

THE COMMONWEALTH.

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Publisher's Announcement.

It is a settled point in newspaper ethics that editors and publishers are not responsible for the views of correspondents, and the publication of a communication does not mean that the editor or publisher endorses the communication. The COMMONWEALTH adheres to these general principles.

Saturday's Tarboro Southerner said that Mr. Shackley, a dairyman from England, has arrived with his family to take charge of Dr. J. M. Baker's fine dairy farm. More such enterprises entered upon with the right kind of intelligence will make Eastern North Carolina a rich section indeed.

Charlotte is the convention place of the State this year, and just now the Democratic State Convention is being entertained in that hospitable city. Everything possible will be done for the comfort and entertainment of the visitors to the "Queen City," and they will go away loud in their praises of Charlotte.

While we are talking a great deal about the wisdom of raising much corn, we might as well say that the high prices of meats suggest also the wisdom of having bacon, beef, lamb and the like at home also. With the proper care and energy many a man who spends large amounts of money every year for meat, might have it at home and save that much.

The Teachers of the State had a most interesting meeting of their assembly in Charlotte last week. No class of people deserves more encouragement and full pay for their services than the faithful teachers. The State's best interests depend upon their work, for whatever be our developments industrially they need to be regulated by intelligence. The work of good and faithful teachers makes this possible.

This paragraph is written and put into type before the State Democratic convention assemblies in Charlotte, and so can have no reference to the results of that convention, although a man may be named by the convention for Governor or before the paper reaches its readers. The canvass between Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Craig has been an unusual one, and so far as we have observed through the press and expressions of persons privately, the people of the State hope that not again will two Democrats of equal standing with Mr. Kitchin and Mr. Craig enter upon such a canvass for the nomination of any high office. And the results of their joint debate will be a warning to any who in the future might be so inclined, for in Anson and Mecklenburg counties, the only counties in which Messrs. Kitchin and Craig met in joint debate, Mr. Home got by far the strongest following.

THAT HISTORIC EVENT.

Last Friday, June 19, 1908, occurred an event in the State capital at Raleigh which will be regarded as historic in North Carolina until the last person now living in the State shall have passed from time into eternity. It was the official signing by Governor Glenn of the act that makes North Carolina a prohibition State against the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors.

The exercises were somewhat ceremonious, the meeting being presided over by Mr. John A. Oates, Chairman of the North Carolina Anti-Saloon League, whose untiring efforts were such a great factor in winning the great prohibition victory.

Besides the singing of the act by Governor Glenn, there were other marked features of the occasion, especially the presentation of banners to Buncombe and Yancy counties—to Buncombe for the largest prohibition majority (3,670) and to Yancy for the largest percentage of prohibition votes.

Mr. Josephus Daniels presented the banner for Buncombe, which was received by Dr. W. P. Whittington; and Rev. R. L. Davis presented the banner to Yancy, which was received by Mr. G. E. Gardner.

Following is Governor Glenn's proclamation of the prohibition law in North Carolina, which goes into effect the first of next January:

"I, R. B. Glenn, Governor of North Carolina, by virtue of an Act of the General Assembly of North Carolina passed at its special session of 1908, and ratified on the 31st of January, 1908, do issue this my Proclamation declaring the result of the election held on the 26th day of May, 1908, which election was held to take the sense of the people on the question of prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in North Carolina, to be, according to the returns made to the State Board of Elections as canvassed by it, as follows:

"There were cast at said election one hundred and eighty-three thousand and twenty-eight (183,028) votes, of which one hundred and thirteen thousand, six hundred and twelve (113,612) votes were cast 'Against the Manufacture and Sale of Intoxicating Liquors,' and sixty-nine thousand, four hundred and sixteen (69,416) votes were cast 'For the Manufacture and Sale of Intoxicating Liquors,' the majority 'Against the Manufacture and Sale of Intoxicating Liquors' being forty-four thousand, one hundred and ninety-six (44,196) votes.

"Done at our City of Raleigh this 19th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eight, and in the one hundred and thirty-second year of our American Independence.

"R. B. GLENN.
By the Governor:
"A. H. ARRINGTON,
"Private Secretary."

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FERTILIZE CORN.

Mr. D. M. Prince returned some days ago from a visit to Sampson county, and he said to the editor of THE COMMONWEALTH: "Tell the people to fertilize their corn." He made some interesting statements concerning the observations he made in Sampson county. He says that the farmers there are paying a great deal of attention to raising corn and that it is paying them handsomely. He heard one man say to another, "I wish you would sell 800 bushels of corn for me;" to which the other man replied, "I have some to sell myself."

Whoever has 800 bushels of corn to sell now may be sure of \$800 for it, and the people in Sampson county, Mr. Prince says, are prosperous above measure simply because they are wise enough to make their own supplies at home and make corn to sell to those who are not quite so wise.

It costs very much less to plant and cultivate corn than to plant and cultivate cotton and tobacco; and while it may be too late for some farmers to change their plan of crops now, it is not too late to fertilize the corn already planted and thus increase the yield per acre this year.

Cotton seed meal is a fine fertilizer for corn and two or three spoonfuls dropped by the side of the corn now will show a wonderful increase in the crop.

SENSIBLE VIEW AND FAIR PROPOSITION.

We give space to the following timely suggestions by Rev. J. A. Stradley, of Oxford, in a letter to last Saturday's News and Observer:

"The people elect men to make laws, as is done by town and county commissioners, by State Legislatures, and by the Congress of the United States. Other men are elected to enforce, to execute the laws. It is the duty of all officers to enforce all laws that have been enacted, whether they like the laws or not. There may be laws he does not like, but as an officer he is just as much bound to enforce such laws as those he does like. An officer takes a solemn oath, and gives a strong bond, to faithfully execute the duties of his office, in enforcing the laws under the control of his office.

"Let these facts be applied to the new prohibition law of the State. The voters of the State, by an overwhelming majority have enacted a law forbidding the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors in the State, except for medical purposes.

"Some who are now holding office do not like the prohibition law, but they are bound by their oath of office to enforce the law; but if they are not willing to enforce the law they ought to resign their office and let it be given to some one who will execute the law. Some now seeking office may be opposed to prohibition. They should honestly consider the fact, that if they are elected they will have to take a solemn oath and give a strong bond, binding them to faithfully perform the duties of their office; and one important duty of that office may be to enforce the prohibition law. If they are not willing to enforce the law, they ought not to ask for an office that requires them to enforce it.

"In the year 1881 the prohibitionists were defeated in a State election. They accepted their defeat as the will of the majority and did not seek to violate the liquor laws. Now the majority has voted for prohibition; therefore as good citizens, let us accept the law and enforce it, and give it a fair trial. An officer is just as much bound to enforce the prohibition law as the law against murder or stealing."

There is more catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and until the last few years was supposed to be incurable. For a great many years doctors pronounced it a local disease and prescribed local remedies, and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Science has proven catarrh to be a constitutional disease and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is the only constitutional cure on the market. It is taken internally in doses from 10 drops to a teaspoonful. It acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. They offer one hundred dollars for any case it fails to cure. Send for circulars and testimonials. Address, F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

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TAFT THE NOMINEE.

In the National Republican Convention in Chicago last week, William Howard Taft, of Ohio, and Secretary of War, was nominated for the Presidency on the first ballot. The total number of votes was 980, and 491 would have been a majority, but Mr. Taft received 702 votes on the first ballot.

Others voted for the following:

Hughes of New York, 63; Cannon, of Illinois, 61; Fairbanks, of Indiana, 40; Knox, of Pennsylvania, 68; LaFollette, of Wisconsin, 26; Foraker, of Ohio, 4; Roosevelt of New York, 3.

Mr. Taft was placed in nomination before the Convention by Congressman Theodore E. Burton, of Ohio.

The following brief sketch appeared in the News and Observer the day after the nomination:

"Mr. Taft was born in Mt. Auburn, the aristocratic suburb of Cincinnati, on the fifteenth of September, in 1857. His father was a man of wealth and influence, a learned lawyer and able judge, and was Attorney General Grant's cabinet and Minister to Russia. The candidate, born with a silver spoon in his mouth, was educated at Yale. He was a good scholar and graduated before he was twenty-one as valedictorian of his class. He began the study of law in his father's office and did the court reporting at the same time on his brother's newspaper. Later, his talent as a newspaper man was recognized by Murat Halstead, and he became a member of the staff of the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette. In 1880 his father was the unsuccessful Republican candidate for Governor of Ohio. A man by the name of Rose, who had been a prize-fighter, severely criticized the older Taft, and the son, feeling that his father had been slanderously assailed, went to the newspaper office and gave Rose a terrible thrashing, for young Taft was big in size and an athlete. When Rose begged for mercy, Taft is reported to have said:

"If you'll agree to leave town I'll let you go. I'll come down here again to-night, and if you are still here then this thing is only a start."

"Rose was glad to get off on such terms. He quit Cincinnati that night and his paper never appeared again. "Mr. Taft entered into the practice of law, but has almost since he became of age been an office-holder. Every office he has held has been by appointment. He has never been elected to office. First he was appointed assistant prosecuting attorney; in 1881 he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue; in 1883 he was appointed assistant county solicitor; in 1888 Governor Foraker appointed him Superior Court Judge; when Mr. Harrison was elected president he appointed Mr. Taft Solicitor General, and later appointed him Federal Circuit Court Judge, which position he held until President McKinley made him chairman of the Philippine Commission in March 1900. He was appointed by President Roosevelt Secretary of War in 1904, to succeed Elihu Root.

"In that position he has had important duties to perform and has shown that he possessed administrative ability of a high order. He is regarded also as the most accomplished diplomat in the administration and was sent to the Philippines, to Panama and to Cuba to settle difficult matters. It was while he was Solicitor General that Mr. Taft and Mr. Roosevelt became warm friends. The President was then on the Civil Service Commission. "Such is the public career of Mr. Taft. To administrative ability, diplomatic talent and capacity for work, he adds knowledge of men and tact in dealings with them. He 'gets on' with all who are thrown in contact with him, loves a joke, and has many qualities that make him friends. As a judicial officer, he showed ability. His sympathies were with the class interests to which he belongs and he forged judicial chains for labor unions that helped to curse this country with government by injunction."

Destructive Hail in Wilson.

A correspondent from Wilson to the News and Observer tells of a most destructive hail storm in Wilson county last Saturday. The track of the storm was two miles wide and almost complete destruction of the crops was the result. It is estimated that the loss on one farm was over \$7,000. Others were heavy losers, many estimating loss from 50 to 75 per cent. of their crops.

Charlotte in Sunday Clothes.

Tuesday's Charlotte Observer gave the following index of how Charlotte looks to-night to the Democratic State Convention:

"Charlotte was ablaze last night with illuminative electricity, affording a fair indication of what the city will look like during the night sessions of the Democratic State Convention, in whose honor such festive array has been put on by the metropolis of North Carolina, which plays the roll of hostess on this occasion to the greatest gathering of freemen ever assembled in one place in North Carolina to record and register the will of the rank and file of the Democratic party. That is a long sentence, but no more than the situation deserves.

It is difficult to say where is to be found the most attractive of the many electric signs which adorn the Charlotte business places. The city hall front is literally festooned with long streamers of lights which wind and coil their way upward to the tower in 'serpentine beauty, round on round.' Probably half a thousand or more are in this. The front of The Observer Building was alight last night with colored shifting lights in varying designs, one of which expresses in dignified but explicit style, 'Welcome N. C. S. D. C.' Then there is the Shelor sign, the McCausland display, and that of the firemen around at the Fifth street station. Besides these last night there were signs by Woodall & Sheppard, Gilmer-Moore Company, Garibaldi, Bruns & Dixon, J. P. Stowe & Co., and others. Along the sidewalks about half of the thousands of incandescents were turned on. The rest will be on to-night, when the spectacle will be well worth seeing. Even last night the streets were as bright as day and hundreds of people strolled up and down seeing the sights."

Mrs. Barnhill of Elm City Drowned at Wrightsville.

A special from Wilmington to Sunday's Charlotte Observer said:

"Just at nightfall this evening at Wrightsville Beach, Mrs. Estelle Barnhill, a stenographer in the Coast Line offices here, was drowned in the surf, and the circumstances are such as to lead her friends to believe that she committed suicide. Mrs. Barnhill went down to the beach on the 7 o'clock car, and after alighting at the station instead of going into the pavilion she walked up the beach for half a mile or more and was seen by Mr. Arthur Butt, from his cottage to throw aside her hat, parasol and purse and rush into the water. Mr. Butt ran to her rescue but she was unconscious when he reached her and the opinion is expressed that before rushing into the surf she had taken poison of some kind. However, physicians who were summoned to attend her, stated that an autopsy would be required to determine this fact. The remains were brought up to the city late to-night and prepared for burial.

"Mrs. Barnhill came to Wilmington about a year ago from Elm City and had made many friends by her charming manner and personal attractions. She leaves no immediate members of the family here."

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