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THE ORPHANS AT HALIFAX.

The Store of S. A. Richards Entered by Robbers. Other News.

Halifax, N. C., May 1.—A most enjoyable concert was given here on Saturday night at the court house by the singing class of the Oxford Orphanage. The program was carried out in all its details and received hearty applause from all those fortunate enough to be able to attend. There were thirteen children in the class, and each child showed conclusively that the training has been thorough. It has been quite a while since we have looked into brighter, happier faces, reflecting, as they do, a great deal of intelligence, in fact much above the average. The Orphanage at Oxford has done most excellent work in the past, is doing a grand work, and destined in the future to do even a greater and grander work. The Masonic fraternity of the State have a right to feel proud of this institution.

Rather a unique robbery occurred here a few days ago, the store of Mr. S. A. Richards being entered through the transom above the back door. The depredater evidently wanted little though, as he pillaged around looking for money and not being able to find it compromised by spilling a sack of meal out on the floor and filling same up with near-beer, soda water, and pop. He then stuck a few plugs of tobacco in his pocket, a few cigars and some other trifles, amounting to only a few dollars in all. A dollar was found next morning on the floor, but whether the robber left same to pay for the things he got no one really knows. This is questionable though, as the amount would barely pay for the things taken when inventoried at cost. It is presumed that the fellow did not know the exact cost of the goods and guessed at it.

The robberies that have occurred [illegible] rather peculiar, the robbers only taking small amounts at each time. Some time ago when the store of Geo. A. Hux & Company was entered by breaking the heavy plate glass in front, the offender only took out a small lamp which was in the window and set it down on the street. On this occasion, though, there was a trusty dog inside the store, and kicked up such a racket that the fellow gave up in disgust.

The farmers in this section have for the last faw days been putting in good time getting seed in the ground, a great deal of corn having been planted, and right much cotton. There will be many peanuts planted around here this season as usual. Halifax county raises the largest part of the Spanish peanuts in the State, and to some extent has an influence on the price of this commodity.

Mr. W. B. Drewry closed out a large quantity of peanuts last week, getting the price of $1.20 per bushel for the lot. Messrs. Gregory and Stedman also closed out a large lot that they have been holding in their large storage warehouse for some time.

A nice gentle rain which was needed fell here on Saturday night and Sunday, which will help out the farmers a great deal.

Mrs. DeLeon Green, of Cincinnati, who has for some days been visiting her mother, Mrs. W. A. Sater, and her sister, Miss Frances Sater, went to Richmond a day or two ago to remain several days.

Mrs. W. A. Wellcox has returned from the Baraca-Philathea Convention at Greensboro, very much enthused with Philathea work.

Town Builders.

The best way to help your town is to liberally patronize its newspapers. The better they are supported the more far-reaching and influential they will be and the more good they will do their communities. Newspapers are always on the publicity job, and they are at it morning and afternoon, frequently when the other boosters are sound asleep. The better newspapers are the better service they will render their town. Good support makes good newspapers.—Wilmington Star.

A TIMELY SERMON.

Where The Citizen Fails in Discharging His Duty.

The Lexington Dispatch takes occasion to preach a little sermon on co-operation to the people of Davidson county which might be read, learned, marked and inwardly digested with profit by the people of many another county. The text taken by our contemporary is based upon a little incident that recently fell under its observation. "There was a bridge to be repaired in Lexington township a few weeks ago. There was just a little break in it—one that a man could fix at the cost of a few minutes' time, a few dozen nails and a piece of plank three feet long. Did some patriotic citizen volunteer to fix that little break? Not quite. It was left for many days, a menace to the safety of every team that crossed the bridge. Half a dozen men came to Lexington to tell the township road trustees that there was a break in the bridge. One man lost two days trying to get the hard-pressed road trustees to repair that little break. As soon as the trustees could spare a man they sent him out to do the work."

Several other illustrations are cited to drive the point home, but the one quoted will show the direction of these remarks. Most of us, if frank, must plead guilty to the charges of neglect of the public welfare thus brought. Precious few citizens now-a-days are inclined to put themselves to the trouble of nailing down a three-foot plank unless they can see a financial reward, and the man who lost two days in trying to get somebody else to do what he himself could have done in a quarter of an hour, simply did what the average man would have done under the circumstances.

The trouble does not lie in inherent laziness. We have no doubt that the men who wasted time in pestering the road trustees are capable and efficient farmers. It comes rather from a mistaken idea that the public officials always endeavor to postpone their business as long as possible and that if private patriotism did even so much as nail down a plank it would have a bad effect upon the road trustees, making them depend upon further activity of the same kind. The remedy is to come by the gradual training of the people to take a broader view of public responsibilities, and to this end we would be pleased to know that The Dispatch's remarks had been read in every county in the State. It would be deplorable should road trustees neglect their duty because landowners fell into the habit of attending to it for them, but we do not apprehend any immediate prospect of such a calamity.—Charlotte Observer.

A Trip into Rural China.

When I was out in Wisconsin last spring I commented on the backwardness of our common one-horse plowing methods in the south as seen in the light of western methods, and I also wrote something on the same subject from Nebraska when I started on this trip around the world. I must say, however, that while the west being ahead of us was not surprising, it is humilating to find that here in heathen, ignorance, backward, sleepy old China—in the parts where I have recently traveled at least—you will not find among the farmers one-twentieth as large a proportion of one-horse plows as you would find in the south. Now I hate to say this, but it is true, and in that case the bad thing is not my saying it, but its being so.

I hope that no one will be able much longer to say that the "heathen Chinese" is more alive to the advantages of two-horse plows and good land-breaking than the farmers of our southern states. As I have pointed out so many times before, so long as we are content to run our brains with one-horse power, while farmers in the north and west—and even in China—run theirs with two and three-horse power, just so long will southern farming cheat itself out of half the wealth its industry should win for it. In any work where both hands or two horses are needed, a man might as well tie one hand behind him and let his brain direct only one hand, as hitch one horse and have his brain direct only one horse. In either case he cuts his mind-power in half. —Clarence Poe, in Raleigh Progressive Farmer.

First Physician—Can you make anything out of the patient's trouble? Second Ditto—I think if we can manage right we can make about five hundred apiece out of it.—Baltimore American.

OFFICERS CAPTURE BURGLAR.

Jailed at Halifax on Serious Charges How He Was Detected.

Halifax, N. C., April 28.—Detectives of Portsmouth and Emporia, Va., this morning brought down from Weldon a young, robust negro calling himself John Smith, who is alleged to have broken in the store night before last of Geo. A. Hux & Co., of this place, taking goods, consisting of watches, jewelry, clothing shoes, etc. An entrance was gained through the transom above a side door. After the robbery many seemed to think there must have been a small boy in the game.

The negro was arrested in the depot waiting room at Weldon, and had a suit case. Detective Field asked him what he had in the case. He replied: "Nothing boss, but some old clothes." When asked to open up, he simply made a break for the door, and there Detective Hodges nabbed him. About all the stolen property was recovered amounting to about $80. The fellow had little time to dispose of the goods.

The negro is now in Haliftx jail to await the next term of court.

Detective Hodges who is in the employ of the S. A. L. R. R. Co., arrested in Norfolk a negro by the name of Percy Jackson, who broke jail here some weeks ago. Jackson was sentenced at the last term of court to the roads, but escaped before getting there. This negro has a bad reputation behind him, being notorious gambler, and having been in trouble quite a number of times.

A Mighty Good Thing.

The last legislature did one mighty good thing. Years ago any kind of a show, fake or otherwise, could come along, make a dicker with some so-called charity organization and give a show without paying any tax. Four years ago the legislature passed an act cutting this kind of business out, but it was not clear and the last legislature amended it or made it plain that in every case where any one receives the least pay a license tax must be paid. The attorney general of the state was called on and has given an opinion that puts a quietus on the business. We talk about fakes, swindles and humbugs, but as a general rule the concerns that come along and show for charity are arrant frauds. They fix it so they never get left, but quite often the organization gets it in the neck good and hard. Charity can give all the entertainments it pleases, but no one must be paid for doing the work. Like college baseball, it is a case where professions are barred. P. S.—A baseballist is not a professional as long as he "is going to school," which is almost as big a fake as the show business.—Greensboro Record.

Afraid to Stay Alone.

Cherry Valley, Ark.—Mrs. Carrie Moore, of this place, says, "I was afraid to stay by myself, I had headache nearly all the time; my heart would palpitate, and my vitality was very low. When I would lie down at night I had no hope of living until day. I tried Cardui, and now I feel better than I have for 5 years. I cannot praise Cardui enough for what it did." Are you a woman? Do you need a tonic? Try Cardui, the woman's tonic. Your druggist sells it.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

Mention Made of Many Important News Items About the Capital City.

Special Correspondence.

Washington, D. C., April 29.—One of the signs showing the trend of events is the change of name of the Reaublican clubs. The Illinois Republican Club has changed its name to the Illinois Society, and the Nebraska Republican Club has changed its name to the Nebraska Society. Formerly none but Republicans were eligible to membership, now a general call is made for the citizens of these States to become active members. The election of a Democratic House and the idea that the Presidency and the Senate will both be captured by the Democrats makes a difference.

The Democrats have passed a bill looking into the way the civil service is carried out in the Departments. Rank favoritism and not merit has been the way in which promotions have been made in a number of instances, and it is to prevent this that the bill was drawn. Can it, and will, merit rule? A recent case is that of a young lady employed temporarily in the Census Office, who, when her time expired, went to the appointment (rating) clerk to get her rating and found it was "good", when the immediate chief of her division had told her he had rated her "excellent". Her rating had been changed. Enough said!

The proposed investigation into the Departments by the Democrats is going to yield results that will be surprising. The abuses that creep into departmental administration when one party has been in power for a long time are many and varied. Let us hope that the "new broom will sweep clean" and correct these abuses.

Government by commission, which our Republican friends seem proud of and which has grown to alarming proportions, will soon cease to exist if the plans of the Democrats prevail. They propose to refuse to pay these "favorite commissioners" and the commissions will die because of lack of funds. It will be a body blow to those who have been sucking the money teat, and will incidentally save large sums of money which have formerly been drawn from the Federal treasury. There are over thirty commissions of various kinds, small and great.

Postmaster General Hitchcock has has put the postoffice department on a business basis and the large annual deficit has almost disappeared. Great saving of money has been made; wastefulness and extravagance discontinued. This shows that all the departments need overhauling, and the Democratic program calls for economy. They are on the right track. Do away with the sinecures. Save at the "bung-holes" as well as the "spigots". Check wastefulness all along the line is the Democratic watchword.

The recent arrest and spiriting away to California from Indianapolis of the labor leaders by detectives has created a furore in labor circles. Warrants have been issued and the detective abductors arrested and put under heavy bond. Labor leaders are aroused and declare the alleged charges of dynamiting against the leaders in Indianapolis a "sham" and not inspired by justice, but by implacable enemies of labor, who will stoop at anything to hurt labor's cause with the people.

Representative Small, of the First District, has introduced a bill in Congress to take away the public drinking cup at the fountains in Washington. What will the public do now. Too much germ theory. The inconvenience resulting to the thirsty is worse than disease.

Representative Victor Berger, of Milwaukee, Wis., has offered a resolution in the House to abolish the United States Senate. He says the Senate has outlived its usefulness; that many Senators are controlled by the interests or represent the interests; that it is an obstructive body; that all legislative enactments should be vested in the House, subject to the referendum, and that they shall be the supreme law. The President shall not have power to veto or any court to invalidate its acts.

The Postmaster Geeeral is in favor of penny postage for the District of Columbia, extended, if feasible, to the States.

A resolution has been introduced in Congress to do away with positions aggregating $92,280 a year under the control of the House. A number of positions under the joint control of the Senate and House aggregating $36,700 a year it is also proposed to abolish, the Senate being willing. Retrench!

Representative Stedman, with the help of Representative Claude Kitchin, has secured a $1,800 position in the capitol building for one of his constituents. Your correspondent recently met Major Stedman and called to his remembrance the trip Major (then Solicitor) Stedman, Judge Bynum, and Bill Nye made to Senator Vance at his home, Gombroon, as related to me by Judge Bynum.

Over 200 Republican employees of the House of Representatives will be discharged next week and their places taken by Democrats.

OBSERVER.

Glory to Peebles.

There is one thing to be said in behalf of Judge Bob Peebles of the superior court bench, and that is, where a jury returns a verdict contrary to the testimony he doesn't hesitate to tell it so. He has done that more than once, and when a jury in New Hanover superior court turned a murderer loose last Friday Judge Peebles denounced the verdict as an outrage and ordered the jurors to get out and not return.

Glory to Peebles! Whatever may be said of him otherwise, he measures up to the requirements on all these occasions. If judges generally would reprimand jurors when their verdicts are openly and notoriously wrong, and discharge them from service, it would have a good effect.—Statesville Landmark.

Kitchin Comes to the Front.

Representative Claude Kitchin, of North Carolina, promises to take a place in the forefront of Congressional action if his activity at the start is a gauge of the energy that is to impel him throughout the session. Mr. Kitchin, in his address on Saturday, indicated to the Republicans just what they can expect from the Democrats. The manner in which he laid down the Democratic doctrines was convincing of the fact that there is to be no half way work on the part of majority in the house, but on the contrary that sweeping reform is to be carried out, regardless of who may stand in the way.—Pittsburg Press.

Extensive Order for New Equipment.

The Atlantic Coast Line is showing its faith as to future conditions in that it has placed the following extensive order for additional equipment: Fifteen Pacific type passenger engines, 20 large freight engines, 25 passenger coaches, 4 combination mail and express cars, 1,400 box cars, 50 phosphate cars, 50 ballast cars, 20 caboose cars.

This equipment will be delivered during the summer, and will place the Coast Line in position to meet the demands of the traveling and shipping public.

This large order of freight equipment, taken in connection with the extensive double tracking and bridge work going on at various points on the line, indicates that the Atlantic Coast Line proposes to keep in the front ranks of Southern railways.