

OUR RALEIGH LETTER.

Political and General News and Gossip From the State Capital.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Raleigh, N. C., May 8.—While the Republican State Convention was in session here last Wednesday, Senator Pritchard sat beside the writer, near the newspaper reporters' table, and I had opportunity to talk with him at all stages of the game.

Some newspaper correspondent had started a rumor that the Senator was to be "prevalent" on to accept the gubernatorial nomination of his party, "in order to defeat the amendment."

There was at no time any basis for the rumor, but I mentioned the subject to see what the Senator would say. "Oh, I couldn't afford to accept either the nomination or the office," said he. "Were I the Governor I would be required to remain in Raleigh all the time; my law practice (from which I was just beginning to realize a nice income when elected to the Senate) would go to wreck, and at the end of the four years' term I would be left high and dry on the shoals of poverty—for the salary of the Governor of North Carolina is not sufficient to admit of saving any of it."

"But for that matter," he added, "a Senator can save nothing from his salary, either; but I manage to do considerable law practice while Senator, and am not confined to the halls of legislation every day in the year. When I accept a public office it must have a salary attached sufficient to justify me in doing so, pecuniarily."

WOULDN'T HAVE EWART'S PLACE. "You would be surprised," continued the Senator, without any prompting, "to know of the large number of lawyers, both Republican and Democratic, who have insisted that I should take the U. S. Judgeship for the western district. But I shall not do so."

Are you not of the judicial temperament, Senator?

"No, sir; the position wouldn't suit me at all. I wouldn't like it. Besides, I shouldn't care to relinquish three years in the U. S. Senate for the judicial emolument."

"I like politics!" said the Senator, with evident relish, as he surveyed the assembled delegates composing the State Convention of his party and composed chiefly of his federal official lieutenants—of which he was the recognized and undisputed and absolute dictator—"I like politics, and I don't believe I will ever be able to get out of politics, or I would be content to do so."

PRITCHARD TAKES DOWN A NOMINEE. And then he arose to correct an error that had been made by the convention while he was talking to me, viz., the nomination of "Prof. Britt of Mitchell county for Superintendent of Public Instruction."

"That's not right," he was heard to say, just as Chairman Walsler put the question and declared Prof. Britt the nominee. "N. C. English is the man we should nominate." But he reached the chairman too late to correct the "mistake"—for the time being.

It was not long, however, only long enough for the order to reach Britt (who is a "revenue doo-doo," I hear), and then Britt arose in his seat, being a delegate, and declined the nomination.

Then English's name was presented, and the Pop. candidacy was "endorsed" by a "resolution" introduced by the suppressed Brit.

This little instance is given as an illustration of the absolute power of Senator Pritchard over the Convention, in fact he dictated every nomination.

prevailing "concrete" one. Another striking instance occurred which showed the undisputed leadership and full sway of the Senator.

Parson Dan Albright Long (hardly returned from a long residence in Ohio to his native county of Alamance) had the temerity to propose the name of Col. James E. Boyd, of the Department of Justice at Washington, for delegate-at-large to the national Republican convention, before any other gentleman was suggested—even before Senator Pritchard (who was again sitting near the writer), exclaimed:

"May I say a word?" The Senator nodded, and Col. Boyd hurried to the front and

declared that he would not permit his election before that of Senator Pritchard, "the recognized leader of the party," as a delegate.

Dr. Long then got out of his dilemma by temporarily withdrawing Boyd until Pritchard was nominated (with enthusiasm, the delegates all rising from their seats), when he again named Boyd as the Senator's "right bower."

All this is not to be wondered at, however. Senator Pritchard is probably the ablest man in his party in North Carolina, and he is personally a popular and pleasant gentleman socially. His personal and political popularity is also contributed to by the demeanor and management of his private secretary, Mr. W. S. Hyams, who is an exceedingly clever, oblique and companionable gentleman.

"Isn't he a nice fellow?" is a common expression applied to Mr. Hyams, and I heard it used by three of the half-dozen newspaper men (to whom he is always accommodating) at work on this Convention. Pity he should hold such wretched political views!

A WEAK AND FIGURE-HEAD TICKET.

Here is the ticket put up, and the general comment is that it is a weak one, not even on a par with the Pop. toy-soldier slate.

For Governor, Spencer B. Adams of Guilford; Lieutenant-Governor, Claude Dockery of Richmond; Auditor, J. S. Rollins of Madison; Secretary of State, J. F. Parrott of Lenoir; Treasurer, L. L. Jenkins of Gaston; Attorney-General, Z. V. Walsler of Davidson; Superintendent of Public Instruction, N. C. English of Randolph; Commissioner of Agriculture, Abner Alexander of Tyrrell; Commissioner of Labor, T. S. Malloy of Rockingham; Corporation Commissioners, C. E. Reynolds of Forsyth (six years term), and J. A. Franks of Swain (four years term); electors-at-large, A. H. Price of Rowan and J. R. McRary of Davidson; Delegates to National Convention, Jeter C. Pritchard, James E. Boyd, Charles McNamee and E. C. Duncanson. Most of these are well-known Republicans, but none is of extraordinary ability, and neither nor all calculated to set the political woods afire.

A. H. Price, one of the electors, is a son of Hon. Charles Price of Salisbury. He placed Judge Adams in nomination for Governor, and the eloquent speech he made caused his selection as elector. He had not been thought of in that connection previously, I am informed.

WHITEST STATE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION EVER HELD.

It was a "lily-white" affair as nearly as it could be made—only about 20 of the 240 delegates being negroes, or "colored." All the balance were plain as to complexion, and the great majority were office holders.

Had Senator Pritchard fully succeeded in his plans, there would not have been a negro delegate in the Convention. As it was, his orders in this respect were pretty faithfully carried out.

Of course this was only a temporary ruse, chiefly for the benefit of the western voters, and the next convention will again be a black-and-tan affair (with a majority of negro delegates) as any of the professors of this one. The negroes are "keeping out of sight" during this campaign (only till election day, however, when they will all show up) in order to carry out the game of false pretenses introduced by the Republican managers. It will not work, however, as the rule is certain: an odor comes through its pores.

All the nominations were made by "resolution," and there is not a candidate on the ticket who as heur enters into the slightest hope of election.

The one and only reason there has been no "fusion" between the Pops and Reps, on the date (twice) to date, is because both parties recognize that it would be hopeless to attempt to defeat the Democrats this year.

Knowing defeat is certain, they adopt such plans as they think will most contribute to mislead the "common people," and enable them to more successfully misrepresent the amendment, the attempt to defeat which is the chief end and aim of both of the opposition parties this year. When it comes to legislative and county congressional candidates, there will be "fusion" in many counties and several districts.

RUSSELL SNUBBED.

The old sore which Governor Russell has been nursing was aggravated by the action of the convention in snubbing the Governor by declining to send him as one of the four delegates-at-large to the national convention, it always being usual to send the Governor as such delegate by the party in power.

Another direct slap at the Governor was the selection of Attorney General Walsler as chairman of the convention, the one official of the present state administration whom Governor Russell has insisted on "suppressing" as far as possible.

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL DAY.

The observance of this sacred day (May 10th) will be as general as usual in North Carolina this year, it is learned. Here in Raleigh the address of the occasion will be delivered by Capt. H. A. London, of Pittsboro, editor of the Record, by invitation of the Ladies' Memorial Association (God bless 'em!) who have charge of the sacred work. Besides the local military company and the A. and M. College cadets, the Durham soldier boys, headed by Gen. Julian S. Carr, Commander-in-Chief of the N. C. Division of Confederate Veterans, will participate in the celebration at beautiful "Oakwood" Cemetery. Elector Dan Hugh McLean delivers the address at Fayetteville Thursday, and Rev. J. A. Weston at Hickory.

THE VANCE STATUE.

The granite-and-cement base and pedestal upon which the bronze statue of Zebulon Baird Vance is to be placed this summer in Capital Park here, have been completed and are now ready to receive the splendid counterfeit of that best beloved of North Carolinians. The statue, it is now known definitely, will be delivered here in ample time for the unveiling ceremonies to be observed on July 4th, as contemplated. It is believed that one of the greatest crowds ever assembled in North Carolina on such an occasion will assemble here on that date.

NUMEROUS NEWS NOTES.

The joint canvass of Democratic State candidates ends to-day (Tuesday) at Washington, Beaufort county.

J. D. Murphy, of Buncombe, has been made a member of the State election board, to succeed Attorney General Gilmer resigned.

The Federal "patronage" (office holding) in North Carolina, all of which is controlled by Senator Pritchard, is said to amount to a million or more dollars in salaries.

Booker Washington will speak at the negro A. and M. College commencement at Greensboro this week.

The Republicans will probably nominate J. R. Joyce, of Reidsville, as their candidate for Congress in the Fifth District.

The Tennessee newspaper men will hold their State convention at Morehead, N. C., in June.

One more State convention is to be "pulled off," (as the fistic sports would say)—that of the Prohibitionists, who meet at Salisbury May 22.

The U. S. Senate has passed the bill appropriating \$80,000 for a public building at Durham.

The Republicans formally open their campaign at Winston, May 15 when Senator Pritchard, gubernatorial nominee Spencer B. Adams, and other State candidates will speak.

The new board of public school directors in the various counties, appointed under the last Legislature, will go into office on the first Monday in July, according to an opinion just given by Attorney-General Walsler to Superintendent of Instruction Mehane.

Congress appropriates \$25,000 for the completion of the U. S. building at Winston, for post office and other government purposes.

The May crop report of the State Department of Agriculture will state that there is an increase of 20 per cent. in cotton acreage in North Carolina this year.

The summer session of the Tennessee Penitentiary Institute will be held at Asheville this year.

A FOLLOWER OF MEASLES.—In many instances a persistent cough follows an attack of measles. In speaking of this Mr. Walter B. Beel, editor of the Elkin (N. C.) Times, says: "Three weeks ago I had an attack of measles which left me with a bad cough. I took several doses of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy and the cough has entirely disappeared. I consider Chamberlain's medicines the best on the market." For sale by Hood Bros.

The Model Village of Biltmore.

Almslee's Magazine.

Just outside the entrance lodge to the Biltmore estate is the village of Biltmore, in which is the office of the estate, the railway station and post office, also the church and rectory. The village does not amount to much yet, but plans have been made for its extension. Streets have been laid out, sewers have been put in, and the pavements are without doubt superior to any in North Carolina. The proprietor does not sell any of the houses, but rents them, and he has the intention of making it a model village, where comfort shall be general and virtue get its abundant reward. Model villages have not been remarkably successful in this country, where the best of us have a yearning to plant on soil of our own the vine and fruit tree under which we live. That disposition has hitherto interfered with the model village just as it will hinder the growth of the single tax propaganda. But Mr. Vanderbilt may succeed in Biltmore, the houses of which are now supplied with modern conveniences of the most recent and improved sort. They not only have their houses lighted with electricity in Biltmore village, but the cooking is done as by lighting. The title to the church is not burdensome to Biltmore villagers, as Mr. Vanderbilt pays all the charges, including the rector's salary.

Keep your blood rich and red by taking ROBERTS' TASTELESS CHILL TONIC. 25c. Pleasant to take. Cures chills by purifying the blood, and producing appetite, health and vigor. Try it and get the genuine, with red cross on label. Hood Bros.



H. B. VARNER, Democratic nominee for Labor Commissioner.

A Negro Religious Fanatic in Wilmington Gets Into Trouble.

The Star tells an interesting story of the carryings-on of a negro religious fanatic in Wilmington, who calls himself "Peace, God of the Universe or King of the Creoles," and is commonly known as "Percy, of Dominica." He is a half-breed Indian and negro. He had converted a number of the more ignorant of the Wilmington negroes to his fanatical religious belief, and on Friday was arrested as a common nuisance, the warrant being issued at the instance of a respectable colored man. He claimed to have supernatural powers and had induced a number of negro women to abstain from food. When the police investigated the matter they found on the floor of "Peace's" room a negro woman terribly emaciated and almost starved to death. It was learned from another woman in the house, who had not been indulging in "fisses," that the woman on the floor had not partaken of nourishment in 54 days. In each of two beds in the room were two other women who had deprived themselves of food for 24 and 12 days respectively. They too, were in an emaciated condition and hardly able to stir.

The prisoner said the women had become possessed of the spirit and "fisted" of their own accord. The next day after "Peace's" arrest one of the women, Nellie Scott, died from the effects of her fast, and he and two of his associates were held for trial at Criminal Court for being accessories to the death of the woman.

Sewing machine needles, bands, shuttles and oil at Hood Bros.

HENRY BRANSON VARNER.

Democratic Nominee for Commissioner of Labor and Printing.

Mr. Henry Branson Varner, of Davidson, was born on April 12, 1870, and received his nomination on April 12, 1900, as a birthday present. Mr. Varner was born on a farm and enjoyed no educational advantages except those offered in the public schools of his neighborhood. He worked on the farm and attended short term country schools, until he was nearly grown, when he became an agent of Pomona Hill Nurseries and traveled extensively in that interest throughout Western North Carolina. During Cleveland's last administration, Mr. Varner held a position in the revenue service, but resigned on May 4th, 1896, to become editor of the Lexington Dispatch which he has edited with conspicuous success.

When he bought the Dispatch it had a circulation of something like 600 or 700. He has increased its circulation to nearly 4,000. Mr. Varner has been chairman of the Democratic executive committee of his county since 1897 and held that position in 1898 when his county was redeemed from 900 Republican to 600 Democratic. Mr. Varner was at one time a member of State Democratic Executive Committee. He is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics. He does not belong to any church, but attends the Presbyterian church, is highly esteemed by his brother editors, has twice been a delegate to the National Editorial Association, and is a member of its executive committee. He is unmarried.

A Dream Song.

Lullaby, hushaby, hasten away, Little pink pilgrim, till dawn of the day Slow swings t. e. cradle, but swift is the flight, Lullaby, hushaby, baby, good-night. Over the bridges of Stumberland's streams Lieeth the wonderful Garden of Dreams Short is the journey and soft is the bed Down by the valleys of Drowsy and Ned Daisies and violets peep through the grass, Buttercups beckon and bow as you pass Tiny dream fairies in tunics of blue Bring sweetest dreams in the garden to you. Lullaby, hushaby, hasten away Over the bridges till dawn of the day Short is the journey to hours of delight Lullaby, hushaby, baby, good-night —Addie S. Cullom.

Two Strong Arguments.

Charlotte Observer. Senator Pritchard, in his speech before the Republican State convention yesterday, laid particular emphasis upon the fact that under the terms of the proposed Constitutional Amendment any male person now 13 years of age, or under, who cannot read and write by 1908 will not be entitled to vote. That is an exact statement of the fact—the Democratic party has no concealment about it and is not seeking to hoodwink the people as to it. That there may be no misunderstanding let us repeat the proposition: The male person now thirteen years of age or under who cannot read and write when he attains his majority, will be disfranchised. Senator Pritchard and other Republicans think this awful, but what they consider the shame of the amendment we count its glory. This provision will give to North Carolina what it has never had before—an educated electorate. It will not do to say that fulfillment of this requirement of the amendment will be found impossible, for the Democratic party, which will hold power in the State hereafter, is pledged to provide four months term of the public schools, and in these every boy can acquire education sufficient to qualify him for the exercise of the right of suffrage. Will it be said that the white men of North Carolina are so insensible of this privilege that they will deny their boys the opportunity that will be offered them to enjoy it? The Democratic party does not say so—the Democratic party does not believe it. It believes that when it is understood that after a certain date a certain amount of education will be a prerequisite to voting it will be acquired, and that thus this provision of the amendment will be the most powerful stimulus to education that could be applied.

There are two arguments in favor of the adoption of the amendment which should be potential and one of them is that we are now discussing—Senator Pritchard is attacking it in its strongest point. The other is that its adoption will enfranchise the white man. Mr. Aycock is saying in his speeches that when the ignorant negro vote is eliminated from the equation men will be free to think and speak and write as they feel. This they cannot do now. It will be a blessed day when they come into the possession of these natural rights, and any legitimate means to this end should be hailed and embraced.

For the two reasons given above all others, the amendment ought to be adopted. It will give us an educated electorate, and will give us all property.

"Yielding of the parchment to the dealer, I chased chill, fever, and pain, and found relief from the use of W. B. Chassey's Kidney Pills. The Kidney Pills cured me of my ailment August 14, 1897, and I have not since for the red cross."—Hood Bros.

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