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STATE PROHIBITION.

Prohibition is no longer an experiment in many communities in North Carolina, and it has been found effective in promoting the cause of temperance in proportion to the zeal with which the officials and citizens have striven for enforcement of the prohibition laws. The success of it has encouraged temperance advocates to go further, and make a bold fight for State-wide prohibition and then to have congress pass such legislation as will safeguard the expressed desire of the people for practical prohibition. This may not be accomplished at the present session of congress but friends of the cause have every reason to believe that it will soon be done, and then whisky cannot be shipped into the State as it can now under the regulation of inter-state commerce.

Prohibition is largely a moral question, insofar as it relates to temperance and advances that cause, but it also has another phase of much importance to our State. That is as an economic question. While we hold to the view that the greatest good is accomplished in the way of real temperance by inculcating the principle in the youth at the home, yet that prohibition does much towards removing the curse of strong drink is not to be denied by reasonable men. Besides, by placing the sale of liquor under the ban of the law it will have its effect on the rising generation, who, seeing it thus discountenanced will shun it as they will not so long as its sale is legal.

Viewed as an economic question and presupposing its effectiveness the benefits of prohibition are incalculable. Pitted against the amount received for license for the sale of whiskey the money worse than wasted in the purchase of it towers above it out of all proportion. This is a tax similar to the mud tax paid by having bad roads, and is in no sort of way offset by the license money, in dollars and cents. The vast amount of money spent for whisky diverted into other channels will assist greatly the development of the State and add to its permanent wealth in tax paying property, not to say anything about the wholesome effect on labor of all classes. If this can be accomplished by prohibition, and temperance people point to the prosperity of those communities where it has been rigidly enforced as a convincing argument, a state prohibition law will not only prove a moral blessing to the State but will aid greatly in its industrial progress.

The ways of Governor Glenn are sometimes as inscrutable as those of providence. As, witness his reprieving Frazier Jones for 10 days within a half hour of the execution, and after Jones had said his last prayers and prepared for death, and coupling with the reprieve the statement that he did not intend to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. In our opinion he made two mistakes. If he will not commute the death sentence it was wrong to arouse a hope in the mind of the condemned murderer, and bordering on cruel to have him again undergo the awful agony of preparing to meet his fate. And again, it was too important a matter to risk so small a margin of time for its accomplishment—the sending of the reprieve. Perhaps he can "explain."

Indeed does the hand of fate seem to have marked the death of Judge Hargis, the boss of Breathitt county, Kentucky, who was killed last week by his son, to whom he had set such a bad example. Knowing no law but his own will, Judge Hargis gratified his desires with an utter disregard of others' rights and his life was but a bloody trail through the annals of Breathitt county. And then, when none dared say him nay, to be shot down by his own blood! Verily, "vengeance is Mine, I will repay, saith the Lord."

BRYAN THE STANDARD BEARER.

The principal charge brought against W. J. Bryan at the beginning of his remarkable career was that he was too advanced a thinker and that the policies he advocated were not practical, for the times. In the rapid evolution of things the great majority of the American people have "caught up" with him and are demanding the putting into practice at once the reforms which he has advocated. This is evidenced strongly even among the rank and file of the Republican party by the enthusiasm with which they applaud Roosevelt when he recommends those things Bryan has, with pen and voice, been fighting for years. That in itself is vindication. Further, many, we might say nearly all, of those leaders in the Democratic party who have either been lukewarm towards the Nebraskan or openly fought him have, in part at least, espoused his cause and are now working in harmony with Mr. Bryan and the great body of Democratic voters, to the purpose of bringing about his nomination and election. For it is well known of all men that if those policies are right that the great commoner stands out preeminent of all American statesmen as the logical one to have the putting them in practice on account of his conceded honesty and the sincerity he has shown at all times in advocating them for the common weal.

Though the Democratic party is more united than it has been for years and it is freely admitted by Mr. Bryan's enemies in the party that he will be nominated, yet there are some who continue to speak against him and to these the following from The Columbia (S. C.) State, a newspaper which has not always been a Bryan supporter, in a lecture to The Charleston News and Courier, one of those who continue to rail against Bryan, is submitted for thoughtful consideration:

"Mr. Bryan is now the choice of the Democrats of South Carolina, of the South, and of the United States. It is as certain as anything can be in politics that he will be nominated by the Denver convention to lead the party. He is now its standard-bearer. The work that is done by Democratic papers against Bryan between now and the July convention cannot be undone after that convention.

"Those that assail Bryan now are assailing the Democratic party, because he is now the only leader the party has. Our Charleston contemporary may say that it cannot affect the result in South Carolina, and that the South will support the nominee of the party regardless of his personality. That is quite true, but because it is a Southern paper and is supposed by the uninformed to represent political sentiment in South Carolina. The News and Courier's attacks on Bryan are gleefully reproduced by Republican and assistant Republican papers in the doubtful States. That helps to create the impression that Bryan will be knifed in his own party; and that, in turn, kills enthusiasm. Lack of enthusiasm means lack of votes on election day."

The continued discrimination in freight rates against North Carolina cities in favor of Virginia cities, by the railroads, is indefensible from any standpoint, and it becomes the Virginia cities, which owe so much of their prosperity to North Carolina, to lend their aid to the railroads in the manifest unfair scheme. It may prove a policy of "self preservation" that will act as a boomerang.

The fun has begun in the Republican ranks for control of the National convention. The Florida Republican State convention sends a Roosevelt (or Taft) delegation and an anti. It is evident that the Strenuous One will need all his strenuousity.

Are you a stockholder in a home building and loan association? If you are not, come and let me convince you that stock in Rocky Mount Homestead and Loan Association will pay you a better rate of interest on your small savings than any investment you can make. The 12th series of stock will be open for subscription February 1st, 1908. R. L. Huffines, Secretary and Treasurer.

Marked For Death.

"Three years ago I was marked for death. A grave-yard cough was tearing my lungs to pieces. Doctors failed so help me, and hope had fled, when my husband got Dr. King's New Discovery," says Mrs. A. C. Williams, of Bac, Ky. "The first dose helped me and improvement kept on until I had gained 35 pounds in weight and my health was fully restored." This medicine holds the world's leading name for coughs and colds and lung and throat diseases. It prevents pneumonia. Sold under guarantee at **Ray & Griffiths Drug Store, 12c and 25c.** Total bottles free.

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STATE NEWS.

Three attempts were made last week to wreck the Norfolk & Western trains, near Roxboro.

Railway postal service has been established on the Norfolk & Southern trains between Raleigh and Norfolk.

Friends of J. Elwood Cox, a wealthy manufacturer of High Point, are booming him for the Republican nomination for governor.

Forty-three of the 46 applicants before supreme court passed the examination successfully and were given license to practice law.

A crowd of 25 older students at the A. & M. College, Friday night, hazed 10 freshmen, using nitrate of silver which was painted on their faces.

Capt. Frisby and son who were reported to have been drowned in Pamlico sound during a severe storm two weeks ago, are alive and well. Their boat was wrecked and they had a narrow escape.

W. W. Ashe, son of Capt. S. A. Ashe, has been appointed State forester for North Carolina and he will, as his first work, examine the State board of education's timber lands in eastern Carolina.

The Cape Fear Lumber Company's plant at Wilmington was destroyed by fire Saturday morning, entailing a loss of \$100,000 and throwing out of work 200 employees. The fire is supposed to have been caused by friction under the band saw.

In a fire early Sunday morning at New Bern, which destroyed three colored people's residences, at a loss of \$3,000, William O'Brien, who attempted to re-enter his home to carry out his household goods, was killed and burned to death.

Thos. R. Blalock, a farmer of Durham county, was killed Saturday by a tree falling on him. He was felling trees in a piece of land he was clearing and one lodged against another. In getting it down he was knocked to the ground and the tree fell on him, killing him instantly.

In Mecklenburg county Saturday night, Henry McIlwreny, a negro, murdered David Lewis, another negro, with an axe in a most cold blooded manner. He cut Lewis' head open in three places and cut his stomach with the axe in as many more. He then coolly took the axe and chopped some wood for Lewis' wife, who came running out of the house, and then made his escape.

The Norfolk & Western has filed its answer to the complaint of the corporation commission before the Inter-State Commerce Commission, in which it admits that lower rates are charged at certain Virginia points, than in North Carolina towns, and defends itself on the ground of water competition in the first named State. A general denial is entered that these rates are unreasonable or unjust.

When all was in readiness Saturday morning and within a half hour of the time for the execution of Frazier Jones, for wife murder, at Greensboro, the sheriff received a long distance telephone message from the governor reprieving Jones until Feb. 18, that another hearing might be had on the petition for commutation to life imprisonment. Jones had said his last prayers and prepared himself for death when the sheriff announced the reprieve granted him.

If you have Catarrh, rid yourself of this repulsive disease. Ask Dr. Shoop of Racine, Wis., to mail you free, a trial box of his Dr. Shoop's Catarrh Remedy. A simple, single test, will surely tell you a Catarrh truth well worth your knowing. Write to-day. Don't suffer longer. **Griffins Drug Store.**

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