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The Intelligencer will publish brief and rational letters on subjects of general interest when they are accompanied by the names and addresses of the authors and are not of a defamatory nature. Anonymous communications will not be noticed. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned.

In order to avoid delays on account of personal absence, letters to the Intelligencer intended for publication should not be addressed to any individual connected with the paper, but simply to The Intelligencer.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6, 1915.

WEATHER FORECAST

Partly cloudy Friday; probably local thunder showers Saturday; partly cloudy.

CIVILIZATION OUR DESTROYER

Dispatches from the war front published this morning mention the burning of 500 Austrian soldiers when Italian artillerymen set fire to ammunition trains.

We have become quite familiar with press dispatches telling of the use of poisonous gas bombs along the battle front, devilish contrivances which explode and fill the atmosphere with deadly fumes that turn their victims blue, black and green in the face and destroy their lungs within a little while.

A few days since dispatches stated that a German report had been intercepted in transit and that the message told of steps having been taken to poison the water used for drinking purposes by the enemy.

Months ago we read of a German squadron sneaking through a fog to the English coast and shelling three undefended towns, killing many women, children and aged men. Stories of Zeppelins raining down deadly bombs upon the heads of helpless women and children have become common.

Stories of atrocities committed by the soldiers of the several nations engaged in the inhuman war are so numerous as to weary, one with the reading of them. Some of them are entirely beyond human comprehension in the completeness of their horror.

Great things this war is bringing to our ken. And yet all these nations are the offspring of our so-called Christian civilization. What is the matter? Has civilization proven a dismal failure, and, after these thousands of years of travail to perfect it is the creature of our begetting to turn upon us and rend us?

A STINGING REBUKE

We people of the South are naturally "thin skinned" and resent criticism emanating even within our own ranks. But when criticism comes from another section of the country, and particularly from our friends of the north, it does not set so well with us. And when the criticism from "Yankee land" happens to be prompted by an outbreak of lawlessness of a particular kind which is common in the South, namely, that of lynching negroes, for the "unspeakable

crime," our ire is aroused and we resent it all the more.

These thoughts are prompted by an editorial in the Chicago Tribune, which is one of the most scathing denunciations and stinging rebukes we have seen anywhere. The same was prompted by a crime committed in a Texas town a few days since, when a mob of white men burned at the stake a negro who was charged with an attack upon a white woman. The editorial follows:

A terrible crime, in Temple, Tex., has just been followed by one still more atrocious.

Neither crime is a stranger to the district of the south in which it was perpetrated. The first occurs in every part of the world. The second, a substitution of burning by a mob for execution after fair trial and condemnation under the law is one which does not occur among any non-barbarous people except in the American South.

This fact is the darkest stain on the good name of America. It burns red across the world. Wherever news travels, the horror of Temple, Tex., will be known, as the horror years ago of Paris, Tex., was known.

The murder or ravishing of women is an offense that stirs emotions deeper, perhaps, than any other in our nature. That justice should follow swiftly and terrible is right. But what followed in Temple and what has followed too often in the south, is an offense more heinous, more demoralizing and vicious in its influence than that which it was assumed to punish.

Not only in this true beyond debate, but it is also true that since the latter offense is recurrent as well as the former, the guilt of it, the shame of it, falls upon the community which tolerates its repetition. Texas is disgraced by it, and the south and the United States. All America suffers from it, as any one knows who has read or heard the frequent reference to the offense in the foreign press, in books, in the mouths of men and women famous or obscure. It is one of the outstanding phenomena of American society, a reproach against our social intelligence, our respect for law or justice, our humanity, our self-control. Against the noble rhetoric of our leaders, the enlightenment of our aims, the reality of our institutions, this red blotch of unreasoning, and unrestrained animalism flames, ominous and unescapable.

How can Texas, a proud commonwealth, how can America, with any shadow of self-respect, permit this crime to go on as it has, year by year, until it is advertised the world over as an American institution? Is Texas so unable to cope with the dregs of its own people that it must permit this unspeakable thing to shame her and America again and again? Is Texas unable or unwilling to cope with it by legislation and by efficient police administration?

Other communities have in their care subject or backward races of classes. They do not tolerate such outbreaks of the abysmal brute. What has Texas done to protect her women better and to protect herself better? What is she going to do?

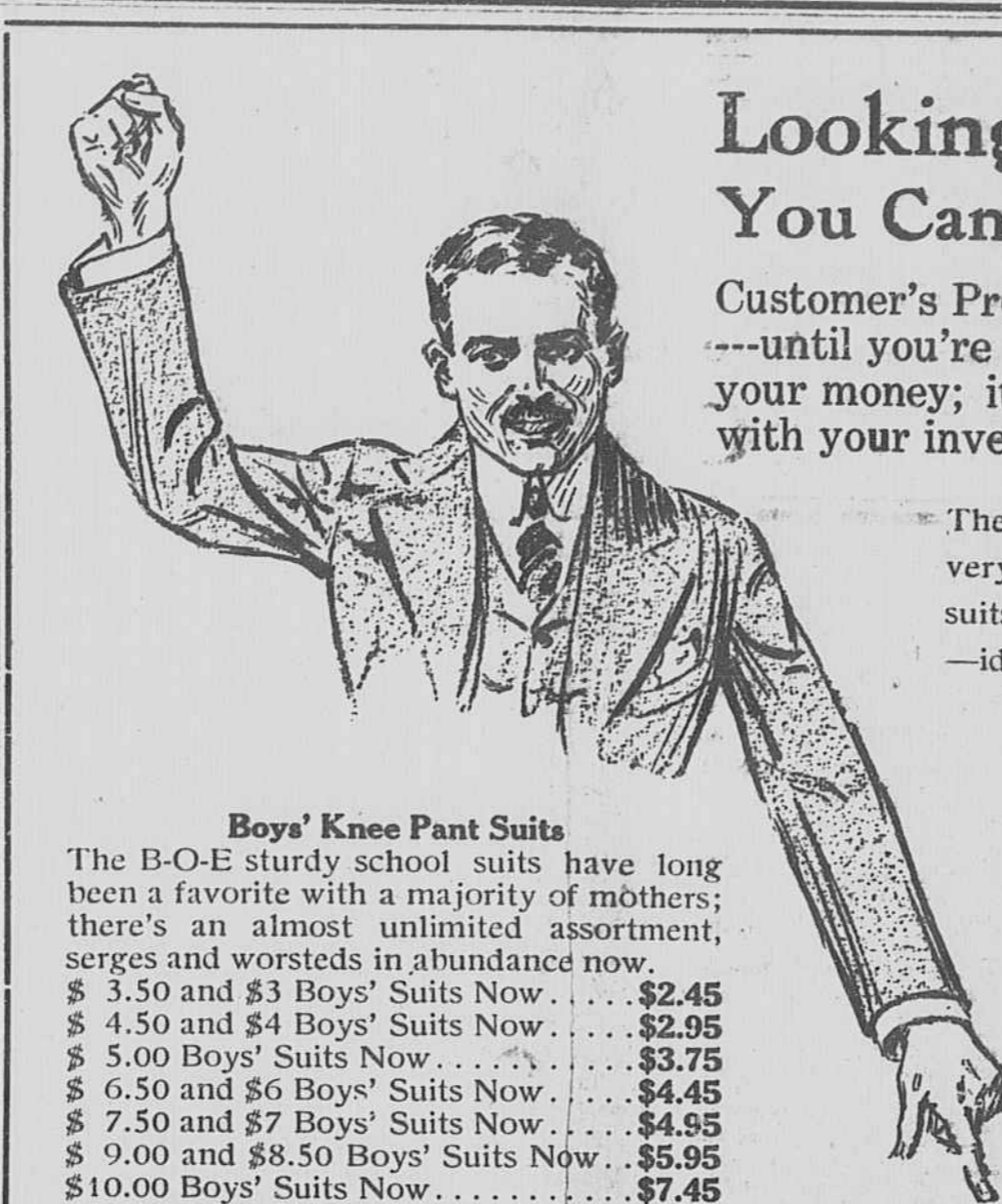
A European of distinction recently remarked to an American traveler: "Is it possible that these communities think less of the offense against your women than of the pleasure of the punishment? How else can a civilized people permit these burnings and lynchings to occur?"

It was a terrible indictment. How are we to face it? But, more important still, how are we to face our own conscience, our own self-respect, while this "American institution" endures?

While we are in no wise defending the South in this practice, it would be well for the Chicago Tribune and our other critics of the north to recall that it was only a few years ago that an Illinois mob was guilty of an offense against a negro almost if not as bad as that committed by the Texans. We do not recall the precise facts leading up to the trouble, but we believe that the negro engaged in a duel with a policeman, killed the policeman and was himself wounded. The negro was taken to a hospital and later a mob broke down the doors of the institution and dragged the negro from the operating table, taking him out to a nearby spot and burning him. The affair created a rage riot and for weeks the community was in an uproar so fierce that, if we remember aright, the state militia had to be called out.

As we stated, we do not cite this incident in defense of the South, but before our Chicago critic lands on us too severely he should hark back a couple of years or so and review this terrible happening in his own state. If he had done this, and had made the United States at large the object of his vitriolic attack, instead of one section of it—the South—his criticism would have carried more weight with us.

But the Chicago critic is telling the truth, even though he does not first cast the beam from his own eye, and there is no getting away the truth of what he says. There is no dis-



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Customer's Profit First---that's the spirit of this clearance ---until you're sure of your profit we can't feel sure of your money; it's subject to your call if you're not pleased with your investment. That's the way we do business.

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Here's a sale right in the heart of the shirt season, just the time for vacation. And there was never a time when the shirt was so much in evidence as this season; you will be here after your share of these Manhattans we know, men are always keen for these sales.

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putting the fact that the lynching evil is on the increase. Time was when white men lynched negroes for but one crime alone---that against woman---but now they are lynched for a misdemeanor. That's not a mere opinion, as statistics will show. What we are going to do about this frightful custom, we don't know. We do not believe that any law can be fashioned that will prevent the fury of a community breaking loose, as it does when a negro makes an attack upon a white woman; for no law is stronger than the sentiment of the community behind it, and when an occurrence of this kind takes place, the major portion of the community's sentiment is in approval of the course taken, and your law is a mere "scrap of paper."

We know of but one possible solution for the evil, and that is our people must be educated up to the point where they will realize that mob violence does not stop crime; that when a mob takes the law into its own hands the community is the real sufferer and not the victim of the mob's passion; that the brute who is strung up and riddled with shot has nothing at stake but life, and that that is worth little to him; that the community has everything at stake---its self re-

spect, its enlightenment, its regard for law and its conscience.

But the process of education is necessarily a slow one, so we suppose that for yet quite a while we will have to submit to the shame of these outbreaks of barbarism when degenerate negroes snuff off the veneer of civilization and turn again brutes like their ancestors of the jungles.

FIRING OF BEAVERS

There are some who lament the fact that Police Chief Beavers of Atlanta has been fired, after trial on charges of insubordination, inefficiency, etc., and say that the good people should withdraw their patronage of the city and turn it over to those who like "open towns."

We know nothing of the merits of the Beavers case, nor do we know anything about Beavers, except that some years ago he made a determined effort to wipe out Atlanta's restricted district; clean up the city generally. His efforts were successful in a measure. He succeeded in wiping out the restricted district insofar as it was a fixed or established institution, but he did not run the lawless women out of town, but scattered them throughout the hotels, rooming houses and in dwellings in the res-

idential sections of the city. He succeeded partially in ridding the city of other forms of vice.

The view taken by some that Atlanta is going to the demolition block because of the unseating of the police chief, who perhaps had become something of a tyrant, is not sound. It would be a sad state of affairs if the moral welfare of any city rested upon the shoulders of any one man as police chief.

The sentiment of a majority of the people of Atlanta is what will determine that city's stand on the question of morality. If a majority of the people want those things which Beavers stood for they will have them, regardless of whether Beavers is chief of the police. If the people of Atlanta disapprove of the action of the commission in firing Beavers, the commission will be brought to a reckoning by the people and they will be replaced by the kind of men who will give Atlanta again those things which Beavers fought for.

Says an American member of the Foreign Legion in France, describing modern warfare: "Go and dig a ditch in your back yard, hire a guy to fire off a big cannon in your ear at frequent intervals and lie in your ditch for ten months, day and night, rain or shine, and you'll get the idea."

The Anderson papers had better watch out. Neither may get its reward if this thing keeps up.---Greenwood Journal. "Virtue is its own reward," and, as the Anderson papers have virtue, they are not looking for rewards, brother.

Judging by their actions, citizens Haytt must be of the hay eating class of animals.

Imagine the Eastland inquiry as the raising of the F-4 will be completed about the same time.

EXCURSION FARES TO WASHINGTON, RICHMOND, NORFOLK AND BALTIMORE Via Piedmont & Northern Railway Seaboard Air Line Railway Wednesday, August 10th, 1915.

Table with columns for From (Greenwood, Anderson, Belton, Honea Path) and To (Washington, Richmond, Baltimore) with corresponding fares.

From all other stations between Greenwood and Greenwood same round trip fares will apply as shown from Greenwood. Tickets on sale for all trains Wednesday, August 10th, with return limit to midnight, August 29th, 1915. Buy your tickets via the P & N line and connect with the Seaboard Air Line at Greenwood. The short route to Richmond and the route to Washington and Baltimore. All-steel electrically lighted pullman and dining cars. A service unequalled. Let us make your reservation for August 10th. C. S. ALLEN, Traffic Manager, Greenwood, S. C.