

# NEW NEWS OF YESTERDAY

by E. J. Edwards

## Speech Ochiltree Didn't Make

Noted Texan Was Prepared to Protest Against the Holding Up of His Pay But House Came to His Rescue.

His friends used to call the late Tom Ochiltree, congressman from the Galveston (Tex.) district in the early eighties, Thomas Porterhouse Ochiltree, but that middle name was facetious, probably due to the fact that Tom Ochiltree was regarded in his day as the best judge of a good beef-steak to be found in Washington. Today Tom Ochiltree is almost forgotten, but for nearly twenty years he was a national character. He was a man who attracted attention wherever he went, and on meeting him for the first time one could not avoid admitting to himself: "Here is one of the most astonishing personalities I have ever seen."

Notwithstanding a peculiar and individual philosophy of expression, Ochiltree was one of the wittiest, kindest, most sympathetic and most original of men. When General Grant was president, he met the Texan, who at that time was living in or near Galveston. The originality of the man, the quaintness of his thought and expression, and the magnetism of manner, which was almost hypnotic in its effect upon many persons gained for Ochiltree the friendship of the president. At the first opportunity General Grant appointed him United States marshal for the southern district of Texas. Tom Ochiltree, although a good Confederate as long as the Confederacy had any chance, had accepted the results of the war in good faith, and had become a Republican.

In the early eighties the Galveston district was still Republican. The party nominated and elected Tom Ochiltree to congress because Ochiltree had an unusual gift for getting anything his constituents wanted, and not as a joke, as the matter was regarded in some quarters. His seat in the house of representatives was almost directly behind that of Judge James B. Belford of Colorado, himself a most eccentric personality, but, like Ochiltree, a man of strong common sense. Both men were distinguished for hair that was fiery red. Ochiltree wore no beard, but had a mustache in which each individual hair stood out like a fiery bristle. He was a moon-faced man, while Belford had thin, hatchet-like features. The corner of the house in which they sat was sometimes designated as the "place of the burning bush."

"Tom," said one of his friends, who met him one night at Chamberlain's, then the most frequented restaurant in Washington, "when are you going to make your first speech?"

"When I have something to say," Ochiltree replied. "I didn't come here to hear myself talk."

A few evenings later, Ochiltree met the same friend at the same resort, and said: "I am going to make a speech pretty soon, and I know that it will be heard not only in, but out of congress."

"What are you going to talk about, Tom?" the friend asked.

"I am going to rise to a question of personal privilege. Then I am going to ask the speaker whether the house of representatives is going to play second fiddle to a damned little clerk in the treasury department."

"What's the matter, Tom?" his friend asked.

"Well, I went to the sergeant-at-arms' office to get my month's pay; just at this time it would come in rather handy. But the sergeant-at-arms told me that he hadn't any money for me. I wanted to know why, and he told me I would have to see some clerk down in the treasury department; that he was powerless; he hadn't got the money."

"So I went on a tour of investigation and located that little clerk, who informed me that my accounts as United States marshal in Texas hadn't been made good, that there was a deficit, and that he was holding back my pay as congressman until that

deficit was squared up. I made some remarks to him. Now, tomorrow I am going to ask the speaker whether a little two-cent clerk in the treasury department can hold up the pay from a member of congress."

But the next day Tom Ochiltree did not make the speech. It was not necessary. Just as he expected, the house of representatives overnight had become greatly stirred up by a report that a treasury clerk was holding up the pay of a member of congress.

"If Tom Ochiltree owes the government money, let the government sue for it," his fellow members declared. "We won't have a clerk in the treasury department interfering with our rights and privileges." At once they jammed the necessary resolution through, and in a short time Tom Ochiltree got his money without making his speech.

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### A Scotable Act.

Publisher—Let's see: On page 20 you say of your heroine, who lives in Pittsburgh, that "she clutched the air convulsively."

Author—Yes. What of it?

Publisher—Oh, nothing, only I suppose the next thing she did was go and wash her hands.

### Couldn't Blame the Restorer.

Barber—Hair getting thin, sir. Tried our hair preparation?

Customer—No; I can't blame it on that.—Brooklyn Life.

## Tribute Amused Voorhees

Comical Incident That Occurred When the "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash" Was Campaigning for "Blue Jeans" Williams.

The survivors in the state of Indiana of the exciting political campaigns in which Oliver P. Morton, war governor of Indiana and Republican United States senator; Joseph E. McDonald, United States senator; Thomas A. Hendricks, twice candidate for vice-president of the United States and once elected, and Benjamin Harrison were among the great campaigners and political managers speak, after all, with the greatest reminiscence interest of the campaign in which "Blue Jeans" Williams was the Democratic candidate for governor, in 1876. Indiana at that time was an October state—that is to say, it elected its state ticket in October preceding the presidential election of the same year. Therefore, it was regarded as of the highest importance both by Republicans and Democrats that the state should be carried for their party.

None of these campaigners, however—and it used to be said in Indi-

ana not all of them put together—gained and held such vast crowds as did Daniel W. Voorhees, who already had become widely known as the "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash." No great barbecue was considered complete unless the "Tall Sycamore" was present to address the crowds. He had a superb voice for outdoor speaking, and he knew how to use it effectively.

During the campaign a barbecue was held in one of the towns of the southern part of the state. The announcement was made that Thomas A. Hendricks, who had been governor and United States senator, would address the meeting, and that Joseph E. McDonald, then chairman of the Democratic state committee, and newly elected United States senator, also would speak. The people came into town by thousands and all business was suspended. Eight hundred maidens, wearing simple dresses of blue jeans, made a most impressive spectacle. They symbolized, in that way, the popularity of "Blue Jeans" Williams.

Senator Hendricks spoke. The vast throng listened patiently and respectfully, without making any special demonstration. Then Senator McDonald was introduced. The people of Indiana liked to hear McDonald, especially if his address were not very long. He spoke soberly, earnestly, and to the minds of his hearers, not to their passions or emotions.

Far back on an improvised platform sat the "Tall Sycamore of the Wabash." His head was plainly visible, overtopping those of all the others who were seated on that platform. There were occasional calls for Voorhees, but he paid no heed to them, for it was not his time to speak. At last, the chairman rose to present their distinguished fellow citizen, Daniel W. Voorhees, saying that he needed no introduction. Instantly that great throng let free its restrained emotions. For some moments Voorhees stood patiently and calmly receiving these tributes. Then he raised his hand and the storm of applause ceased suddenly. The silence was impressive by reason of its contrast to the vociferous acclaim of a moment before.

Voorhees had just opened his mouth to speak when a farmer who sat in the first or second row of improvised benches rose, and, turning to the great audience, shouted, in a high, squeaky voice:

"And now, feller citizens, we are going to have what we've been waitin' these two hours for. We are going to have some speechifyin' that means business!"

Voorhees could not contain himself. He burst into laughter. The great audience was convulsed, and yet it showed its approval of those plain-spoken sentiments. When quiet was at last restored Voorhees did give them some speechifying that counted; and of this demonstration Senator McDonald afterward said that it was without exception the greatest tribute to a stump speaker he had ever seen or heard, and that Dan Voorhees did justice to it in his speech.

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### His Grievance.

Weary Voice (from doorway)—My dear sir, I have absolutely no objection to your coming here and sitting up half the night with my daughter, nor to your standing on the doorstep for three hours saying good night. But in consideration for the rest of the household who wish to get to sleep, will you kindly take your elbow off the bell push?—London Opinion.

## REPORT OF SCHOOLS

REMARKABLE SHOWING IS MADE IN THE PAST YEAR BY DURHAM SCHOOLS.

### NINE LOCAL TAX DISTRICTS

Three New Schools Have Been Erected at Cost of \$8,500—The Exceptional Class of Teachers Responsible For the Good Work.

Durham.—The report of the county school board to the state board for the year closed will show school property in this county to be \$75,000, of which the whites own \$68,000 and the blacks \$7,000. The showing for the past year has been remarkable. Three new schools have been erected at a cost of \$8,500, making their average nearly \$3,000. There are now nine local tax districts in the county, two of which were secured last year, one of these without a dissenting vote. At one of these schools, Lowe's Grove, there will be a change into a rural high school, of which there are now three in the county outside east and west Durham and the city schools.

With a smallpox epidemic that arrested the work of the Rougemont and Bahama schools, the average term in the white schools exclusive of holidays was 155 days and in the colored 140. In local tax districts there was an average attendance among the whites of 167 days and among the colored 160. Thus Durham came very close to an average eight months' term, which shows that the people patronize the schools in the country and send their children almost as long as the city school children may go.

Statistics are rarely interesting, but the figures of Superintendent C. W. Massey show good work. The system over which he presides owns a wide reputation for its excellency. It is a plant which has been the admiration of hundreds of school people throughout the state and the work done has been of high grade.

There are thirty-five country school equipped with patent desks and seven of the schools have two or more teachers. Twenty-five white schools teach high school subjects. There are twenty-eight rural white and five colored libraries. There are 7,395 volumes in these.

Of the 3,892 whites and 2,311 colored children on the census roster, 2,691 whites and 1,241 blacks are enrolled.

Commission to Have Summer School. Raleigh.—The North Carolina Library commission has started a summer school at the State Library.

The course will be given by Miss Minnie W. Leatherman, secretary of the Library Commission and organizer of libraries throughout North Carolina. Miss Leatherman says that the course is intended for those who are actively engaged in library work, and is not meant as a preparatory library course. The purpose is mainly to help the librarians of small libraries, although the lectures will also, it is hoped, be useful to library workers who have had considerable experience. There will be lectures on the technical side of library work—that is to say, on selection of books, classification, and cataloguing—which things, by the way, have been developed into a science during the last decade or so.

Miss Leatherman has just returned from a stay of nearly two weeks at the Appalachian Training School at Boone, in Watauga county. At this school, which, for the western counties, corresponds to the Eastern Carolina Teachers' Training School at Greenville. Miss Leatherman classified the training school library and also gave lectures on books and school libraries. As the teachers present represented the country schools for the most part, the rural school library was the subject, as a general thing, of the lectures given.

Greensboro.—The city commissioners are threatening to indict all owners of dogs who have not paid the tax on the canines; also they are threatening to indict all persons liable for special privilege taxes who have not paid them as required by law.

### Planning For Boat Races.

Mount Holly.—Alive and appreciating one of Mount Holly's natural resources, the Mount Holly Progressive Club is now planning to induce certain North Carolina colleges to adopt boating as a feature of athletics. A lake here, formed by the Catawba river, which is five miles long and nearly a mile wide, is an adequate body of water for this sport. The accessibility for practice perhaps disfavours the proposition. However, members of the club are of the opinion that the matter can be arranged.

### Special Meeting of Alumni.

Greensboro.—A special meeting of the Greensboro alumni of the University of North Carolina was held, there being thirty members present. President Dr. J. E. Brooks presided. The object of the meeting was to consider the new plan of state organization as adopted at commencement last May. Mr. W. H. Swift, who under this plan had been selected as state field manager of the organization, explained the details thereof, and it was cordially endorsed. More than this was done.

## NEWS FROM TAR HEEL STATE

Short Paragraphs That Have Been Collected For the People of the Old North State.

Elizabeth City.—Owing to the fact that S. A. Kean & Co., of Chicago, the highest bidders during the recent opening of bids for the sale of the \$120,000 bonds for street paving and curbing purposes, failed to make good their bid, the board of aldermen is now advertising for bids for the bonds.

Oxford.—Granville county has suffered the loss of a good citizen in the death of Thomas D. Waller. He was a great grandson of Job Waller, who came to North Carolina from Maryland many years before the Revolutionary war and settled on Knap of Reeds Creek. He and his sons took part in the Revolutionary war.

Salisbury.—Charged with a serious assault upon Mrs. R. R. Davis, a well known Rowan woman, Etta Pettus, colored, was lodged in the Salisbury jail. The colored woman went to the home of Mrs. Davis to pick berries and when asked to leave the premises assaulted Mrs. Davis with a club, inflicting serious injuries.

Raleigh.—A new ambulance company has been formed in Raleigh, called Ambulance Company No. 1. The new company, belonging to the Medical Corps, is under the temporary command of First Lieutenant W. C. Horton, the Raleigh physician who organized the new company. The corps to which this company belongs is commanded by Surgeon-General S. Westray Battle, of Asheville.

Dunn.—It seems that the tigers in Dunn are not afraid of the new prohibition law, judging from the actions of a bold member of the wet and "morally stunted" brotherhood. One of the above-named received a large package by express and immediately proceeded to hand out pint bottles to his friends, but sad to relate, the chief came up about that time and captured the tiger and the remaining thirty-one pints which he had not sold. Recorder Smith is studying up on the new law.

Fayetteville.—The arbitrators appointed by the commissioners of the two counties to arrange a settlement between Cumberland and Hoke counties and determine the proportion of Cumberland's indebtedness which should be borne by the newly-created county have made their report. The arbitrators, who are Messrs. Q. K. Nimocks and Z. B. Newton for Cumberland and J. H. Smith and Senator J. W. McLaughlin for Hoke, place Hoke's share of its parent county's liabilities at \$13,250.

Wilson.—While walking along the tracks of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, near the cotton mill, Mr. S. C. (Sun) Stallings, was struck by a Southbound passenger train. He died from the wounds he received. It is said by some that he was walking just ahead of the train; by others that he was walking the foot path and just as the train got near him he stepped in front and was knocked quite a distance, his head striking a cross-tie. The engine was reversed so quickly that it gave the passengers a severe shock.

Spencer.—North Carolina's globe trotter, Frank A. Orr, of Charlotte, passed through Spencer en route to New York city, rolling a wheelbarrow, under a wager of \$500. The wager is between a New York and an Atlanta man and the terms provide that the looser shall roll the wheelbarrow back to Charlotte. Mr. Orr is in fine trim and expects to win. He is allowed to time himself to twenty miles per day, which he is easily making. He secured letters of endorsement in Spencer addressed to Mayor Gaynor of New York.

Statesville.—Deputy Collector Davis has returned from Alexander county, where he and Sheriff Adams, of Alexander, gave the blockaders a round. They captured and destroyed one of the best equipped illicit distilleries found in these parts. Three men were at the plant and were prepared to camp there for some time. When the officers approached the place the operators left in such great haste that they didn't get all their wearing apparel. The officers chased them into the tall timbers but could not overtake them.

Rowland.—A large crowd of 2,000 to 2,500 people attended the new county rally and picnic at Alfordsville. This historic old spot, the scene of many festivities in bygone days, never witnessed a larger or more enthusiastic crowd than assembled here on this occasion.

Morehead City.—While Mr. Kennedy of Fall Creek, holds the record for the largest catch of Spanish mackerel and blue fish, Mr. E. H. Gibson, of Laurinburg, and Mr. W. R. Carr, of Spartanburg, S. C., hold the record for catching drum. They caught drum, weighing from 12 to 35 pounds.

Winston-Salem.—The increase in value of taxable property in Winston-Salem this year amounts to one million seven hundred and sixteen thousand seven hundred, personal property aggregates thirteen million four hundred and sixty-one thousand one hundred and fifty-four dollars.

Elkin.—A severe electric storm visited this section. Two men guarding convicts at work on the Elkin & Alleghany Railroad, four miles north of Elkin, were struck by lightning, one, Mr. C. R. McFady, being killed instantly, and Mr. Walter Simmons was seriously injured.

## THE AMENDMENTS HAVE BEEN LOST

SENATE SHOWS ITS INTENTION TO ENACT THE CANADIAN RECIPROCIDITY BILL.

### FIGHT GIVEN UP BY CUMMINS

The Amendments That Were Offered by the Iowa Senator and Those Offered by Senator Simmons Are Defeated by a Decisive Vote.

Washington.—The Canadian reciprocity bill emerged unscratched from the most serious ordeal it has yet experienced in the Senate. The series of amendments offered by Senator Cummins of Iowa and the two offered by Senator Simmons of North Carolina, all seeking to increase the number of Canadian manufactured articles that shall be admitted to the United States free of duty, were voted down by large majorities.

The vote in favor of the amendments was so small that Senator Cummins only asked for five roll calls, although he had previously announced his intention of asking for at least ten. The maximum vote for his tariff amendments was 14, compared to a maximum vote of 53 against.

The defeat of the Cummins amendments clears the situation in the Senate, and leaves the reciprocity bill much nearer final passage.

Senator Bailey offered an amendment for the House woolen tariff bill, imposing a duty of 25 per cent on raw wool. He will ask for the consideration of this amendment and of his farmers' free list amendment.

Senator Cummins, after the first few votes on his amendments expressed the conviction that it was the intention of the Senate not to change the agreement in any particular and that it was useless to press the Senate for further votes. On the proposal to put flour and cereal products on the list of articles which the United States will admit free from Canada, Senator Cummins was defeated, 52 to 14; on the proposal to put agricultural implements on this list he was defeated 53 to 12; on the proposal to put lumber on the list he was defeated 51 to 12.

Other amendments voted down proposed to admit free from Canada, without demanding like treatment of American products, automobiles, iron ore, pig iron, coal, rubber, cotton, woolen, leather and silk goods.

Senator Bristow demanded a record vote on the rubber amendment but enough Senators would not join in the demand.

### Five Men Killed When Girder Falls.

Meyersdale, Pa.—Five men were killed and two seriously injured when a traveling crane bearing a 14-ton steel girder collapsed at a new viaduct being constructed by the Western Maryland Railroad at Salisbury Junction, one mile below here. The dead: John Scott, McKeesport, Pa.; Joseph Smith, Grove City, Pa.; J. R. White, Grove City, Pa.; C. H. Kennedy, New River, Va.; E. L. Sanders, Bullochville, Ga.

The injured are: A. E. Klutz of Salisbury, N. C., and L. C. Garner of Belton, S. C., both of whom may die.

The men were all structural-iron workers and were killed or injured in the fall. They were in the employ of the McClintic-Marshall Construction Company of Pittsburg. The heavy girder was being conveyed to the west bank of the Casselman river when the crane toppled and crashed to the ground.

### Educational Association Session.

San Francisco.—The acceptance of the resignation of Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler from the board of directors of the National Educational Association and the formal opening of the forty-ninth annual convention of the association at the Greek theater of the University of California in Berkeley occupied the delegates. Thousands of teachers crowded the Hillside theater in the campus of the University of California, where the convention was formally opened.

### Elks Are Given Freedom of City.

Atlantic City, N. J.—Although they had already taken the town by storm the thousands of Elks for their annual reunion gathered in the marjole ball room on the steel pier and permitted the people of Atlantic City to formally give them the freedom of the city. The principal address of welcome in the absence of Gov. Woodrow Wilson, who had expected to be here, was made by Harry Bacharach, exalted ruler of the Atlantic City lodge. August Herrmann of Cincinnati, the grand exalted ruler, responded.

### Chesapeake and Ohio Men Strike.

Richmond, Va.—Negotiations between officials of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway and representatives of the various organizations of employees of the system, growing out of a demand for increased pay for the men and which have been in progress since July 1 are understood to have ended with the decision of the men to strike. A vote of the men is said to have resulted in this decision. President Stevens has telegraphed here that he would not consider any increase of wages under present conditions.

## Story of Panic Days of 1893

Frederick D. Tappan's Account of How He Won a Bet on the Restoration of Public Confidence by Repeal of Sherman Law.

"If the inner history of the so-called Carlisle panic of 1893 were recorded, I presume no story ever written which fits to do with financial matters would be found to contain more dramatic and sensational details," said the late Frederick D. Tappan, the financier who, in 1896, induced the New York city banks to loan \$20,000,000 in gold to the United States to avert a financial upheaval.

"You know that the Carlisle panic was really a money famine. It was caused by the fear that Mr. Carlisle, as secretary of the treasury under President Cleveland, might be compelled to do what he avowed publicly he might have to do—pay all the obligations of the government in silver. There was practically suspension of money payment by the banks of the United States.

"The Clearing House association of New York and those of other cities felt that it was imperative that they should take some action. It was spoken of as a wonderful thing that the committee of the New York Clearing House association, which had charge of accepting securities from the banks and of issuing clearing house certificates upon these securities, should have been able to pass instant judgment upon the value of these securities although we were accepting them by millions. You see, we were obliged to say, when securities were brought to us, what the value of each kind of security was; then, having established the value, to allow a proper margin, and then to issue clearing house certificates to the bank which offered these securities, these certificates being good in payment of balances at the clearing house.

"But I can tell you a much more dramatic and important circumstance than that with which the public was made familiar through our ability instantly to estimate security values, and it reveals the great part that confidence plays in all business.

"The panic was caused by an in-

stant loss of confidence. I said to my friends in the clearing house: 'We must take steps to restore confidence. There is a limit to our capacity to lend clearing house certificates upon securities, but I am convinced that if the government at Washington will take the first step, then we can move off in time with that step, and in that way begin to check the panic.'

"I made a little wager with one of my banker friends. I bet him that if President Cleveland called an extra session of congress to repeal the Sherman silver law—which was the cause of the trouble—then on that very day we would notice a decrease in the demand for clearing house certificates. Furthermore, I stipulated that if the house of representatives, in a special session called by Mr. Cleveland, should repeal the Sherman law, we would instantly notice a heavy decrease in the demand for clearing house certificates; and I also declared that if congress should repeal the Sherman law, the demand for certificates would cease within a week.

"Well, when President Cleveland summoned congress into special session in August of that year, we saw at once that the climax of the demand for certificates had been reached. That meant that a little confidence was returning. When the house of representatives repealed the Sherman law, some two weeks later, the demand for certificates fell off heavily. In the six weeks that the senate was fighting to prevent repeal the demand ceased almost entirely and the banks began to take up their securities by depositing certificates. On the day that the senate adopted the repeal, practically every dollar of certificates had been redeemed, and the day after President Cleveland signed the repeal law every dollar had been redeemed.

"My friend cheerfully paid the bet I had won, and he agreed with me that this was the greatest object lesson—showing how vital is the part confidence plays in modern business and banking—we had ever known in the United States."

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