

A GOOD BILL TO KILL

George R. Rembert's newspaper bill is a rare curiosity. It is ridiculous and amusing. There is little danger of its passage, but the serious aspect of it is that it shows the desire on the part of a certain coterie of politicians in this state to suppress the newspapers, or make of them plant tools in the hands of politicians and criminals.

Read the bill and think about its provisions. It is as follows: "Section 1. That whenever a newspaper, magazine or periodical printed or published in this state shall print or publish, either in its editorial or news columns, an article written by any editor, reporter, correspondent or any person or persons whomsoever, which article or articles shall make an attack or make any charge or charges or in any way affect the character, standing in the community or conduct of any person or persons, whether private citizens or public officers, such newspapers, magazines or periodicals shall publish in the first edition or publication after the same shall be furnished the answer, denial, explanation or defence of said person or persons, without making the said person or persons pay therefor; and the said answer, denial, explanation or defence shall be given the same prominence in said newspaper, magazine or periodical as the article or articles containing said charge or charges.

"Section 2. Any editor, manager or other officer or person in authority of newspaper, magazine or periodical who shall refuse or neglect or be responsible for the failure to print and publish said answer, denial, explanation or defence of said person or persons attacked or charged, as set out in Section 1 of this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$500 and imprisonment in the county jail of not less than thirty days. Provided, however, that no newspaper, magazine or periodical shall be required to publish or print any article whatsoever which shall contain obscene or profane language."

Suppose the cashier of a bank should steal all the money in the bank and be caught and put in jail. If this bill were law, no newspaper, especially a small paper, could afford to publish the facts, because it would affect the "standing in the community" of the cashier. If a paper should dare to publish the facts the thief and his lawyers could fix up one of those long legal documents which it would be impossible for the paper to publish, and if the editor did not publish it he would have to pay at least \$500 and also spend 30 days in jail; and, not having the \$500, would have to remain in jail permanently; while the man who stole the bank would have his crime covered up by suppressing the facts, and would go free with the stolen money in his pocket.

Suppose a negro should steal a cow—no matter how convincing the evidence, no matter if he were convicted and sent to the chaingang, it would cost an editor \$500 and 30 days in jail to publish the facts, if the negro should demand the publication free, in his defense, the whole speech of his long-winded lawyer, the emancipation proclamation and the writings of Booker Washington.

The bill makes no distinction between the publication of truth and untruth.

It makes no difference if what is published is true, if it makes any charge, or affects a person's "standing." And the paper has to publish the offended man's reply, and no matter what charges it makes against the editor or somebody else. The only restriction is that the editor shall not be required to print "obscene or profane language." It makes no difference about its truth or falsity.

In other words, a paper may

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publish the exact truth about a man, and if he thinks it reflects on him or puts him in a bad light before the public, he can write, or have written, a whole book of lies, or cover up his crime, and the paper would be obliged to print it all at the publisher's expense, without investigation or explanation.

And if this reply, which the paper is compelled to print, should reflect on others, they too could force the editor to print their replies, and bring in, like Governor Blease, and some other lawyers do, all sorts of violent attacks upon all their opponents or enemies. And so it would go on, till the paper was forced to suspend; and then the editor would have to go to jail the balance of his days, because he could not accomplish the impossible.

The result would be that papers would be as seriously handicapped as they are in Russia, and would not dare to print the truth about anybody, especially about anybody of influence and "standing."

Rascals and thieves could then take charge of the govern-

ing fire is purely one of material courage, after all, and may be exercised by one who is a moral coward in every sense.

America has one very conspicuous example of the latter kind of heroes, though the former, the examples of moral courage, of heroism, are after all very numerous, but their being very modest, we do not discover them until some great event calls them to our attention. They are seen in every walk of life, every day and in the most humble circumstances.

Great is physical heroism, but moral heroism is greater.

It is moral heroism that enables one to devote his life to truth without fear of consequences. It is moral heroism that enables him to say, though he had occupied a conspicuous position before the world, "Yes, yesterday I did believe thus and so; I did proclaim such a thing to be truth, but today, I see a newer light, and today that truth of yesterday in the glare of this greater light I see covered with error. The light of truth today shall consume the error of yesterday."

That would be an example of moral heroism.

It is moral heroism that strengthens one when a hasty word has been spoken, a word

A LENTEN HYMN

(Come Ye Yourself Apart Into a Desert Place and Rest
Awhile—Mark 6:31.)

Come ye apart, a while with Christ to be,
A while His voice to hear, His face to see.
Long hath the world charmed with alluring art—
Break from it while ye may, and come apart.

Apart to meditation, calm and sweet,
To quiet sittings at the Master's feet;
Apart to all His gracious words disclose,
Apart to blessings He alone bestows.

Come ye apart—for ye have need of rest,
With heavy burdens grievously oppressed;
Come ye apart a while with Him to see
What feast in this lone desert place may be.

Apart with Him! Oh, must He call you twice?
Does not "with Him" for all you leave suffice?
Is not the waste than all the world more fair,
More dear, more blessed if only Christ be there?

We can not serve the world and Him no part,
Will He accept of a divided heart?
He asks for all—and nothing less will have—
'Twas no half-love, half-life for you He gave.

We thus must come apart if ever we
Alone with God, abidingly, would be;
We must be near, and penitent and meek,
We must be still, if we would hear Him speak.

We thank Thee, Lord, for each returning Lent,
With Thee in sweet and close communion spent;
Thank Thee for needed rest, for hush of care,
For helpful hours of penitence and prayer.

Left to our feeble selves, we might not see
A way to come, apart with God to be;
Nor seek to come—so cold is human heart!
Blessed the Voice that calls us thus apart!

—F. H. MARR.

ment and private institutions without fear of exposure.

There is no necessity for such a law except for the purpose of shielding criminals and helping demagogues and deceivers. No reputable newspaper now refuses to correct an erroneous statement or right a wrong. There is no profession which has a higher code of ethics or sense of honor. If a man lives right, he is not going to have any occasion for a permanent grievance against the newspapers.

The constitution of the United States guarantees the liberty of the press. Thomas Jefferson and the other framers of the constitution realized the necessity of a free press in a Democratic government, and Jefferson said that newspapers without government would be preferable to government without newspapers.

Wouldn't you like to hear a speech by Thomas Jefferson on the Rembert bill?—Pee Dee Advocate.

A QUESTION OF HEROISM

Life presents no example of heroism equal to that of the moral hero.

The phase of heroism which nerves a man to a physical contest, that makes him face a cannon, a brutal huffian or a blaz-

ing fire is purely one of material courage, after all, and may be exercised by one who is a moral coward in every sense. I should not have said that. Let me recall it." Or, if he be the one for whom the cutting word was said, that he remain silent, or at least speak no resentful word. These are examples of moral heroism with which we daily meet.

He is the moral hero who follows truth wherever she may lead though it be the path of financial ruin, or lost friendships, of family ties, of social, political or other preferment, yea, even though she lead him down through the dark valley of the shadow of death.

This is the character of heroic deeds that life forever requires upon the heights for the inspiration of mankind.—Laurie J. Quinby in The Omaha Chaucer.

Lancaster Leads.

No Need to Stop Work
When the doctor orders you to stop work it staggers you. I can't, you say. You know you are weak, run down and failing in health day by day, but you must work as long as you can stand. What you need is Electric Bitters to give tone, strength and vigor to your system, to prevent break down and build you up. Don't be weak, sickly or ailing when Electric Bitters will benefit you from the first dose. Thousands bless them for their glorious health and strength. Try them. Every bottle is guaranteed to satisfy. Only 50c at Lancaster Pharmacy and Standard Drug Co.

BIBLE CONFERENCE.

Rev. Len G. Broughton Issues Call For Atlanta's Fifteenth Annual Meeting.

The fifteenth annual March Bible Conference will be held in Atlanta, Ga., March 7-16, inclusive. These conferences have drawn annually ministers, laymen and Bible students from all parts of the country, and from all evangelical denominations. The conference itself operates under a charter composed of practically all of the ministers and laymen from every church in Atlanta. It is interdenominational in support and non-denominational in teaching.

Rev. Len G. Broughton, D. D., of London, is the director and president of the conference. The following lines taken from the call which he has issued indicate the line of work for the coming conference:

"As far as possible it is our purpose to key the conference this year to sane evangelism which must incorporate a most thorough line of Bible teaching. So far as I am able to direct the conference it is to be an occasion for instruction and inspiration.

"We have been fortunate this year in being able to secure the strongest platform that we have ever been able to offer. Included in this list will be Dr. G. Campbell Morgan of London, who will arrive in Atlanta with me in time for the opening, and speaking twice daily throughout the conference; other speakers who will be given from one to two hours daily will be Dr. James M. Gray of Chicago; Rev. J. J. Vance, D. D., of Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. V. R. Wedderspoon of Washington, D. C.; Dr. John R. Sampsey of Louisville, the Baptist seminary; Dr. E. Y. Pierce of Chicago, secretary of the International Sunday School committee; Dr. W. M. Morrison of Africa; Dr. Lacy Moffett of China. Special railroad rates have been granted. Those desiring further information are requested to write Rev. John W. Ham, 78 Luckie street, Atlanta, Ga."

SCHOOL GIRLS THINK TOO MUCH OF DRESS

A Demand For the Return of the Simple Girls of Other Days—Suggestion for Teachers.

If there is one thing more than another at this time that needs to be checked, it is the tendency of American school girls toward too much thought of dress. Aside from every other consideration, dressiness destroys that girlish charm for the loss of which there is no adequate compensation. There is a yearning, a demand, for the return of girlish—schoolgirlish—simplicity; it amounts almost to a revolt among right-thinking men and women against the forcing process in fashion that influences or compels the girl to dress beyond her age, and, worse still, beyond her station.

Miss Sallie Jones, member of the San Francisco board of education, has been thinking seriously of this matter, and she makes the recommendation that school teachers appear at their posts, not in modish costumes, but in wash gowns, such as neat gingham and linens. We believe Miss Jones is one of the best friends the California school teachers have, and in this matter her idea is not to criticize or to penalize them, but to employ the influence they unquestionably possess for the good of the girls in their charge. She wants to crush out the thought that girlhood must be linked to frills and frippery in order to assert itself, and she is desirous of saving from unnecessary humiliation or attempted emulation the daughters of the poor who may be weak enough to be affected by the untoward display of some of their school mates. In short, Miss Jones is striving to bring the San Francisco schools in this respect up to the level of real and self-respecting democracy, and in this she is entitled to the best wishes of the country at large.—Christian Science Monitor.

The Cigarette Fiend.

Our readers will pardon us if we use a little slang in expressing our views of the victims of cigarettes. Say, you young kid, you're a nice snipe with that cigarette under your nose, ain't you? You're the kind of a soft, pilable, flappy piece of a boy, all weakness and moral

Comparative Digestibility of Food

Made with different Baking Powders

From a Series of Elaborate Chemical Tests:

An equal quantity of bread (biscuit) was made with each of three different kinds of baking powder—cream of tartar, phosphate, and alum—and submitted separately to the action of the digestive fluid, each for the same length of time.

The relative percentage of the food digested is shown as follows:

Bread made with
Royal Cream of Tartar Powder:

100 Per Cent. Digested

Bread made with
phosphate powder:

68 1/4 Per Cent. Digested

Bread made with
alum powder:

67 3/4 Per Cent. Digested

These tests, which are absolutely reliable and unprejudiced, make plain a fact of great importance to everyone: Food raised with Royal, a cream of tartar Baking Powder, is shown to be entirely digestible, while the alum and phosphate powders are found to largely retard the digestion of the food made from them.

Undigested food is not only wasted food, but it is the source of very many bodily ailments.

imbecility which the tongue takes as apprentices and educated in the deep, dark, mysteries of how to be bad. You are marked as a little fool by every decent man who sees you, and every time you indulge in the foolish and hurtful habit you are lessening your opportunity of being respectable. You want to be smart but you know it isn't smart, nobody thinks it is smart. If you go into a strange town your cigarette spots you as a little hoodlum and you will have to do a lot of good things before you can convince any one that you are worth having. It impairs and makes a contemptible monkey out of what might be a respectable boy. Your friends are ashamed of you. If you are far enough along in your habit you glory in your shame and stick to it through pure cussedness. You ought to be transformed, but your mother hasn't given you up yet and wants you near her as you are. Nobody respects you, nobody

ought to. You are the blossoms that yield the fruit of idleness and shame; you are the sprout from which a worthless bum will grow in time. You ought to quit it and you know that you ought. Why don't you?—Gaffney Ledger.

A THOUGHT FOR THE DAY.

After all, morals sadly need buttressing in all of us. We are very much more trustworthy when we are amongst good people than when we are amongst bad people. A bad example is dreadfully contagious, even with the best of us. And it would not do for any of us to live too long in the environment from which some of these poor girls have been rescued. It is almost terrible to think, aside from the providence and grace of God, of how much of our morals depend upon the watchful eyes of our neighbors.—Woodrow Wilson.

Lancaster Leads.



If You Value Your Eyesight

You will equip your reading table with a Rayo Lamp

Authorities agree that a good kerosene oil lamp is the best for reading. The Rayo is the best oil lamp made, the result of years of scientific study. It gives a steady white light, clear, mellow. Made of solid brass, nickel plated. Can be lighted without removing chimney or shade. Easy to clean and rewick.

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We have now ready for shipment all the leading varieties of cabbage plants, and advise our customers to plant some of the three leading varieties: Early Jersey Wakefield, medium in size but very early; new Charleston Wakefield, about ten days later, and our Early Succession, about two weeks later than the Charleston. We also have the Large Flat Dutch and Late Succession. We guarantee count, safe delivery, satisfaction. Prices as follows: 1,000 to 4,000 plants at \$1.25 per thousand; 5,000 to 9,000 at \$1 per thousand; 10,000 to 20,000 at 90c per thousand. Special prices on larger lots and to those getting up club orders or acting as our agents. Fresh plants shipped same day order is received.

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