

An Honest Primary

(The item will publish a few articles under the above caption written by a member of the legislature. They are strictly non-partisan and point out the changes necessary to eliminate fraud without taking away the ballot from any Democrat. The articles are in no way inspired by any candidate for office and none know of their preparation. They are designed solely to assist the mass of Democratic primary voters to clean house. Bills to this end will be acted on in the next legislature and our readers are of course interested in the subject at this particular time.)

The reader of these lines, if he is one of the thousands who have helped to manage any of our primary elections, can write a better set of regulations than we now have.

The great problem has been not what to do, but to get anything done.

Why Convention Does Not Act.

We have depended on party conventions. Time after time the convention has sidetracked proposed reforms. If you have even been to a State convention you know why. It is an unwieldy crowd of men who rush through a lot of business in a few hours. They get to a consideration of the report of the committee on rules late in the programme; sometimes it is near midnight. There is no time to deliberate and rather than adopt changes they do not understand the convention does nothing.

Even should the session be extended to two days, and the second given to the rules, there could be no thorough consideration. Delegates twice as numerous as the whole legislature, unorganized, split into warring factions many of the individual candidates for an impending primary cannot be expected to give the calm, fair, non-partisan attention and decision without which there could be no satisfactory changes in our primary system.

We are not guessing at possibilities, or even stating probabilities, but facing facts established in our conventions.

Something Stronger Than Rules Needed

But suppose for a moment that we could eliminate factionalism for once and hold the convention in session long enough for careful deliberation, we would then get only party rules and not State laws. We protect our hogs by law; shall we trust the birthright of our suffrage to a party rule?

When our people go to the ballot there is set in motion one of the mightiest forces than ever move them. Deep convictions are stirred, strong prejudices are aroused, wild passions loosed. Along with the many moved by high motives march the determined band of avaricious seekers for personal advantage, and those lusty for power. Here, if anywhere in the life of our people, the strong arm of the law is needed to protect us from the forces of evil in the exercise of the most sacred and fundamental act of citizenship.

At the hands of the legislature we can get redress. It can build a bulwark to protect our ballot, a bulwark buttressed by the law and backed by all the forces of our government.

Even in States where the primary nomination is not equivalent to an election they control every detail of their primary elections by laws. How much more necessary are legal safeguards with us where the primary is everything.

Our legislature has felt the necessity of primary protecting statutes and has enacted some. But they are scattering and apply only here and there, leaving such wide spaces unprotected that they amount to little or nothing. By passing them we have admitted the principles of statutory regulation, but by stopping with only a beginning accomplished, our effort has been futile.

Now is the Time to Act.

It only remains for you, the readers of this article and the rest of the rank and file of the party to say to our representatives, now about to assemble, "Give us a simple, plain, strong law to protect our primary without taking away the ballot from any honest Democrat." Now is the time to strike. All the members of the legislature want is the word from you. They can work out the details in their 40-day session. But it is up to you to insist that they act. Interested men may try to have them postpone again, as they have in the past. You must look after your rights or they will be lost by default. Legislator.

Only Two Survivors.

With the death of W. St. Julien Jervoy, of Charleston, John J. Dargan, of Stateburg, and Jno. R. Abney, of New York, are the only survivors of the Hampton ticket of 1876. Mr. Dargan, was a candidate for solicitor of the Third judicial district. Of the presidential electors, Jno. G. Barker of Charleston, is the sole survivor—Savannah People.

WATSON NAMES DELEGATES.

Men Will Be Designated to Represent State at National Corn Exposition.

Columbia, Dec. 31.—Acting upon the request of J. N. Harper, director of the Clemson college experiment stations, Commissioner Watson of the State department of agriculture will appoint 25 delegates from South Carolina to attend the National Corn exposition at Dallas, Texas, in January and February.

The Clemson college experiment stations, in cooperation with the State department of agriculture, will send a large exhibit to the exposition. Four men from Clemson college will have charge of the exhibit. The exhibit will be arranged under direction of H. W. Barre of Clemson. Parts of the State exhibit will be used.

FROM GREAT LAKES TO GULF.

Water Route to Compete With Railroads Down the Valley.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Steamboats are to enter into active competition with the railroads for freight and passenger traffic between Chicago, New Orleans, Kansas City, Mo., and principal intermediate points next Spring, according to announcement which reached Chicago merchants today.

The new line to be established through an agreement completed by the Chicago, St. Louis and Gulf Transportation Company of Chicago, and the Kansas City-Missouri River Navigation Company, is made possible, it is said, through the development of the Missouri river. The government recently expended \$20,000,000 in improvements.

Freight barges will leave Chicago through the drainage canal for LaSalle, Ill. Steamers will ply the Illinois river from that city to the Mississippi.

CHEROKEE MEN SHOT.

Bearden and Thomason Suffer Injuries While Hunting.

Gaffney, Dec. 29.—The second shooting accident of the last week occurred in Cherokee county this afternoon when Oland Bearden, a Gaffney telegraph operator, had his right hand almost shot off from the arm, and G. W. Thomason of Thickety suffered serious injury to his left side. Bearden and Thomason, together with a companion, went duck hunting in a boat on Thickety creek, about three miles from Gaffney, this afternoon. As Bearden went to change his position in the boat, with a shotgun in his hand, the weapon was fired, the lead taking effect in his wrist and striking Thomason in the side. Both men were brought to Gaffney on the train immediately following the accident and given medical attention by Dr. J. G. Pittman. The physician is in hopes that he can save Bearden's hand, while Thomason's wounds are not serious.

EXTENSION GRANTED RAILROAD

Given More Time to Conform Rates to New Law.

Washington, Dec. 30.—An extension from January to May first to adjust passenger fares to conform with the long and short haul clauses was allowed the Atlantic Coast Line and other railroads operating in Virginia and the Carolinas by the Interstate Commerce Commission today.

FLIES BENEATH ROOF.

Beachy Performs in Palace of Machinery.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—In what is believed to be the first biplane flight attempted underneath a roof, Lincoln Beachy circled successfully the interior of the Palace of Machinery at the exposition grounds today, but made a poor landing and smashed his biplane. Beachy was not injured.

Municipal Activity Coming.

Charlotte Observer.

One of the indications of the coming year is that early in the season a campaign for commission government will be inaugurated in cities and towns all over the country. Asheville will probably be one of the first in the field. It has been noted that Dayton has succeeded in securing a business manager in the person of Mr. H. W. White who is a grandson of the Chief Justice of the United States. Manager White will commence next Thursday at a salary of \$12,500 a year. Dayton is the largest city in the country that has adopted the commission government, and the applicability of that form to large municipalities will be given a thorough demonstration. The cruder forms have been continually improved and by the experimentations of the coming year, some entirely satisfactory plan will no doubt be evolved. It is not too much to hope that something that may be regarded as suitable by the statesmen who control the politics of Charlotte will be developed.

A TRIBUTE TO TIME.

Washington Observes the New Year Fittingly—Crowds Cheer 1914.

Washington, Dec. 31.—Following custom, Washington tonight observed the advent of the new year without ostentation. With but one exception—the bluish flash that sped from the great navy radio tower at Arlington across land and seas telling all within range of the passing of the old year—the usual programme was followed.

At churches, hotels, clubs, lodges and other gathering places, elaborate programmes had been prepared. The assembled crowds watched the passing minutes of 1913 and cheered the birth of 1914.

Painstaking preparations had been made for the wireless new year flash at Arlington, naval officers in charge recognizing the importance of their task to the eyes of the scientific world. Although the naval observatory for years past had undertaken to transmit such messages by linked cables and telegraph wires tonight was the second time in the history of science that the feat was attempted by wireless.

IN FAIR CONDITION.

Chamber of Commerce Reports on Nation.

Washington, Dec. 31.—A survey of business conditions in the United States sent out tonight by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States showed the greater portions of the nation to be in a fair business condition, a smaller part is shown to be in good condition and several areas poor.

The Chamber's conclusions are based on statistics gathered by its committee on statistics and standards through several hundred correspondents and they deal with the situation as of November 29, 1913.

The survey predicts the meat shortage problem probably will be solved gradually. The depression in the building trades is credited to the lack of activity in small towns.

TO PLANT TOBACCO.

Call is Issued to Farmers of Kershaw.

Camden, Dec. 31.—John T. Mackey, banker and planter, issued a call for all farmers in Kershaw county interested in the planting of tobacco to meet in Camden, and as a result there is a certainty of 136 acres being planted this year, with a possibility of the acreage being increased to 150 or 175 acres. Among those contemplating planting tobacco are the most prominent farmers of the county and the average acreage of each experimental crop will be about five acres. Several years ago a few planters of the eastern part of the county planted tobacco in place of cotton, but, as there was no local market for same, they gradually replaced it with cotton and corn.

There is no reason why the experiment should not prove successful as the land in certain sections of the county is very similar to that of other parts of the State, where a good profit is made from planting the weed.

The tourist season is now on and many houses have been leased for the winter by the members of the cottage colony. The hotels are also enjoying a good patronage. Golf, hunting and riding have been the chief recreations so far, but later polo, tennis and golf tournaments will be the main attractions. The extension of the two golf links from nine to 18 holes will give new life to the game, which already has a very strong foothold here. Some of the best known players of America will visit here during the season.

RUSH TO EVADE LAW.

Marriage-mad in Wisconsin Harry For Licenses.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 31.—A rush to evade the new eugenics marriage law effective tomorrow made today the busiest day on record for the Milwaukee county marriage clerks. At the regular closing time 84 licenses had been issued and the office was so crowded it was decided to issue licenses until midnight.

The new law requires a medical examination of both applicants for a license to wed. Clerks in many counties have asked the attorney general for an interpretation of the law and several have indicated they will issue no licenses until the supreme court has passed on the statute.

TO VOTE ON LIQUOR.

California Will Have Prohibition Election.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 29.—With the filing today of petitions from ten counties aggregating 25,693 names, the proposed law providing for total prohibition in the State of California will go on the general election ballot in 1914. The total number of names now represented on the petition is 41,046.

WOMAN TO ENFORCE LAW.

Oregon Governor Sends Private Secretary to Close Saloons and Gambling Houses.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 30.—Gov. West has ordered his private secretary, Miss Fern Hobbs, to proceed immediately to Copperfield, a mining town, and close saloons and gambling houses running there in violation of law. The governor said he had called on the sheriff and the district attorney to close the places but that "all they did was talk."

Miss Hobbs will be accompanied by a special agent of the State.

REAL FREEDOM WANTED.

Modern Liberalism Looks to State Action to Accomplish This End.

Washington, Dec. 30.—"Modern liberalism, in the United States as well as in England, looks to state action as the only practicable means of giving to all individuals, not merely a small economically strong class, real freedom," declared president W. F. Willoughby of the American Association for Labor Legislation, which met here this evening to discuss the philosophy of labor legislation in joint session with the Political Science Association.

"The so-called freedom of the dependent woman and child to work long hours and under any conditions," continued Prof. Willoughby, is, in truth, but a mere masquerade under the name of freedom, which means a real liberty to choose. There is a minimum of economic independence and comfort that must obtain if an individual is to be measurably free and this minimum can only be secured by the State assuming the obligation to see that it is in no case violated.

The refusal by the State, continued Prof. Willoughby, which alone has the power of enacting and enforcing general rules of conduct, to determine the minimum conditions of health, security and comfort, its refusal to prevent the exploitation of the weak and helpless through excessive hours of labor or the payment of inadequate compensation, and its refusal to ensure that due provision will be made through insurance against the four great contingencies threatening the economic security of the individual—accident, sickness, old age and invalidity and inability to find work—means its failure to meet that duty which is the prime function of a constitutional government to perform; viz, the protection of the individual against oppression and the guaranteeing to him of the fullest possible enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Prof. W. W. Willoughby, of John's Hopkins University, twin brother of the speaker, spoke in a similar strain on "The Individual and the State."

HOLDS TO HIS SCHEDULE.

President Observes His Rule of Nine Hours' Sleep.

Pass Christian, Miss., Dec. 31.—President Wilson did not sacrifice his programme of nine-hour sleep to the custom observed by thousands throughout the country of watching the old year pass. He went to bed early, as usual, and hoped to get a good night's rest before his conference tomorrow with John Lind, who will report in full his observations during six months in Mexico.

The president declined today to say whether he would go aboard the revenue cutter Winona or the scout cruiser Chester on which Mr. Lind sailed from Vera Cruz, but indications were that the conference would take place at the cottage where the president is spending his vacation.

The entire affair is cloaked in deep mystery, every effort being made to keep secret all phases of Mr. Lind's arrival or departure.

A BIG SUIT IS FILED.

Frisco Seeks to Condemn About 8,000 Acres.

San Francisco, Dec. 31.—In furtherance of plans for a water supply since the acquisition of the Hetch Hetchy water shed, San Francisco today filed what the city attorney said was the largest condemnation suit of its kind in the history of American litigation. The city seeks to acquire at a just price the property of the Spring Valley Water company valued at between \$35,000,000 and \$40,000,000 and comprising 8,000 acres.

Tobacco in Collection.

Friday of last week will probably be a red letter day in Colleton county for on that day was commenced a movement in Walterboro looking to the introduction of the tobacco industry within the county. The matter has been undertaken with a vim and vigor which will certainly bring results, and within two or three years there should be a large tobacco warehouse constructed in Walterboro.—Walterboro Press and Standard.

FLAG DUBBED A "SIGN."

Recruiting Officer is Summoned to Court for Displaying Stars and Stripes on Street.

Spartanburg, Dec. 31.—For flying the Stars and Stripes over Main street sidewalk, Sergeant H. W. Mason recruiting officer for the United States army, has been summoned to appear at police court tomorrow morning to answer to the charge of violating a city ordinance, according to the police.

There is an ordinance forbidding the placing of any sign over sidewalk except an electric luminary, and the police hold that the American flag is a sign. Mason has just moved into new quarters on west Main street and suspended the flag from the second story window in compliance with army regulations, which require the flying of the Stars and Stripes before a recruiting station for eight hours daily. He was ordered by the chief of police this morning to take the flag in. This he did.

He thought of the matter later and came to the conclusion that he was violating his orders, and he told the mayor that he was again going to put the flag out. He was informed that he would be summoned before the police for each time the flag was flown. He put the flag out, and will be summoned for violation of a city ordinance. Mason wired superior officers for instructions this afternoon and he was ordered not to again fly the flag until some understanding with the municipal government can be reached.

VATICAN STUDYING TANGO.

Consultors To Decide if Dancing It is a Sin.

Rome, Dec. 30.—Twelve out of the 24 consultors whose duty it is to study the subjects brought for consideration before the Holy Congregation on the Discipline of the Sacraments are hard at work on a very difficult task. Several bishops wishing to know whether the church formally condemns certain kinds of fashionable modern dances, especially the tango, have recently submitted to the congregation of the Sacraments, which deals with all the disciplinary questions concerning sacraments, a set of carefully formulated doubts, or dubia, which have been referred for examination to 12 consultors of the congregation.

What the bishops want to know is whether the priests of their dioceses can give absolution to penitents who accuse themselves in confession of dancing the tango. Naturally enough, all Catholic bishops are empowered to condemn every act or practice which, even if not sinful in itself, is apt to lead to sin. Obviously, the modern style of dancing in general, and the tango in particular, is openly disapproved by the Catholic hierarchy the world over and many bishops have already warned the faithful of their dioceses against its indulgence.

The doubts expressed by the bishops are evidently the result of questions submitted to them by confessors who had to deal with cases of penitents accusing themselves in confession of committing sin through dancing the tango. A uniform rule is consequently needed for the guidance of confessors in similar cases, and it may be assumed that the doubts expressed by the bishops practically consist of a single question, namely, "Is tango dancing a sin?"

The work of the consultors will, it is expected, not be concluded before at least six months.

TO SETTLE LABOR STRIKES.

Wilson's Department Records Year's Achievements.

Washington, Dec. 31.—In connection with a proposal to amend the Erdman act to enable commissioners under the law to mediate in all labor difficulties, in addition to those that affect railroad employees, officials today were pointing to progress made by the department of labor in effecting settlements of labor disputes.

Although the department is in its infancy, Secretary Wilson today said the forthcoming annual report would show important results.

"Adjustments," said the secretary, "include a settlement between the New York, New Haven & Hartford and its clerks; of the strike in the Erie Forge company's plant at Erie, Pa.; of a strike in Reading (Pa.) Hardware Companies' works, and prevention of strikes in the shops of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, the Western Maryland railroad and the Chicago & Alton railroad. The work of the department includes the adjustment of the Indianapolis street car strike and of the Indianapolis teamsters' strike. Efforts have been made by the department to adjust the strikes in Michigan and Colorado, but mine operators thus far have not been willing to accept mediation we have offered."

The annual report of the department of labor probably will not be issued for three weeks.

NEWS FROM EGYPT.

The Holiday Season Was Spent in Pleasant Social Intercourse.

Egypt, Dec. 29.—Christmas was spent very quietly in this vicinity and the holidays are going so rapidly the young folks will scarcely realize they are at home before they must return to their various duties.

Mrs. L. A. White, accompanied by her son, LeRoy, spent the week-end with friends at Providence.

Mrs. W. J. Gibson with her children and sister, Miss Irene Weldon, of Bishopville, are spending several of the holidays with their father, Mr. J. W. Weldon.

Mr. Ollie White, of Columbia, is at home for the holidays.

Miss Eva Britton, after spending Christmas with her sister, Mrs. F. G. Peebles, returned to her school at Kershaw, today.

Miss Annie Jenkins, of Bishopville, is visiting at the home of Mr. J. W. Weldon.

Mr. Charles Peebles, of Macfeet Business college, is spending the holidays at home.

Miss Lottie Thomas, who is engaged in teaching here, returned to her home at Edgewood for the Xmas vacation.

Miss Lucile Britton, who teaches near Kershaw, is spending several days with her sister, Mrs. F. G. Peebles.

Messrs. Olin and Thomas White spent the week-end at Rembert.

Messrs. Wylie Hogue and Chalmers Moore of Camden, spent Xmas day in their "burg."

"Old Hard Times" come again.

GAIETY AT HAGOOD.

Young People Enjoy Holiday Festivities.

Hagood, Jan. 1.—Miss Lillian Delgar of Sumter, is the attractive guest of Miss Sarah Sanders of Hagood.

Mr. Ed. Carpenter, Jr., of Columbia, is spending the holidays with Mr. Bush Jackson.

Miss Sarah Sanders was the charming hostess at her home Monday evening at a dance in honor of her guest Miss Delgar. The house was made all in one by the folding doors being thrown open, and was tastefully decorated in ferns and cut flowers. Delightful refreshments were served, and afterward dancing continued until a late hour.

Those present were: Misses Lillian Delgar, Sarah Sanders, Bessie Sanders, Mary Saunders, Sarah Hutchison, Lurline Phillips and Mollie Ellerbe; Messrs. Walter, Sam, David and St. Pierre Lenoir, Virgil Corbett, De Witt Clark, Bush Jackson, Eddy Carpenter, Jr., T. P. Sanders, Jr., Walter, Ike, Harris, Rosh and Charles Sanders, Dr. Hilderbrand, Sidney Courturier and Gerard Saunders.

Mail-Order Ten Commandments.

The following ten commandments are offered for the guidance of catalog house patrons:

1. You shall sell your farm products for cash whenever you can, but not to us. We do not buy from you.
2. You shall believe our statements and buy all you need from us, because we want to be good to you, although we are not personally acquainted with you.
3. You shall send the money in advance to give us a chance to get the goods from the factory with your money; meanwhile, you will have to wait patiently a few weeks, as that is our business method.
4. You will apply to your nearest city to aid you in building good roads so you can conveniently get the goods from the depot, for we do not build country roads.
5. You shall buy church bells and church fixtures from us and forward the money in advance, for this is our business method, and you shall collect from the business men in your vicinity as much money as you can for the benefit of your churches as it is against our rules to donate for building country churches.
6. You shall buy your tools from us and be your own mechanic in order to drive the mechanics from your vicinity, for we wish it so.
7. You shall induce your neighbor to buy everything from us, as we have room for more money—the less money there is in your community, the sooner we can put your local merchants out of business and charge you any price we please.
8. You shall look often at the beautiful pictures in our catalog, so your wishes will increase, and so you will send in a big order, although you are not in immediate need of the goods, otherwise you might have some money left to buy some necessary goods from your local merchant.
9. You shall have the merchants who repair the goods you buy from us, book the bills so you can send the money for his labor to us for new goods, otherwise he will not notice our influence.
10. You shall, in case of sickness or need, apply to your local dealer for aid and credit, as we do not know you or care to.—Inland Grocer.