

THE GASTONIA GAZETTE.

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DEVOTED TO THE PROTECTION OF HOME AND THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTY.

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POINTS AND PARAGRAPHS ON TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Under this head will be printed from time to time noteworthy utterances on the themes of current interest. They will be taken from public addresses, books, magazines, newspapers, in fact wherever we may find them. Sometimes these selections will accord with our views and the views of our readers, sometimes the opposite will be true. But by reason of the subject matter, the style, the authorship, or the views expressed, each will have an element of timely interest to make it a conspicuous utterance.

The Three Divisions of Normal Human Life.

Richmond News-Leader.

The normal human life may be divided broadly into three periods—preparation, achievement, and separation—getting ready to do things, trying to do them, and getting ready to leave them.

Patriotism vs. Bribery.

McClure's Magazine for July.

A briber is a traitor. He may be a captain of industry, he may be a United States Senator, he may be a philanthropist. If he has won his fortune by bribery, the cost of his success is the undermining of the institutions of his country. He is not an "example to youth;" he is a corrupter of youth, a corrupter of everything he touches and everybody he inspires. He is an enemy of the Republic. The only force that can stop him is patriotism.

Blank and Hopeless.

Richmond News-Leader.

It is hard to imagine anything more pitiful than a blank and hopeless human life, going to its end, with nothing permanent written upon it, dependant absolutely on the temporary things, on the comforts of the day and the emotions of the moment, looking back on nothing but desolation and disappointment, and forward to nothing but extinction. What is there in such and for what have they lived? Certainly all people of that kind may agree that life is not worth the trouble of the living of it.

The Inequality Before the Law.

Col. Fairbrother's Everything.

It is proverbially true that the man who steals a loaf of bread to sustain life or who purloins a bucket of coal to warm the shivering marrow in his bones is branded a felon and the world cries "Crucify him!"—while the genteel and plausible robber whose loot is a million escapes with but what is slight punishment compared to the severity visited upon the petty thief. These glaring inconsistencies which disturb Society are everlastingly and eternally wrong. If the nigger is not morally the equal of the white man then his punishment should be less instead of greater than the man who knows the game and with brains and ability to rob and betray.

The Requisites of Fruitful and Busy Life.

Richmond News-Leader.

To be doing something, thinking something, taking a live, earnest interest in vital things, to love and to serve faithfully, to serve where we love—these are the luxuries of life and make it fruitful and busy. They provide for us constantly new, fresh interest and hopes against the time coming in all lives when old hopes depart baffled or have been fulfilled and found unsatisfying, when one by one loves, affections, friendships and associations sink in the sweeping current of the years. It is at that time of waiting and parting that the life uninscribed with permanent interests, living thoughts, dear and sweet memories and abiding purposes and hopes becomes miserably defected and desolate, after a middle life empty, unfruitful, meaning nothing.

Enforce the Law.

Knoxville Journal and Tribune.

The only safety to a State or a community lies in a just and fearless enforcement of law. Give criminals an inch and they will take a foot. Permit a minor law to be violated and it will lead to the violation of greater ones. Wink at the law against gambling, and it will encourage the criminally disposed to do something worse; close the eyes to the illicit Sunday saloon and those who may meditate larceny may conclude that the officials are indifferent generally. Steal an election and men conclude that they may steal other things, without committing a greater crime. Stick to the law. Enforce it and punish offenders without regard to their wealth or social position. Render law-breaking unpopular and lawbreakers of every sort infamous. When this is done, there will be no such demonstrations as we have witnessed in Breathitt county, and no more violations that bring terror to communities and disgrace to States and cities.

The Big Pension Roll of a Little War.

World's Work for July.

So long ago as the first of May nearly 60,000 claims for pensions had been filed for injuries caused in our little war with Spain. At the rate they have been coming there will be half as many claims on file by the end of the year as there were men in the war, most of whom did not go outside of the United States. About 20,000 soldiers in all went to Cuba, and a few went to Porto Rico for a very brief time. Disease played havoc in a good many camps but only a few hundred were wounded in war. A total of 243 were killed in Cuba, including those who died from wounds.

Yet 12,000 claims for pensions have already been allowed; and although more than 18,000 have been rejected, many of the remainder will have to be put on the list. It is already plain that the claim agent is likely to cost us more than the war cost, for his work will go on year after year, year after year. The pensioners on account of the Civil War are now almost as numerous as they ever were; and we may expect forty years hence the application of dependent widows of veterans of the little war with Spain—from women who are not yet born. Already many a man who, when the war ended, had no idea of applying for a pension has discovered how easy it is both to trace some physical ailment to "exposure" and to get paid all his life for it. The scandal of it reveals a pitiful weakness of human nature and a pitiful weakness also of representative government. It is bad enough to pay millions and millions of dollars wrongly out of the treasury, but it is worse to know that so many men who responded to a patriotic impulse and would have been brave in battle, lie and sneak. If there were any honorable way to abolish the whole pension bureau it would be a great gain for American character.

BREACH OF PROMISE WAS HER "BUSINESS."

Attractive School Teacher Acquires Capital by Suits Against Aged Admirers.

Richmond News-Leader.

Chicago, June 25.—"You don't have to be a successful lawyer to make a good living out of the law," said a lawyer who keeps tab on queer cases in connection with his profession. "If you're smart enough and devoid of scruples you can be a professional litigant."

"About nine years ago I won a breach of promise suit for a woman who had been a school teacher. The defendant was an elderly contractor, and we got \$5,000 out of him. He was a widower, and like a good many lonesome old men, he had been pretty mellow in his correspondence with my client, which won out for us. The woman wasn't especially pretty, but she was winsome and attractive."

"Well, that woman has been a professional litigant in the breach-of-promise line ever since, and she has become comparatively wealthy out of it. She has instituted more than a dozen breach-of-promise suits, always against wealthy and elderly men in large cities of the United States, and she has won the majority of her suits. I know these things, because, with a frankness as naive as it was overwhelming, she told them to me herself not very long ago."

"CALLS IT HER 'BUSINESS.'" "She told me at the same time that she had become so well to do through her breach-of-promise 'business'—she called it that—that she had decided to give it up and settle down. She is still under forty and as winsome and attractive as she was when I put her first breach-of-promise suit through for her."

"I leave you to imagine my state of mingled feelings when, after telling me of the remarkable success she had achieved as a professional breach-of-promise plaintiff all over the land, she thanked and praised me as her 'benefactor,' the man who had pointed out to her the road to fortune; it assuredly made me feel, somehow, like an accessory both before and after the fact."

"Her game must have been unimaginably easy, from the way she described it. Her story certainly went far to convince me of the truth of the adage that 'there's no fool like an old fool.' She made a specialty of trapping elderly men of means, widowers in all cases. She so contrived matters as to get her victims to write many promise-filled and affection-reeking letters to her—'Such ink slingers as the old parties are, to be sure,' was her artless way of putting it—and these bundles of documents were, of course, her potent weapons."

"BAILED AT MATRIMONY." "In several cases, she told me, her comfortably fixed elderly victims were really willing, not to say anxious, to marry her, which was annoying, she said, because it spoiled everything. She wanted them to sidestep the marriage proposition and fight it out in court, of course. Those who were really willing to marry her she had to run away from, because she wasn't in the marrying business."

"Several experiences at the outset with eligible elderly men who were more than willing to bestow their names upon her taught her the wisdom of selecting as victims well-to-do widowers who had grown children. She found that such men were nearly always liable to hesitate when it came to the actual point of marrying, on account of the expected opposition of the grown children, and at this stage of it she could always find means to pick a quarrel with them, thus clearing the way for the framing up of her breach-of-promise suit against him."

"Besides the suits that she won in court she had forced quite a number of elderly parties to settle with her under her threat that she would have recourse to the law, and she said that some of these settlements were more remunerative than most of the cases that she had won in court."

ONLY ONE REAL LOVE AFFAIR.

"You may believe that I was in a state of stunned surprise, perhaps not unmixed with curiosity, as I listened to this woman's calm and connected narration of the superior form of blackmail in which she had been engaging. I was relieved as to my own connection with her, when she told me that the case which I had won for her was a genuine affair, and that she had really been defooled by

the Brooklyn contractor from whom I had obtained the \$5,000 award for her."

"It was only after winning that suit that she had determined to go into the breach-of-promise game as a business, and to prepare herself for this sort of thing she had deliberately studied the law in all its bearings upon breach-of-promise suits until she had become so expert that she was enabled to frame up a case on a victim with such precision and predication that she could generally tell to a 'T' just how good her case was going to be when it came to trial."

"Don't be shocked," she concluded, smilingly, after she had unraveled her story to me; "I know lots of other women who are making good in the breach-of-promise business all over the country, but just because I've made my pile and am out of the business I'm not going to give them away—certainly not."

"A pleasing tale that for a reputable lawyer and the father of a family to spend a morning listening to, wasn't it? But it's all in the day's work, and I have a receptive mind for these new things."

BOY SLOWLY BLEEDS TO DEATH

Remarkable Case of Mecklenburg Youth—A Family Peculiarity.

Charlotte News, 29th.

Master Sam Mulwee, the 15-year-old son of Mr. John Mulwee of Lower Steel Creek, is at the point of death as the result of a slight cut on one of his feet.

Saturday young Mulwee was raising a window. The sash slipped from his hands and fell, shattering several of the panes. A piece of broken glass struck the boy on one of his feet inflicting a small cut. Immediately thereafter, blood commenced to flow copiously and despite the fact that everything has been done to stop the flow, the young man is slowly bleeding to death.

A telephone message to the News this afternoon states that the boy is in a precarious condition and it is feared that death may follow at any moment.

A strange coincidence in connection with this family is that two have died as the result of what is considered small operations. A grown son, a strong healthy young man, had occasion to have one of his teeth pulled. As soon as the tooth was extracted, the blood commenced to flow and all efforts to check it proved futile.

This deadly peculiarity in this family was first noticed more than 75 years ago, when one of the children of Mr. Wyatt, the older branch of the family, bled to death. The young man was at school and had occasion to sharpen a pencil. The knife slipped and a small gash on the knee resulted. Before medical aid could reach him, the young man bled to death.

In punishing the Wyatt and Mulwee children, the parents were always afraid to use a switch for fear that the skin might be broken.

A telephone message from Steel Creek to the News this afternoon is to the effect that the young man is still in a critical condition. The flow of blood has not been stopped and the attending physician fears that owing to the condition of the boy there is little hope for his recovery.

STRANGE STORY.

Remarkable Case of Loyal Friendship in the World of Crime.

Los Angeles Daily Times.

A dramatic story of self-sacrifice on the part of a crook has dribbled out through the grim and unromantic Criminal Courts. The young bunco man, Bert Clayton, is said to have gone to prison to save his feeble old pal, Thomas Snow.

The circumstances were such that they could both have a slim chance of going clear or one could of a certainty go free if the other would go to prison. Clayton insisted upon going to prison and letting the old man out.

The two of them conspired to rob old man Venable in a "spike" card game at Long Beach. Venable "battered" to the police and both of the bunco men were caught. Their bail was fixed at \$2,000 each. They couldn't raise it singly—either of them.

Although Clayton told the Judge who sentenced him that he had been only led into the crime in his desperation to get money to send East to his sick young wife and two little children, it appears that he had the most money of the two.

He could not collect quite \$2,000 however. He scraped up some and his young wife brought him more. Snow got together what money he could, and between them there was a pile amounting to \$2,000. It was enough to let one of them give bail and skip out. Here was a situation to test the character of a better and more generous man than a crook. Young Clayton, after talking it over with his young wife, told Snow that he should be the one to go free. When the old man demurred to accept such a sacrifice, Clayton said to him: "I am young yet and I can stand a few years in the 'still' You would die before your sentence expired."

So old Snow took the \$2,000 they had all three raised and deposited it as bail. Then he promptly shook the dust of this city from his feet and vanished.

Clayton got three years in San Quentin.

According to the etiquette of the underworld of the crooks it is now "up to" old Snow. He will be expected to set the "proper machinery in the proper devious ways to running to see that Clayton's wife and children are well taken care of."

Just how these things are done only a few of the outsiders are able to know.

School Days Per Capita.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Statistics show that the average amount of public schooling per capita in this country is 998 days. That is, there would be 998 days for each inhabitant if it were distributed around. Fifty years ago the average was 420 days, and at the beginning of the nineteenth century it was but eighty-two days. The nation gives the school-children of today twelve times as much schooling as the youngsters received 100 years ago.

The Supreme Court of Tennessee holds that the Adams law, passed by the last legislature, is constitutional. The measure was a temperance resolution and provided for the abolition of saloons in towns having a population of 5,000 and under, upon the submission of the question to popular vote.

July Clearance Sale of MILLINERY

Our stock of Millinery is being offered at the July prices. As the season advances prices of Millinery decline. Not only our goods, but our prices on the goods will suit everybody. Our lines of children's, misses' and ladies' stylish trimmed Hats at 50c, 75c, and \$1 cannot be touched as to quality and price. Before purchasing come and compare our goods and be convinced.

WASH FABRICS.

Lace Stripe Waistings, colored Lawns and Dimities all going at reduced prices. 3 3 3

Embroideries and White Lawn special sale continues until the lot is sold. 3 3 3 3 3

JAS. F. YEAGER,

LADIES' FURNISHINGS A SPECIALTY.

In the Good Old Summer-Time.



Love making is made easy when accompanied by the soft strains of one of our Guitars or Mandolins. We also carry a complete line of Violins, Banjos, Autoharps, Accordions, French Harps, etc.—anything you need in the small musical line.

Torrence, the Jeweler.

Watch repairing and engraving a specialty.

—AT—

MISS RUDDOCK'S

UP STAIRS OVER MORRIS BROTHERS

ALL MILLINERY

Is now going at

HALF PRICE.

ENOUGH SAID

Jim Dumps' physician once said to him: "I'll have no draught or pill."

Said Jim: "No, no, you're on the shelf. You who cure others, cure yourself."

Then Jim sent up some "force" to him.

"That's what he needs," quoth "Sassy Jim."

force

The Ready-to-Serve Ointment for doctor and patient.

Was Bitten Three Times.

"I was attacked last May by a rattlesnake. As I showed signs of recovery, doctor and I began to converse for a minute or so. He said: 'You're a tough old fellow.' 'Yes,' I replied, 'I have been a wounded man, to be sure, but I have eaten almost three cents.' R. H. HARRIS."

—30 TO—

Craig & Wilson's

to buy your Vehicles. We have on hand now almost any grade car may call for. Our doors are always open during the day and we are always glad to have our friends call and see us and permit us to show them our stock of goods. Our prices are always made satisfactory with our customers. We still have in our stable some fine and nice SADDLES and BARS. We mention that we are going to sell.

CRAIG & WILSON.