

The Press and Banner.

By W. W. and W. R. Bradley.

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ABBEVILLE, S. C.

Published every Wednesday at \$2 a year in advance.

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 1905.

The Legislature.

The Legislature adjourned last Saturday, without doing much harm. Although that body enacted about one hundred and ninety laws, they were, as a rule, of that variety which are harmless. We feel so grateful to that body for its refusal to do an indefinite amount of proposed mischief that we have no bill of indictment against it. In the main it seemed to us to be a wise and conservative assembly. Various individual cranks may have gone off into space, but the equilibrium of the body was not disturbed.

The license element and all the anti-liquor folk were relieved of their stored electricity. The various propositions to interfere with the dispensary acted as conductors of lightning, and the atmosphere was cleared of its surcharges. The license folk, including the newspapers, were much in evidence, but the people at home were sold for the dispensary, at least as far as this county is concerned.

We do not know exactly how to classify Senator Brice of Chester, with his little liquor bill.

The high license measure met its just fate. High license is the worst of all the licenses. It gives a monopoly to the rich and runs the poor out of business. Our earliest recollection is that rich bar keepers considered high license as an ideal dream.

This is the first time that prohibitionists ever aligned themselves with the license advocates. The dispensary, it may be admitted, has its faults, but no intelligent lover of sobriety will deny that it is much better than any kind of licensed gro shop, while the high license is unacceptably worse than any other method of regulating the traffic in liquor.

The dispensary gives us prohibition for half the time. If half the effort was made to reduce the hours for the sale of liquor that is now given to the advocacy of doing away with the present prohibition a better condition would follow.

One of the best bills that was introduced in the last session of the Legislature was one to regulate the charges of newspapers for announcing candidates for offices but that little bill was killed "ere sin could blight or sorrow fade."

Its disconsolate father came from the land of the Calhouns. If he had been successful in having his ideas enacted into a law, he would have deserved a monument as high as the skies and as broad as the horizon.

The Legislature did well in straggling the effort to repeal the immigration bureau. The establishment of the immigration bureau is about the best and most sensible thing that the South Carolina Legislature has done in years.

The date of the birth of the proposed new county of Calhoun has been postponed, even if it was not strangled in the burning.

The Calhoun county had been born, we do not know what would have become of us. We can hardly stand it now.

Anderson County was not allowed to move its county line further down this way so as to take in a big slice of this county. When Anderson is a little larger some enterprising town like Honea Path will want a Court House.

Despotism. We see that the Mayor of one of the towns in South Carolina has fined a citizen for refusing to be vaccinated. The Circuit Judge has endorsed, approved or affirmed the Mayor's decree to take from the citizen his money because he refused to comply with the requirements of a cruel, unjust and unwarranted usurpation of his rights.

Smallpox is a preventable disease which no one need have, if he does not wish to have it. In the army, where a different condition must govern, it is right to exercise the despotic power over enlisted men. But we can conceive of no greater injustice to the citizen than to require him to be vaccinated.

In the first place, the vaccination prevents the citizen from the pleasure of having the desired disease, and then that other citizen who is looking for the disease is deprived of the opportunity to get it.

We are getting to be too "compulsory" in this country. "Compulsory education," "compulsory vaccination," "compulsory payment of railroad fare," "compulsory abstinence from liquor," and "compulsory payment of debts" is taking away nearly all of the citizen's rights. Waiter are we drifting?

SENATOR TILLMAN HAS RETURNED.

Philadelphia Specialists Confirm Diagnosis of Dr. Babcock-Frank Statement of Senator's Condition.

Senator Tillman returned to his home at Trenton yesterday. In an interview concerning the senator's condition Dr. J. W. Babcock, who accompanied Senator Tillman to Philadelphia, said that the result of the consultation with the Philadelphia experts was highly satisfactory to his physicians in South Carolina. The specialists gave out the opinion that Mr. Tillman is unharmed from the signs of disease that begin to appear at his time of life. The whole trouble is a form of neuritis produced by the tension of grippe. There is no sign of organic disease, nor has the senator had any symptoms of throat trouble for several months other than such as is common in winter.

Senator Tillman is looking unusually well and the trip to Philadelphia was made largely as a matter of precaution. The diagnosis of grippe poisoning affecting one set of nerves was made before he left South Carolina. The Philadelphia specialists have confirmed these are the whole facts of the case and are given out in full, as there have been intimations that serious trouble was threatening the senator and that the true situation was being concealed from the public. The throat trouble from which Senator Tillman suffered last spring has been entirely relieved; his recent attack of neuritis is greatly improved in the last few weeks with every encouragement of a speedy recovery.

Under the Senator Tillman's condition there has been for some years a tendency to what is known as the uric acid diathesis, which produces rheumatism. This was probably one of the causes of his throat trouble and is also an element in the present attack. It is the opinion of the physicians that it is only necessary for Senator Tillman to rest and be careful of himself in order to be entirely restored. It is therefore not probable that he will return to Washington between now and the end of the session of congress—the State, Feb. 20.

Neuritis and diathesis! Great Scott! Is that all that ails him? That makes it perfectly plain, and we are greatly surprised that the people didn't understand it from the first.

This editor has been afflicted with rheumatism, and while we have kept no strict account of the number, it would be fair to estimate the offered prescriptions that were a sure cure him at not over 200. As soon as the people find out that Mr. Tillman is suffering from such simple affliction as neuritis and diathesis they will no doubt rush to the relief of the Senator.

The only thing that we are surprised at is that the local physicians did not know neuritis and diathesis when they saw it. The average layman ought to know neuritis if he met it in the road.

It is strange to us that the local physician and Dr. Babcock had to go to Philadelphia to ask another physician about it. The Philadelphia physician seems to talk very lightly about Mr. Tillman's affliction, but we feel sure that he meant no reflection on anybody for not recognizing neuritis and diathesis. As stated long ago, Mr. Tillman left Washington for a warmer climate. The cold climate of Washington no doubt originates and promotes neuritis and diathesis. If the Senator would go to a more Southern atmosphere he would no doubt soon recover from neuritis and diathesis which is no doubt so prevalent in Washington during cold weather.

Seriously, we are glad to know that the Senator is so well.

Righteous Judgment. The Supreme Court of the State has sustained the constitutionality of the law which exempts certain municipal, school, or State bonds from taxation. The Court could not have done otherwise without disregarding equity, common sense, and good rules of honesty.

As a matter of fact, whether expressed in the law or not expressed, the State has no equity or moral right to tax its own bonds or the bonds of any body politic in the State. To tax such notes or bonds, is to enable the debtor to confiscate or to repudiate the debt to the extent of the taxation.

The non-taxability of such bonds is one of the main reasons that the people composing the body politic may borrow money at a low rate of interest.

If the State, or the county, or the town, or the township goes into the market and borrows money, they come down from their high estate and deal as one man deals with another in the borrowing and lending of money. These corporations then, when in possession of the money of the citizen have no more moral or equitable right to use the power and machinery of the government to tax or to repudiate a part of the citizen's interest than would one citizen have the right to tax or to repudiate a part of his own indebtedness.

The State does not tax its own houses or real estate, nor does it tax the property of any body politic in the State.

To tax such bonds is to place our own citizens at a disadvantage in buying them. The citizen of another State when relieved from all taxation can pay a higher price for them. When sold our people like the people of Ireland become in a sense the bondsmen of alien capitalists to alien holders of bonds who never pay a cent of taxes to the State.

Where is the honesty, the equity or the moral right of the State in discriminating against its own citizens? Except from the principle that right makes right a body politic has no more right to tax its creditors than has a citizen to repudiate a portion of his debt.

The New Warehouses. We have heard nothing more of proposed new warehouses and it may be that no talk along this will materialize, but it seems to us that if the farmers and the banks expect to control the price of cotton, suitable houses must be built for storing it.

In the past the farmers have too often gone off into a squad by themselves, and for these reasons have not succeeded as well as they otherwise might have done.

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Magnificent Special Train will leave Atlanta twelve o'clock noon March 2nd. Arriving Washington early morning of the 3rd. For full information relative to schedules, rates and reservations, apply to W. E. CHRISTIAN, A. G. P. A. or FRED. GEISSLER, T. P. A. ATLANTA, GA.

There are Various Ways. There have been suggested various ways of reducing the cotton crop. While the reduction of acreage, the burning of the staple, and the introduction of the boll weevil have each had their advocates we believe nobody seems to have thought of storing cotton on the ground under trees. Our testimony would be that, from observation and not from experience, the storing of cotton under a tree is almost as good as burning it. If the bales are carefully turned after the rains in the Spring when the warm weather sets in, a large percent of the cotton will be ruined by turning blue. When people are careless, however, in neglecting to turn the bales, the effect of the elements is not so efficient. Where all sides are expected to proceed equally with the rotting process, the bales must be turned.

In case the plan of storing cotton under trees should be adopted to reduce the crop, then the warehouses should be boycotted. A warehouse protects the cotton perfectly, and that protection does not reduce the crop. One great difficulty about the warehouses is that the owners of cotton may store it there where it is insured. With the warehouse receipts money can be had from the banks. The farmer can then go about his business. The banks must then scuffle with the cotton market.

If farmers really mean to destroy the cotton crop now on hand, the plan of storing under a tree is good enough. But if it is meant to act sensibly, as a solvent man should, then the cotton ought to be in a warehouse.

ROBERT HUTCHISON. A Well Known and Much Beloved Young Man is Dead. Robert Hutchison, a well known Railroad Conductor, died February 20, 1905, at Hamlet, N. C., aged 35 years.

Mr. Hutchison had long been a sufferer from lung trouble. For this reason he went to Mexico, several years ago, where he was engaged on one of the roads as long as he was able to perform the duties required of a conductor. About a year ago he returned to his native country, where he stopped for but a single night on his way to his old home in Hamlet, N. C. When he was in Abbeville he was the recipient of attention by many of his old friends, and he was the most cheerful of them all. He recognized his true condition and looked to the end without fear or regret for the impending event which would soon close his eyes to the world forever.

While he felt that he had made the most of his thirty five years, he was thankful for the good things that had come his way and was willing to die.

Mr. Hutchison was the oldest of Thomas Hutchison's children, and he was the last to lay down his burdens. His brothers and his sisters are with us no more. Their mother and father died long ago. When Mr. Robert Hutchison's mother died she left several little children. The oldest daughter soon married, but lived for only a short time. His infant sister Mary was adopted as the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Britz of this county. She died in early womanhood. In childhood Adger and Edward were the children of Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison.

When the crops are short the price goes up. In the war, when little cotton was raised prices went out of sight.

After the war cotton brought as high as forty cents a pound. The high price stimulated increase of the crop, and down went the price.

With plenty of warehouse room and plenty of money in the banks, the price may be controlled.

Monuments. The great need of this county is monuments. As Abbeville is not very actively engaged in the manufacturing enterprises just now, our people should have an opportunity of perpetuating in brass and granite the heroic deeds of our forefathers. In the building of these monuments the people of the city should not be selfish. The country people as well as the city people are entitled to share in the work and honor of erecting monuments to the heroic dead, and no survivor of the struggle that shook this continent should be denied the opportunity of contributing to the marble shaft that is to record his deed of valor.

Shoe Repairing. I have opened a Shoe Shop in the little brick building next to Messrs. Calvert & Nickles Furniture Store. All orders will receive prompt attention. Satisfaction guaranteed. Work first-class. Give me a chance on your shoe. Ben Brown, Jr.

Great Bargains in Rugs, Carpets and ART SQUARES L. W. WHITE

Will sell for the next 30 DAYS his stock of RUGS, ART SQUARES and CARPETS at COST. Now is the time to get good bargains in these articles.

He will also sell at cost for the same length of time his stock of: OVERCOATS. Secure the bargains while you can.

Notice to Tax-Payers.

For the Purpose of Accommodating the Public in the matter of making Their Tax Returns, I Will Visit the Places Mentioned Below on the Dates Indicated in Schedule. ALL RETURNS MUST BE MADE UNDER OATH, AND ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURNED AT ITS TRUE MARKET VALUE. Persons not making their returns between January 1st, 1905, and February 20th, 1905, are liable to a penalty of 50 per cent. This penalty will be enforced against delinquents; for the failure to enforce it heretofore has put a premium on neglect of the law.

The returns of those who conform to the law are placed before the Township and County Boards, while those who disregard the law come in after the meeting of the Boards and return to suit themselves. The enforcement of this 50 per cent. penalty will correct this evil. Returns are requested to return all their employees after notifying them and getting a statement of their property. Returns will not be taken by mail unless they are sworn to before some proper officer. This does not apply, however, to persons returning only land. All improvements on or transfers of real estate must be reported to the County Auditor. My Appointments Are as follows:

Calhoun Falls, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 10 and 11. Lowndesville, Thursday and Friday, January 12 and 13. Mt. Carmel, Monday and Tuesday, January 16 and 17. Willington, Wednesday, January 18. Bordeaux, Thursday, January 19. McCormick, Friday and Saturday, January 20 and 21. Donalds, Monday and Tuesday, January 23 and 24. Due West, Wednesday and Thursday, January 25 and 26. Office open from January 1st to February 20th inclusive. RICHARD SONDELY, County Auditor.

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY. Between New York, Washington, Richmond, Portsmouth & Atlanta. Schedule in Effect January 8th, 1905.

Table with columns for train numbers (67, 43, 85, 86, 66, 50) and destinations (New York, West Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Richmond, Petersburg, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Norfolk, Henderson, Durham, Raleigh, So Pine, Hamlet, Hamlet, Monroe, Monroe, Chester, Calhoun Falls, Greenwood, Abbeville, Abbeville, Elberton, Athens, Windsor, Lawrenceville, Atlanta). It lists departure and arrival times for various routes.

For further information regarding rates, Pullman reservations, etc., apply to the undersigned. G. H. Fuller, Agent, Phone No. 53, Abbeville, S. C. W. E. Christian, A. G. P. A., 116 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga. Fred Geissler, Traveling Passenger Agent, 116 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Ga.