the feeling that the cigarette should be made to go altogether.

And with this public sentiment being more fully aroused the end of the ready made cigarette cannot be distant.

And outside of the manufacturers it is doubtful if there will be any sort of a row over the passing of the cigarette. Even users of the cigarette are making no great protest against the legislation which seeks its extermination.

ARE PARTY AND PRINCIPLE SERVED?

The history of political parties shows that their most dangerous periods of existence are those in which their power is absolute, and their desires can be made to pass through force of numbers, be it in legislative measures, or at the polls.

It is at these periods of absolute political power, that no danger seems possible which may arise to threaten or dispute their continued sway.

And yet with all fair above, with no enemy in sight which might seek a contest, in their party itself there has been found a decay taking place which brought ruin, quick and irretrievable.

In this matter of impeachment, now filling every mind, now agitating every section of North Carolina, there is much for the dominant party in power to consider.

The sweep of the Democratic party in North Carolina, is now in its fourth year of success. Its victories at every point have been such as to demoralize and terrorize every political opponent. There is an awfulness of this power seen inside the party itself, where hardly a whisper or criticism has been offered against measures which many party members honestly believed to be extreme and arbitrary, and yet were submitted to because local conditions seemed to demand a unity of action.

But temporary acquiescence in a party's plans is one thing, and refusal to criticise a party which may be rushing headlong to destruction, and which needs to be shown its own errors, is another matter.

Are party and principle served in forcing this impeachment of the Supreme Court Judges, Furches and Douglas?

Party can be served by turning these men out of office, and putting Democrats in their places, that is the party will be served in having more office holders.

[illegible]

MAKE PUBLIC PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

The almost thankless task which every legislation has confronting it makes it almost impossible that some severe legislative measures shall not be enacted which is injurious to some interest.

Another thing is the impossibility for the proper committees, especially in the hurry of legislative business, to give the bills of legislative nature the careful consideration they deserve.

There are bills many [illegible] which are quite innocuous [illegible] that are [illegible] introduced are [illegible] these officials from the [illegible] enforcing their terms [illegible] the law has been made [illegible] moral curb and [illegible] to where the blame should be placed upon whom to vent the criticism of interests and [illegible] are [illegible] disinterested matter.

Every [illegible] should be [illegible] which the measure affects.

Every [illegible] these bills known to be [illegible] allowing them to be [illegible] which [illegible] that the [illegible] [illegible] them about [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]