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If Congressman Blackburn hasn't the chance of a lifetime, he had better quit politics.

The cabbage snake is getting the benefit of a few more denials to the effect that he is not a snake, but a worm.

If Charlotte can't get enough attention from the pick-pockets without a State Fair, maybe we can send them a few next time.

The man who imagines that he sees a turkey and shoots a neighbor is again abroad in the land. If you go hunting, try your best to get the drop on him.

Wonder if Col. Wade Harris, of the Charlotte Chronicle, believes that anybody else will believe that pickpockets stole \$25 from him? If so, whose money was he toting around?

Mr. Roosevelt may or may not run again. He says he is not a candidate. But he has carefuly avoided any statement to the effect that he will note ome to Raleigh to attend the next State Fair.

Late estimates from two well informed sources place the present cotton crop at a little over ten million bales. The people who are rushing on the market to get ten cents will regret having sold.

The Durham Sun contends that Raleigh people eat so many Chatham County rabbits in the fall and winter that it causes them to have a hopping motion when they walk. Just read the Dispensary statistics and you will find what causes Raleigh people to have an impediment in walking.

It is alleged that a hack driver charged two or three men \$10 to carry them from the Union Station to the Fair ground, and that started all the criticism against this city. All we have to say is, that the person or persons who paid any such a price when they could have gone to the Fair grounds for fifty cents each in a carriage, or for ten cents each by train or street car, deserved to be robbed.

UPHEAVAL IN RUSSIA.

Unexpectedly the Russian people have made rapid progress in the direction of freedom since the declaration of peace. It was feared that they would settle down and accept the inevitable. But they didn't. Practically all of the railroad and street car employes, and workmen generally, inaugurated a great strike some weeks ago. Everything was completely tied up. Nearly the entire population, including many soldiers were in sympathy with the movement.

It seems that the Czar finally gave it up and decided that he could no longer suppress the people with bullets. On Monday he issued an imperial manifesto, which appears elsewhere in this paper.

In some particulars the manifesto seems to be a play of words, in other parts it is all right. Those in a position to know say that the Russian people will get practically all they ask for, and that the government hereafter will be as liberal as that of England. There will still be a Czar. But the people will have a constitutional protection, the right to elect their representatives to the National legislative halls, school privileges, etc. We trust that it is all true. Once given a taste of liberty the Russians will never go back to the old way.

In order to show that things were getting serious in Russia, it is said that Premier Witte favored a cabinet and government planned after that of England, while the Czar was anxious to copy the United States Government. As Witte has been made Premier, it is expected that it will be as he says.

Some of the towns west of here are bragging about having money enough to get the State Fair. Raleigh and Durham have money enough to run two or three State Fairs. Durham hasn't time to fool with a Fair, hence Raleigh will keep it. In fact, Durham prefers that it stay in Raleigh, and that ends it.

DANGER IN HIGH BUILDINGS.

We have long contended that there should be a law against the erection of high buildings for schools, orphanages, mills, hotels, asylums, or any buildings in which a large number of people are likely to be caught by a fire, especially at night. Such buildings should not be over two stories, or three, at the extreme limit.

This is especially true of buildings located outside of cities where there are no reliable means of extinguishing fires, no hook and ladder companies to rescue the imperiled.

The burning of the Orphanage building here Sunday morning is a case in point. However, we only criticise that fire in a general way.

This building was small, built where land is cheap, yet was four stories. One person lost his life, two were seriously injured, and several received minor injuries. Had it been but two stories the injuries would all have been minor, and a death unlikely.

We trust that when the building is rebuilt the plans will be changed. There is plenty of room, and we feel sure that our Catholic friends will view this suggestion from a humane standpoint,

The Legislature should not allow another session to pass without adopting some law on the subject, which would be worth a thousandfold more than nine-tenths of the legislation usually ground out.

Come to think about it, Raleigh and Durham are probably the only towns in the State with money enough to handle the State Fair. Charlotte has all she can do to look after the deficit in the water works appropriation.

Sweets Not to the Sweet.

They were newly married and on a honeymoon trip. They put up at a skyscrapper hotel. The bridegroom felt indisposed, and the bride said she would slip out and do a little shopping. In due time she returned and tripped blithely up to her room, a little awed by the number of doors that looked all alike. But she was sure of her own and tapped gently on the panel.

"I'm back, honey; let me in," she whispered.

No answer.

Honey, honey!" she called again, rapping louder.

Still no answer.

"Honey, honey, it's Mabel. Let me in!"

There was silence for several seconds; then a man's voice, cold and full of dignity, came from the other side of the door:

"Madam, this is not a bee hive; it's a bathroom."

Cotton-Bonding Warehouses.

Special dispatches give particulars regarding the organization of the Standard Warehouse Co. of South Carolina, with a capital stock of \$500,000, the officers and directors of which will be among the foremost business men of that State, including such men as President Robinson of the National Loan and Exchange Bank of Columbia; Ellison A. Smyth. president of the Pelzer Manufacturing Co., and Lewis W. Parker, president of the Olympia cotton mills of Columbia, as well as of several other large mills. Governor Heyward of South Carolina, will be president of the company, and after his term of office expires will give his time entirely to the management of this enterprise. The company has already purchased several warehouses, and as announced in the dispatches, proposes to develop a warehouse system with the idea of issuing "a warehouse receipt as good as a government bond." The movement in South Carolina, which has culminated in the organization of a \$500,000 company, is in the hands of the foremost cotton mill and banking people of that State. It is a move in the right direction and fraught with very great importance to the South, and should be followed throughout the entire South by the organization of other strong warehouse companies to give to the cotton of this section, whether in the hand of the farmer or the cotton mill, the same facilities which the grain-grower of the west now has in the elevator receipt. Manufacturers' Record.

Sadik Pasha, Emperor Menelik's envoy, who is here at present, has one wife, but somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 children. No wonder it is considered unlucky to ask him questions on the subject.—New York Evening Sun.

Why didn't Chancellor McCracken, who excluded the name of Poe from the Hall of Fame, burn it down instead, like the antique gentleman did the temple of Diana at Ephesus, just to get famous?—Houston Chronicle.

OPINIONS IN A NUTSHELL

Making Billy Loeb official purveyor of all government news is rather a late adoption of the Russian method. —Pittsburg Post.

Times must indeed be good when the coal operators and miners of the country can find nothing to grumble at.—Durham Herald.

Seriously, we would like to know where our statesmen learned so much about "standing pat," "bluffing" and the like.—Springfield News.

Not all of us can get into the Hall of Fame, but the next thing to it is open to everybody. We refer to the crazy ward at Bellevue.—New York Mail.

"No power can force me out," says Mr. McCurdy, of the Mutual Life. Power isn't the name, Richard; it's Hughes. Watch him.—New York Evening Telegram.

Jacob Rils and ex-Captain Devery declared for Mayor McClellan at about the same time. Extremes meet under the McClellan banner.— Springfield Republican.

A rantankerous husband in Norfolk, Va., has been sentenced by a judge to kiss his wife twice a day. Look out for a biting story later on.

—Mexican Herald.

New York must be a wonderful place. John W. Gates has been a citizen there for more than a month and nothing out of the ordinary has happened.—Springfield News.

The amount of enthusiasm that greets the respective candidates in various parts of New York city depends very largely on what paper you are reading.—Utica Observer.

Arizona preachers want a clause in the State Constitution making prohibition perpetual. At that rate the balance of Arizona probably won't want statehood.—Atlanta Journal.

We do not see what grounds one town has for claiming to have a better fair than another, when the same crowd of showmen and fakirs appear to attend them all.—Durham Herald.

Mr. Rockefeller's humor improves steadily of late. He used to feel like a sponge, he says. Then he was on the make. Since he has commenced to hand out he says he feels like a pump.—Judge.

It is announced that the cashier of the Enterprise Bank at Pittsburg left a confession, and the depositors will at once proceed to feel glad that something is left.—Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.

A university education may unfit a man for business, as Mr. Carnegie says; but, then, it should be remembered that a great many men are in business to give their sons a university education.—Milwaukee News.

The President is pleasing the South. He is talking the sort of politics to which the people are not accustomed and showing them it is possible for a President to remember he is the head of the nation and not of some particular part.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Democrats literally tumbled over themselves to do honor to President Roosevelt last week as he passed through the State. Many who roundly abused him during the compaign were as loud in their acclaim that he is one of the greatest men America has ever produced.—Winston Republican.