

MARY ANN BUTLER TALKS.

Former Senator Favors Government Ownership of Public Utilities.

Washington, April 24.—Former Senator Marion Butler is still wedded to his Populist ideals. Although a pronounced Republican he favors government ownership of railroads and all other utilities.

In an interview published here today with reference to this question the former Populist leader said:

"From my point of view there is only one way to deal with railroads and that is for the government to run them. Not only is there the evil of discrimination but the rates in many cases are extortionate. They should be lowered. The government is fully able to handle this question and it should do it. If it is not cured by the time the next national campaign is fought, then this will be the one absorbing question that we will have to deal with. The people have got to have a cure for the evil. They are not so particular how the cure is to be accomplished, but there must be a cure.

"I made twenty speeches in the senate in which I showed that railroad discrimination was responsible for the growth of trusts. Some people who wanted to talk tariff in-istled that the tariff was responsible for these trusts. If President Roosevelt can cure this evil without government ownership no one will be more glad to see that result than I will be. He is not disposed to sanction government ownership and I hope he will be able to cure the evil without it, but I shall be surprised if he is able to do it."

Buying Chimney Rock Land.

It was learned through a private letter to an Asheville gentleman that agents of John D. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Company are engaged in buying up large tracts of land in the Chimney Rock section of Rutherford county and that already some 10,000 acres have been purchased. There has been a rumor afloat in that section for some time that the Standard Oil Company was securing options on and buying great tracts of land through its agents, though for what purpose was mere speculation.—Lexington Dispatch.

THE ENGLISH SPARROW.

To Get Rid of Them a Difficult Problem.

Mr. J. D. Beale has recently had some correspondence with the proper department at Washington as to methods for getting rid of the English sparrow now so numerous in all sections of this country. The following letter will be found of great interest:

U. S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Survey, Washington, March 20, 1905.
Mr. J. D. Beale, 603 South Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama:

Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 22nd instant, addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture, has been referred to me for reply. I must confess that is a difficult matter to get rid of the sparrows under the conditions with which you are surrounded, since it is assumed that the birds cannot be shot within city limits. Shooting is the best remedy where it is practicable. I have used it with success on my own place in the country, where I have attempted to shoot every one that appeared on the premises during the past three years. I still kill one or two every week during the summer season, as new-comers are constantly trying to settle. If the birds nest on your premises, I would advise a systematic and persistent destruction of their nests, and as far as possible, the removal or closing up of nesting sites, such as boxes or holes and crannies in buildings. English sparrows are usually too wary to be trapped, but you might at least reduce their number if you have a vacant loft or attic in the house, barn or shed, where a goodly number could be baited for a while and secured by closing the entrance.

If you are surrounded by neighbors who protect these birds and will not allow them killed on their premises, the problem becomes much more difficult, in fact, practically unsolvable. As far as my observation and experience go, this bird is a nuisance and any safe method for its extermination within city limits should be allowed. Sprinkling the shrubbery and trees where the sparrows roost after dark with a garden hose will sometimes drive the birds away from the premises. You may by the methods suggested make your own yard unpopular for the sparrows, but you never will be able to be wholly rid of them. I regret that I cannot give you more encouragement.

Very truly yours,
F. E. L. Beal,
Asst. in Charge Economic Ornithology.

FELL DEAD AT TELEPHONE.

Col. Dan M. Jones, of Texas, Was Formerly a Well Known Resident of Henderson County.

O. M. Henry has just been advised of the sudden death of his relative, Col. Dan M. Jones, of Anson, Texas, who dropped dead on the 22nd inst., while talking over the telephone.

Col. Jones moved from Henderson county to Texas several years ago and was well known by the older citizens of western North Carolina, having many relatives and friends in this section. For many years Col. Jones was owner and editor of the Texas Western, and also a lawyer of great ability and was often spoken of as a strong candidate for congress in his district.

He leaves a wife and four daughters.—Asheville Citizen.

An Accommodating Clerk.

She sailed into the telegraph office and rapped on the counter. The clerk remembered that she had been in there about ten minutes before as he came forward to meet her. He wondered what she wanted this time.

"Oh," she said, "let me have that telegram I wrote just now; I forgot something very important. I wanted to underscore 'perfectly lovely' in acknowledging the receipt of that bracelet. Will it cost anything extra?"

"No, ma'am," said the clerk, as he handed her the message.

The young lady drew two heavy lines beneath the words and said:

"It's awfully good of you to let me do that. It will please Charley so much."

"Don't mention it," said the clerk. "If you would like it, I will put a few drops of violet extract on the telegram at the same rates."

"Oh, thank you, sir. You don't know how much I would appreciate it. I'm going to send all my telegrams through this office, you are so obliging."

And the smile she gave him would have done anyone good, with the possible exception of Charley.

Has a Stepmother.

A strapping lad of twelve was registered in one of the public schools of Philadelphia. He readily gave the several facts called for but he did not know whether his birthday fell on the tenth of November or of December.

The principal was surprised at this display of ignorance on the part of so old a child, and he asked how it came to pass that he hadn't learned the date of his birth. "I wasn't born," said the boy, "I had a stepmother."—Lipincott's Magazine.

FALL TO BOTTOM OF MINE.

When Reached Lives of Ten Miners Had Been Crushed Out.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 26.—Ten miners were instantly crushed to death at the Cunningham mine of the Delaware & Hudson company, located in the northern part of this city. The men were being lowered into the mine and when 350 feet from the surface the rope broke and the cage fell to the bottom of the shaft, a distance of 400 feet. A rescuing party was at once organized, and they found the bodies of the men in the sump at the bottom of the shaft beneath a mass of debris. They were terribly mangled.

Superintendent Frote says he is at a loss to account for the accident. An examination of rope was made today before the first cage full of human freight was lowered into the mine, and it was found to be all right.

William Cunningham, who is said to be of the most reliable men in the employ of the company, was the engineer in charge of the hoisting carriage. He says everything went well until the fatal trip. He got the signal to stop at the Hillman vein, which is 350 feet from the surface. When the Hillman was reached he slowed up. Without any warning the rope snapped and the carriage containing the ten men dropped to the bottom. The carriage had all the safety appliances and its speed should have been checked before it reached the bottom, but as far as he can learn the "catcher" did not work. Eight of the dead were Poles and two others English speaking miners.

This is the third accident of the kind that has occurred in the Wyoming district within six months. In each case the rope attached to the carriage broke and the men in the vehicle were dashed to the bottom of the shaft and instantly killed. The first disaster occurred at the Auchincloss mine, in which ten miners lost their lives. Six weeks ago a cage at the Clear Spring colliery fell, and seven men were killed.

David Bennett Hill and Henry Gassaway Davis are reported to be leading the simple life.

PUT POWDER IN A STOVE.

An Anson County Merchant's Mistake Which Came Near Being a Fatal One.

A few days ago Mr. W. P. (Pe) Dunlap, a merchant of Cedar Hill, had an experience that he will not soon forget. Mr. Dunlap sleeps in his store and frequently gets up early in the morning and makes a cup of coffee before going to his breakfast, at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Dunlap, who live some distance from the store.

On the morning in question he made a fire in the stove and got a coffee pot and placed it inside the stove on the fire. He then walked to the back end of the store, and about that time there was a tremendous explosion. The stove was blown into a thousand pieces, the fire scattered all over the room, and it was with considerable difficulty a conflagration was avoided. An investigation disclosed the fact that Mr. Dunlap had, by mistake, placed a coffee pot containing powder in the stove instead of the pot he used to make his coffee in.

Fortunately Mr. Dunlap was not injured by the explosion, his leaving the stove and going to the back end of the store probably saving his life.—Wadesboro Messenger.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Chicago News.

A woman who has no diamonds considers them vulgar.

Even poor advice is legal tender when handed out by a lawyer.

An artificial kiss is the kind one woman inflicts on another.

A judge charges the jury, but the other fellow pays the freight.

Before a man resolves to quit drinking he should resolve to quit lying.

Don't get too close to your friends or they may accidentally step on you.

The business of the successful trust promoter is founded upon a "rock."

Usually the fast man is slow when it comes to handing money over to his wife.

A woman who attempts to cook according to her husband's ideas is apt to make a mess of it.

Reflections of a Bachelor.

New York Press.

There is an awful lot of fun in fooling yourself into believing you are having it when you aren't.

A woman looks on facts like rubbers, bicycles and other things that ought to be kept on the back stoop.

A girl without a lot of ribbons tumbles her clothes where you don't just see them, yet know they are there, somehow never seems a girl.

Some men have such vanity that when they are kicked down stairs they can make themselves believe nobody else could come down that way.

Pointed Paragraphs.

Chicago News.

One kind word a day is some men's limit.

Being out of a job soon gets to be a habit with the lazy man.

What will women do if there is no house-cleaning in heaven?

Before attempting to size up an easy-going man arouse his temper.

You may have observed that a loafer never considers himself a loafer.

A girl hasn't much use for a young man who asks for "just one kiss."

A sign painter doesn't think much of a portrait painter's ability as an artist.

If his children listen eagerly for his footsteps he can't be such a bad fellow.

You can always tell a married couple in a restaurant by the way they don't talk to each other.

When a woman is unable to crowd her foot into a small shoe she is an advocate of sensible footwear.

A woman may declare that she has implicit confidence in her husband, but she will always carefully examine the color of the long hair she happens to find on his coat.

The Mad Dog Law.

In the North Carolina newspapers lately there have been stories of injuries to children by mad dogs. The authorities ought to be very careful to kill such dogs and owners should understand their liability.

Section 2499 of the code is as follows: "Whenever the owner of any dog shall know, or have good reason to believe, that his dog, or any dog belonging to any person under his control, has been bitten by a mad-dog and shall neglect or refuse immediately to kill the same, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of fifty dollars to him who will sue therefor; and the offender shall be liable to pay all damages which may be sustained by any one, in the property or person, by the bite of any dog as aforesaid and shall be guilty of misdemeanor and fined not more than fifty dollars or imprisoned more than thirty days."

RIDDLED VICTIM WITH SHOT.

Mob Breaks Into the Jail to Lynch Prisoner but is Prevented by Lock of the Cell.

Shreveport, La., April 26.—After working three hours with sledge hammers and pick-axes, a mob of 25 men broke into the parish jail at Homer, La., 75 miles northeast of Shreveport, today and shot Dick Craighead, inflicting wounds which will probably prove fatal. Craighead was charged with the murder of Mrs. Ike McKee, the wife of his half brother, and her little son.

The authorities were unaware of the design to mob the prisoner until it was too late to protect him. Every telephone and telegraph wire out of Homer was cut, and the rifles of the Clairborne Guards, the local military company were seized before the attack was made. So quietly did the mob work that scarcely any one in the little town was aware of what was taking place at the jail.

Having dug a hole through the brick wall, the lynchers crawled through the opening, but on reaching the cell in which the prisoner was confined, found it impossible to break the lock. They then began shooting at the cowering prisoner through the bars of his cell, more than 20 shots being fired and nearly every one taking effect. The man's legs, arms and portions of his body were literally riddled.

Believing that Craighead was dead, the mob left the prison and quickly dispersed.

When Sheriff Kilpatrick and citizens of the town reached the jail, they found Craighead still alive. It is said that he told the sheriff the names of three of the lynchers, and that another prisoner in the jail told the name of another man whom he recognized. The names have not been divulged.

Virginia Editors Invited.

President Varner of the North Carolina Press Association, has forwarded to President Lewis of the Virginia Press Association the following invitation:

In behalf of the Executive Committee of the North Carolina Press Association I extend to you and through you to the members of the Virginia Press Association a cordial invitation to hold your next annual convention in joint session with the North Carolina Press Association, at the Kenilworth Inn, Asheville, N. C., July 15th and 16th. I sincerely hope that your association will accept this invitation, as I am sure that a joint convention of the quill drivers of the Tar Heel State and the Old Dominion would be highly profitable to the brethren, as well as the good of the states. The North Carolina editors, the citizens of Asheville, and the people of North Carolina will consider themselves honored if you accept this invitation, and will extend every courtesy possible.

South's Competition Feared by the North.

Boston, Mass., April 26.—In opening the annual meeting of the New England Cotton Manufacturers' Association here today, President Herbert Walmsey expressed the opinion that the present outlook in the cotton trade was decidedly hopeful and encouraging. He thought that the keen competition which now exists to a greater degree than ever before would become more and more intensified. President Walmsey condemned as unreasonable the attitude of operatives when they obstructed progress in resorting to strikes with the object of forcing manufacturers to abandon improved machinery or methods designed to improve the product and decrease the cost of production. He believed that improved machinery was imperative in the success of the cotton industry in New England. The president said it was necessary to exercise the strictest economy and the highest degree of efficiency in every detail in order to compete with the successful mills of the southern states.

Williams and Vardaman Candidates.

While delivering an address at Hattiesburg, Miss., urging the cotton growers to reduce acreage, Congressman John Sharpe Williams, of Mississippi, formally announced that he was a candidate for the United States Senate, to succeed Senator H. B. Money. Governor James K. Vardaman has also declared his candidacy for the office.

Congressman Williams has been delivering speeches to farmers on the cotton situation for several months, and some of his political opponents accuse him of using the cotton situation to assist his senatorial ambitions. Governor Vardaman has been engaged in the same work, as Senators from Mississippi are chosen in primary elections.

EDITOR DEAL HAS HIS INNING.

Scores The "Sneaks and Cowards" Who Assaulted Him.

At Wilkesboro recently, Mr. R. A. Deal, editor of the Chronicle, was brutally assaulted and beaten by G. W. Samuels, a revenue officer, while another officer named Hasty stood by with drawn pistol and prevented any interference from Deal's friends. Mr. Deal is a small man and had just arisen from a bed of sickness, while Samuels is a man of great strength.

In the issue of his paper last Wednesday Mr. Deal gives the following version of the affair:

"The article written last week concerning the way that blockaders get information and escape in Lewis Fork township seems to have struck hard on the revenue officers, although they were not implicated in the article. It was not indicated who the guilty ones were as our informant did not know, or at least did not tell. But it raised the ire of these fellows, and instead of acting any sort of gentlemen, they attacked the editor near the Post Office Friday afternoon. He had been in bed for some time with grip and neuralgia and was making the trip to the office, as no one was at hand to send. We were met near the office by G. W. Samuels, the other officer being near and with oaths he demanded the name of our informant. We told him he could not get it that way, and started to go on to the post office. He said that 'it's a—lie of your own make.' A big grafting revenue ruffian ran up named Hasty and with pistol waving swore 'you are the lying s-o-b—' and about that time Samuels battered our face several times with fist, knucks or something of the sort. We were barely able to walk away and were easily knocked over. When friends ran in Hasty attempted to bluff them with his pistol, showing that it was a made up job of sneaks and cowards. It was an unexpected assault to us. Samuels and myself had been good friends; we had said no words against him; we were members of the same fraternity and sat together in the lodge. Any information would have been given him if he had asked in a gentlemanly way. But he chose rather to act with Hasty the sneak and assassin on coward. These sneak grafters will do murder to keep up their business.

It has been the common talk for two years that there was serious graft and rottenness in the revenue business here. It has frequently been published in the leading State papers, and the tale of our informant from Lewis Fork is not new to these sneaks and cowards."

Shot Supposed Bank Robber.

Richmond, Va., April 19.—Thinking an attempt to rob the bank was being made, Dr. Lawrence Anderson Bragg, a dentist, who has rooms in the Citizens' National Bank building at Covington, Va., early this morning shot in the direction of the noise, killing Dr. Alex. Nelson, of the staff of the Western State Hospital, who had arrived on a late train to visit his brother, Attorney G. E. Nelson. In endeavoring to reach his brother's room near the bank Dr. Nelson lost his way and was at the entrance of the bank building when killed.

Lumbermen Organized.

Asheville, N. C., April 27.—A number of lumbermen from western North Carolina and portions of Tennessee met here Saturday afternoon for the purpose of effecting the permanent organization of the Western Carolina Lumber Association. Organization was effected by the election of the following officers: President, W. T. Mason; secretary, J. E. Dickerson; committee on freight rates, M. E. Quinlan, J. Q. Baker, J. M. Barnhardt, S. F. Chapman and M. B. Wilkins.

Letters were read from numerous absent lumbermen in western North Carolina asking that their names be enrolled as members of the association and pledging their hearty co-operation. The objects of the association, as stated and discussed at the meeting, are principally looking after freight car service and reduction in freight rates for this section.

Bonds Signed by Governor.

Governor Glenn has signed each one of the two hundred and fifty \$1,000 bonds that are being issued by the state for the purpose of paying off the judgement against the state in the noted South Dakota bond case and all other North Carolina bonds of that class. His excellency says he signed all the two hundred and fifty bonds in forty minutes and wrote his signature so that it could be read too. The great seal of the state was also affixed to the bonds and they are signed by State Treasurer B. R. Lacy they will be ready for issuance May 10th, when the bids are to be opened.

THE STATE'S FINANCES.

North Carolina Financially in Much Better Shape Than Sister States.

State Treasurer Lacy makes a statement which shows that the total debt of the State, interest bearing, is \$6,872,450. Included in this is the issue of \$250,000 of bonds now offered for sale, and \$22,000 of old 6 per cent. bonds which seems to have been lost or destroyed. The State has 30,002 shares of stock in the North Carolina Railroad, estimated to be worth \$6,000,000—now held at 175 per share and bearing 7 per cent. interest; 12,666 shares of stock in Atlantic & North Carolina, worth \$1,000,000 and 2,800 shares of stock in the Wilkesboro and Jefferson Turnpike, worth \$28,000. This is a total of resources of \$7,028,000 against a debt of \$6,872,450—excess of resources over liabilities of \$155,550. A State which is able to make this showing may be said to be in capital financial condition. Last year it had an income of \$320,514 from interest on railroad stock and \$1,501,500 from taxes, which latter will be largely increased this year. Treasurer Lacy shows that Virginia has a debt in excess of \$24,000,000, Tennessee in excess of \$14,500,000, Alabama exceeding \$9,000,000, Georgia above \$7,500,000 and South Carolina above \$6,500,000. When we consider North Carolina's condition, actual and relative, it does not look as if we ought to balk at a bond issue of say \$500,000 to raise money to provide for all the insane of the State.

The Solid South.

In ex-Judge Parker's strong speech last Thursday night at the Jefferson Day banquet at the Waldorf-Astoria, the following, tribute to the solid south is found:

"Surprise is sometimes expressed that the South has remained solid, and yet no student, whatever his prejudices, could overlook the fact that in politics there is a sense of gratitude, not for favors expected, but for unselfish and commanding services to humanity. Indeed, nothing in all the recorded history of mankind has been more pathetic, more heroic, more deserving of admiration and sympathy than the attitude of the south since 1865. As fate would have it, their defeat in war was the smallest of their woes because it could neither threaten nor bring dishonor. But the new contest—with military power, with theft and robbery with poverty and the enforced dominations of a race lately in slavery—forced as it was without time for recovery, and that, too, in their own homes, required a courage little less than superhuman.

"Maintaining the struggle with the one great and almost insoluble problem of our time, working under the most serious difficulties, courageous in the face of many discouragements, these people have manfully represented the hopes, the ideas and the traditions of their country and the logic as well as the heroism of our national history. If any man is so foolish as to ask why the Democratic party has been true to the South in its time of trial, and why this attachment has been required, it must be because he knows little of history and less of human nature."

Prohibition Rail Roads.

It is significant of a growing public sentiment against liquor drinking that the use of intoxicants by railway employees is being more and more strictly forbidden by the railway companies. One of the new rules promulgated by the New York Interborough Company absolutely exclude from employment any man who drinks intoxicating liquors. This is in the interest of the traveling public, and the rule should be rigidly enforced.

Paradise For The Men.

Paraguay would seem to present the smallest chance for woman's rights progress on earth. In that country there are seven women to one man. Consequently, the men are petted and taken the greatest care of. Everything that is unpleasant or risky is done by the women. The streets are cleaned, ships loaded, and the oxen driven by them, and they even go to war as substitutes for the men.

Asheville Horse Show Opened.

Asheville, April 26.—The third annual meeting of the Asheville Horse Show Association was pulled off at Riverside Park this afternoon. The events were witnessed by several thousand people and the affair was the most successful of any previous shows. The exhibits were of a high order and many new entries were made over last year. Tomorrow Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt and Lany Pearson, of England, will present the trophies. The show was opened by Judge Pritchard.