The Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1914.

THE WAY TO TAX REFORM.

The bill offered by Senator Walker for the creation of a temporary tax commission seems to us to open the way for the necessary reform of our revenue laws. Coupled with proposals now pending before the Assembly, this bill can be made the means of presenting to the extra session a definite program of fiscal legislation.

Senator Walker's bill would establish a commission of five, one to be named by each branch of the Assembly, two to be named by the Governor and the fifth to be Dr. Thomas Walker Page, than whom there is no more able economist in the South. This commission would prepare a report, with the necessary bills, and would present its completed work when the Governor calls an extra session.

In the five members of the commission, the State can have five trained experts, headed by one whose reputation won for him high honors at the hands of President Taft. These men, chosen to represent different views and laboring together, can give to the subject that solid, scientific scrutiny it must have.

With these five, it seems to us, should be associated a larger body, composed exclusively of members of the General Assembly. And this we urge because experience has shown that no Legislature will act favorably on a great change in its revenue laws until the proposals are made by members who can discuss and explain them on the floor. This is natural. As the Legislature must assume the responsibility before the people, it has a right to draft the measures it is called upon to enact.

But it is obvious that a legislative commission—and certainly not such a large one as has been proposed—cannot do the necessary statistical work or make the required investigations except at a cost almost prohibitive. They need expert advisers—not one, or even two, but enough to present to them all the important modern theories of fiscal reform.

If, then, the Assembly were to pass the Walker bill, supported as it is by Chambers of Commerce, by the recent Tax Conference in this city, and by other distinguished citizens, it will have a group of trained men working through the summer in the collection of data, the compilation of tables and the estimation of results. If Dr. Page can be prevailed upon to serve, the State will have in him a directing head of the commission, whose counsel will be sage and whose advice will be at once cautious and discriminating.

When this commission shall have finished its work, it can begin conference with the full legislative commission, and can explain to these practical legislators the plans they propose. In the discussions that would follow, the members would be shown, more fully than on the floor and with less labor than if the members were themselves to make the investigations, the proper course for Virginia to pursue. The result would be bills that should not fail of passage when presented at the proposed extra session of Assembly.

THE WORLD GROWS BETTER, BUT—

Speaker Clark is right in denouncing as "a dangerous lie" the assertion that the world is growing worse. He is right in declaring that to say it is to say that our educational systems and our religion are failures. Most people have the same disinclination to admit either. Speaker Clark could scarcely preach along these lines too emphatically, but it is possible for him to reveal a tendency to protest too much against criticism of conditions. With everything he had to say about the betterment of the world those who are guided by reason rather than by the state of their health must agree. With his apparent impatience with those who see the evil and emphasize its existence it is not so easy to sympathize.

Recognition of the advance made by the world does not involve refusal to recognize that evils still exist to be corrected. We need those who point out those evils, even though they do not go further and suggest remedies. There are others to do that, and both are needed. Emphasis upon the good around us is a good tonic, but it does not correct the bad.

Still, you can't blame those Pennsylvania Progressives for going outside the State for a senatorial candidate.

The Balkans, the Mexicans and the Federal League have done their little best, but when we become consumed with desire to witness a real war, we will take boat to Merrie England and look on while Sylvia fights Christabel.

There is no suspicion that Cole Blease forgets to restore to full civil rights those convicts he pardons.

If George Washington's birthday came on Saturday every year, as it does this year, school children would know less about him.

If Philadelphia doesn't stop trying to take away Norfolk's dry dock, we will just hope she doesn't get any regional reserve bank. So there!

WHERE MANAGEMENT WILL PAY.

The position to which Governor Stuart has appointed John S. Parsons, of Accomac, is one which affords an opportunity for service scarcely excelled by that of any other public office in the Commonwealth.

A fish commissioner devoted to his duties, nonpolitical in his activities and far-seeing in his policies can utilize present prosperity to overcome past wastefulness and can make Virginia first among the seafood-producing States. A commissioner who will serve for the salary and not for the benefit to the public, a commissioner who will be first a politician and secondarily a servant of the people, or a commissioner who will be in sympathy with one class in Tidewater to the prejudice of others, can wreck this great natural resource and can thereby deprive the State of millions in wealth.

Virginia has been criminally prodigal in her neglect of the great mine that lies below her tidal rivers and watercourses. With a folly almost unbelievable, the State has written in its organic law the provision that the "natural oyster beds, rocks and shoals . . . . shall not be leased, rented or sold, but shall be held in trust for the benefit of the people," which means that any man who can buy a pair of tongs, rent a "bug-eye" and raise the money for a license can scour the bottom. Just as a law which would permit all men to hunt all game at all seasons would destroy the last bird and the last rabbit in the confines of the Old Dominion, so this provision of the Constitution (section 175) has slowly but surely narrowed the natural oyster rocks and stripped them bare. The 226,000 acres of natural rock shown by the Baylor survey and the 400,000 acres then "open to planting" have dwindled, according to the Fish Commission, to half or less!

With the Constitution thus strict in its provisions, even a satisfactory administration is handicapped. The best that can be done in the circumstances is not always that which will bring the maximum return from the oyster rocks. And when the administration falls short of the highest standard, the results inevitably are disastrous.

Furthermore, within recent years, Virginia oysters have suffered in competition with those of other States. This has been due to two causes, namely, the shipment of poor oysters from the natural rocks and the so-called "pollution scare."

As to the former, it is well known that the seed-oysters taken from the natural rocks are seldom fit to market at once. To bring the best price they should be replanted and "fattened." When, therefore, seed-oysters have been sold for market, they have sometimes failed to give satisfaction, and have led the undiscriminating to believe that all Virginia oysters were of the same quality.

In the same way, the cry that Virginia oysters were polluted undoubtedly cost the oyster industry many hundred thousand dollars. It has been shown that the agitation that originated in the North and practically closed New York markets to our oysters was at best partisan in character, and was launched to help the sale of Connecticut oysters. But this proof could not be had at the time when it was most needed. Before the facts could be shown and the purity of Virginia oysters demonstrated by tests of unquestionable accuracy, the metropolitan trade had been turned northward. Our planters and tongers lost.

But the restrictions of the State Constitution, an administration that was far from faultless and the past condition of the market have not made the situation hopeless, and should not discourage the new commissioner. Much of that which has been lost has been regained through abundant seasons; still more can be recovered if the Constitution be amended and a liberal, constructive policy be inaugurated by an able commissioner.

As we see it, the amendment of the Constitution is the greatest need of the oyster industry. The Baylor survey, sacred though it is to Tidewater, must give place to a policy of reclamation. If the Constitution cannot be changed, or not changed until too late, there is still the opportunity of drawing the lines once more and leasing those parts of the natural rocks which are now depleted.

Second only to this, it seems to us, is the necessity of establishing and maintaining a standard for Virginia oysters. Those of us who appreciate the Virginia bivalve and have tested the oysters of other States know that for flavor and tenderness the Virginia product cannot be excelled. We must teach the world this. We must show the buyers of Northern cities that when they purchase Virginia oysters they may count upon a uniform product of the highest quality, correctly represented and honestly sold.

How this may be done, we shall explain more in detail at a later time. Meanwhile, in assuring Commissioner Parsons of our sincere wishes for his success, we would call upon the friends of this great Virginia industry to unite for its advancement. Let us make it what it should be—second only to our tobacco crop in its monetary yield.

CROKER AND MURPHY.

Croker's repudiation of Murphy and his declaration that his leadership has and will injure Tammany is, as Mayor Mitchell expressed it, "very interesting"—but that is all.

Croker has little or no influence in Tammany, and, after all, Murphy is convicted. What Croker thinks and says will have no material effect. Murphy will be deposed, but by the men who are without rather than by those who are within the Tammany organization. They will depose him by continuing the work they have begun; by starving Tammany; by reorganizing the party without reference to Tammany; by demonstrating that with Murphy, or one like him, in control, Tammany is not an influence in New York Democracy. When this is brought home to the Tammany crowd Murphy's end comes.

FOR GREATER SAFETY.

We should like to know whether the Monroe and the Nantucket were equipped, at the time of their fatal collision, with submarine signaling apparatus, and if so, whether this gave any warning of the location of the two ships prior to the time their foghorns were heard.

Recent experiments have convinced experts that the submarine bell may be made one of the most valuable means of promoting greater safety at sea. As every student knows, water will convey sound much more reliably and regularly than will air. Moreover, it has been demonstrated that while sound will travel only 1,100 feet the second in air, it passes through water at the rate of 4,700 feet the second.

These two familiar facts have been utilized in the design of bells incased in water-tight drums and automatically operated by compressed air. Such a bell, placed beside a lightship or on the seacoast can, of course, be regulated to give signals according to a code, while a simple device on ships will record the sound and convey it to the pilot-house.

An interesting feature of the receiving apparatus on ship is that it can be placed within the hull of the ship without losing its value in detecting even the faintest sound. All that is necessary is to place a small tank directly against the hull of the ship and to supply this with microphones. The sound-waves, reaching the hull of the ship, pass to the water in the tank, are caught by the microphones and transmitted as any other telephonic message.

Another well-known property of sound-waves in water has been utilized to detect the precise direction from which submarine signals come, even as the employment of a code enables a ship to determine the origin of the messages. It is well known that while a sound in the water, transmitted to the side of a ship, will be distinct in a tank placed directly against the hull, the sound will be less clear or not audible at all as it passes through the ship. Accordingly, if receiving apparatus be placed on either side of a ship, the density of the sound-waves on either side will show the direction from which they come. If, then, the prow of the ship be turned until the sounds are equally audible on both sides, with the receiving apparatus near the bow, the navigator knows that the sending-bell is straight ahead. This determined, he will have little difficulty in avoiding the danger against which the signals warn him.

Now that this apparatus has been perfected, we may expect its use to be made compulsory—a complement to the wireless in giving greater insurance to ocean-travelers.

Queries and Answers

Methodists.

Can you tell me the origin of the term "Methodists," as applied to the members of the great religious denomination? EDWARD MASON, JR.

The generally received origin is that John and Charles Wesley and a group of friends at Oxford formed rigid rules for the regulation of their time and studies, and that their strict observance of system as well as their ardent piety and their scholarship attracted the notice of members of the university, who dubbed them Methodists in allusion to the methodici, a class of physicians at Rome who were regarded as most rigid systematizers.

Signs of the Apostles.

Will you be good enough to print the list of symbols belonging to the apostles? MRS. H.

The "symbols" are: for Peter, keys; Paul, sword; Andrew, cross; James the Greater, staff and gourd bottle; James, the Less, fuller's pole; John, cup and serpent; Bartholemew, knife; Philip, staff with cross at top; Thomas, lance; Matthew, hatchet; Matthias, battle ax; Simon, saw; Jude, club. The symbols were regarded as referring to some circumstance of the life or death of the person, and were of high use in the old art as furnishing a means of distinguishing one from another—of course, about the sole means—since different paintings of Peter, for instance, made by different artists, would rarely resemble each other. The list as above comes from an excellent old work on "ecclesiastical art," and is probably correct as far as it goes.

Gift for Nurse.

What would make an attractive gift for a trained nurse who already has almost everything in the way of trinkets and professional accessories? MRS. A.

Your own taste would probably be better than ours, and your judgment would certainly be so, as you are aware of the circumstances and we cannot be. A very attractive and useful thing would be a traveling bag. No young woman has so much in the way of trunks and bags that she is not "crazy about" an addition to her stock, and the bag will furnish in size, shape and cost variety enough to enable you to express almost any degree of appreciation in the gift.

An Address.

Can you give me the address of C. R. Lanman, the Orientalist? T. P. HOGE.

5 Farrar Street, Cambridge, Mass.

The Rappahannock Rhapsodist

The Slayer.

The Lion is the King of Beasts,
Who frights the forest with his roar.
He slays but for his royal feasts,
And, having feasted, slays no more.
He does not kill a needless score
Because, by strength and craft, he can.
Man's hands are ever red with gore,
Greatest slayer of all is Man.

The Cobra and the Fer de Lance,
With masked murder in their jaws,
Strike only such as take the chance
To violate their serpent laws.
They never kill without a cause,
Although they bear the jungle's ban,
Unarmed with either fangs or claws,
Greater slayer of all is Man.

The rights of all wild folk he scorns.
The fierce and strong, the weak and small,
He robs the great elk of his horns
To make a hatrack in his hall.
To get a plaything, ivory ball
The death of elephants he'll plan.
To yield him plumes the birds must fall—
Greatest slayer of all is Man.

A killer born, he hunts for fun,
And slaughters wantonly in play.
Secure with his repeating gun,
He deals out murder and dismay.
Of bird and beast he makes his prey
Without a better reason than
His love of talking life away—
Greatest slayer of all is Man.

ENVOI.

In name of Pleasure, Fashion, Art,
Or Science, since the world began,
He's born the blood-lust in his heart—
Greatest slayer of all is Man.

THOMAS LOMAX HUNTER.

WHAT WAS NEWS FIFTY YEARS AGO

Reprinted from This Newspaper.

From Charleston.

After a let up of several days the enemy renewed their bombardment of the city and Fort Sumter last night. Since that time and up to 5 o'clock this evening 139 shots have been fired into the city. The damage has been very slight. The fifth monitor has been added to the Yankee fleet.

The Peninsula Demonstration.

The much talked of and somewhat exaggerated Peninsula demonstration of the enemy has entirely subsided, and the whole truth about it has at last leaked out. It is now certain that the Yankees acted entirely on false information they received from people who had gone through the lines for various purposes. From this information they got an idea that Richmond was practically defenseless, and the plan of a rapid raid up the Peninsula for the purpose of capturing, sacking and destroying, as far as possible, this city was quickly conceived. The force that was sent out from Williamsburg and the lower Peninsula was fully 6,000 strong. As is already known this force was met at several points and in each case defeated. The final retreat from New Kent Courthouse ended the fiasco.

General Hood.

General J. B. Hood has been promoted to the rank of lieutenant-general. While his commission takes effect at once his assignment will not be made until two weeks hence, when, it is understood he will take command of the corps formerly under General D. H. Hill, in Johnston's army.

For the Yankee Prisoners.

The flag of truce boat that came up the James River yesterday brought 200 boxes of merchandise and provisions for the Northern prisoners confined in the prisons of this city. This makes about a thousand boxes that have reached here within the last month, and the distribution of them goes on. There was yesterday some comment as to the advisability of holding up the distribution of these boxes, except such as contain perishable goods, until there is some better understanding of the manner in which boxes sent to Confederate prisoners in Northern prisons are handled. The reports from our men in Northern prisons are that nine times out of ten they fail to get the boxes sent them by friends.

Cotton Burned.

A fire in Wilmington, N. C., day before yesterday destroyed 1,025 bales of cotton belonging to the Chicova Steamship Company, and J. R. Morrison valued at $700,000. The cotton was but partially insured.

Senator Taylor, of Stafford.

In the State Senate yesterday E. T. Taylor, of Stafford County, appeared and was sworn in. He was recently elected to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Senator Seddon.

General McLaws.

General McLaws has been ordered to Morristown, Tenn., to answer the charges made against him by General Longstreet.

Dr. Edwards to Lecture.

The Rev. John E. Edwards, D. D., is announced to deliver a lecture at Trinity Methodist Church, Broad and Twenty-first Streets, for the benefit of the fund to provide artificial limbs for mutilated Confederate soldiers.

Skirmish in the Valley.

A mere squad of General Rosser's men had a fight with a detachment of the enemy at a point between Berryville and Charleston last week, and captured several wagons, fifty horses and fifteen prisoners, and all without the loss of a man either killed or wounded. The prisoners were brought to this city yesterday.

From the North.

From New York papers of recent date it is learned that Washington is full of rumors about an immediate change that is contemplated in the command of the Army of the Potomac. General Hunter and General Thomas are both mentioned as probable successors of General Meade, who is to be removed.

Orders have been issued in Washington that hereafter no names of Confederate prisoners sent to the Old Capitol prison shall be published. No reason is given for this order.

The Secretary of the United States Treasury has issued an order permittin gshipments of merchandise into Western Virginia and removing all former restrictions.

Voice of the People

The Burden of Proof.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Your leader in your issue of the 2d of February, "The Burden of Proof," apropos of Mr. Postmaster-General Burleson's proposal to make the telegraph and telephone service a national public function in connection with the postal service, is the proper thing.

It seems to a wayfaring man that the advocates of this scheme would gladly shoulder the "burden" of proof. You say that the advocates must show, first, that public ownership and operation is greatly needed. That, I think, is patent. Any social instrument on which all society depends, and without society's consent and use would be of no value, should be owned and operated solely for society's service.

You will say that such a claim might, with equal force, be said of other things not present public functions. That is true, but the truth of the statement is not diminished because of that. You say it has to be proved that the good from government ownership is worth the cost. Well, if the present owners can run and manage it and make big dividends and pay big salaries it should be a certainty to any reasoning creature that the government—the people—can manage with the same employes who now operate and manage it to eke out as good service at cost, for the government doesn't have to pay dividends, the business being done for service and not profit. It would simply be a change of owners, not necessarily of manner of operation. The same men who now operate it to make profit for the stockholders would then operate it for the benefit of society as a whole. Let the government pay the present owners the physical value of their property, less depreciation from use, whether the value be $200,000,000 or $400,000,000.

The government should take over the wireless operations as well. The government could pay the present owners in bonds secured by the property and charge tolls sufficient to pay interest on the bonds and enough to provide a sinking fund to pay principal in twenty years.

It must be borne in mind that this is a productive proposition. The people furnish $300,000,000 and more for the army and navy every year. Cut out a third of that for two or three years and pay for the telephone and telegraph.

If Mr. Burleson keeps on making money out of the parcel post he will have enough from that source to buy the telephone and telegraph systems. I believe that with the present tariffs for telephones and telegraphs cut in two, enough surplus could be piled up to pay for both telegraph and telephone in less than ten years.

I suspect that duplication of lines and big salaries and legal service and court cost alone amount to as much as 5 per cent per annum on the receipts of telephone and telegraph companies. All that or most of it would be saved under public ownership. For instance, here in Winston-Salem there are two telegraph companies. There is rent of two offices, salaries and supplies of two offices, two sets of attorneys to retain, two sets of linemen to keep in readiness, etc. J. P. TAYLOR.

February 4.

The Hart-White Game Bill.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—We have seen several letters in the Voice of the People Column of your paper opposing the Hart-White game bill. It's the same old story. Whenever anybody or society or association of men try to better conditions the "let well enough alone" crowd begins to kick. Every man working for or against the Hart-White game bill has some motive, and we who believe in better game laws are thinking about the time when, if a halt is not called, there will be no shooting. We want to make the sport last as long as we can, and those who want conditions as they are, are thinking how hard it will be for them to get written permission and what an outrage it is to make them pay a dollar if they step across their neighbor's line, a thing they and their fathers' fathers have been doing since the Revolutionary War, etc., etc. Unless a man is too illiberal to be open to conviction, we have never failed to show him how we were drawing on our original stock of game so rashly that there is not one-fourth as much here now as there was thirty years ago; that our natural increase in hunters far exceeded the increase in our game; that not from hunting alone was our game suffering, but from those causes concomitant with civilization, such as man using the haunts heretofore the refuges of the game for his own purposes; how the great question of forestry had been neglected just as that of game, and why we, as twentieth century, intelligent human beings, should stop; that there was no way but the right way, and the right way was to do something toward the making of game laws in Virginia, positive, legal provisions, not mere nonentities, such as we have now. We have shown that a Southern State, with similar conditions, had passed in 1907 a law after which the Hart-White game bill is fashioned, and that Alabama in six years has seen its game increase fully 25 per cent, the whole citizenship of the State enthusiastic in the praise of their great game law, and fourteen other Southern and Western States remodel their game laws after that of Alabama.

Shall we drag along in this matter of game protection, letting one county pass a good law, while the counties adjacent pass none and send free hunters in to kill protected game? Or shall we stop this shilly-shallying and pass a law which our sister Southern States tell us is doing real, comprehensive game protection?

I am not one of those game protectionists who have laid aside his gun, killed his dogs and going to devote the rest of his life to game protection, though if things keep like they are now I will be that way before I reach the age of sixty. I want to enjoy many a day's hunt behind my setters before I die, and I want to leave game here in order that my grandchildren may hunt. To do this I know it will be necessary for me to be satisfied with small bag limits for the day and season, and that it will be necessary to have game wardens to see that the game laws are observed and a State game commissioner to see that these wardens perform their duties, and I am willing to pay my proportion of the cost of such a system.

There is no other way out, and unless Virginians will rise to the occasion we will continue to remain objects of ridicule and our boasted intellect pitiful wherever game protection is breathed. M. D. HART.

GIVES $2,000,000 TO PROMOTE PEACE

Carnegie Wants Income Used Through Churches—Union Is Incorporated.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

New York, February 10.—Andrew Carnegie to-day gave $2,000,000 to be used through the churches for the promotion of international peace. The income of the fund, about $100,000 a year, will be expended by a board of twenty-nine trustees, representing all the leading religious denominations in the United States.

This gift is in addition to the $10,000,000 foundation established by Mr. Carnegie on December 14, 1910, "to hasten the abolition of international war." The announcement was made at the close of a luncheon at Mr. Carnegie's home, attended by the trustees of the new foundation. The trustees organized "the Church Peace Union," which will be incorporated under the laws of New York State.

The income of the fund will be used to organize the moral power of the churches on critical international questions, to circulate peace literature among the clergy and to bring about the annual observance of a "Peace Sunday." Conferencee of America and Europe will be called to discuss the promotion of peace. When the leading nations abolish war and the fund has fulfilled its purpose, the trustees may devote the income to other philanthropic uses.

The trustees of the Church Peace Union are Bishop Greer, Cardinal Gibbons, Bishop Lawrence, of Boston; Bishop Wilson, Bishop Hendrix, of Kansas City; Shaller Mathews, dean of the divinity school, University of Chicago; Junius B. Remensnyder, Rev. Charles E. Jefferson, D. D., Arthur Judson Brown, Peter Ainslie, Baltimore; Francis E. Clark, Boston; John R. Mott, Frederick Lynch, C. S. Macfarland, Rev. Frank O. Hall, D. D., Rev. William Payson Merrill, D. D., Francis Lynde Stetson, Judge Henry Wade Rogers, New Haven; W. H. P. Faunce, Providence; Jenkin Lloyd Jones, D. D., Chicago; Robert E. Speer, Edwin D. Mead, Boston; Hamilton Holt, Marcus M. Marks, James J. Walsh, M. D., Archbishop J. J. Glennon, St. Louis; Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, Chicago; George A. Pympton, Prof. William J. Hull, Swarthmore College.

Bishop Greer was elected president of the union; Dr. William P. Merrill, of New York, vice-president; Dr. Frederick Lynch, secretary, and George A. Plympton, treasurer.

The trustees adopted a resolution which appealed to the rulers and statesmen of all civilized lands to abolish war. It pointed out that the combined debt of the world, mostly borrowed and used for war purposes, was nearly $37,000,000,000; that the amount expended annually for standing armies and navies was $2,500,000,000, and that 6,244,000 men are kept idle in military service.

Copies of the resolution will be sent to each President, Sovereign, Prime Minister, Ministers of Foreign Relations and presidents of Legislatures and other officials of "the world powers."

LEADING PHYSICIAN KILLED.

Dr. Wooten, of Davidson, Shot by Member of Drug Firm.

Asheville, N. C., February 10.—Dr. W. H. Wooten, one of the leading physicians of Davidson, N. C., was shot and almost instantly killed at that place by Munroe Jetton, member of the White-Jetton Drug Company, of Davidson, according to a special received here tonight. The shooting occurred about 7:30 o'clock at Jetton's home, Dr. Wooten dying thirty minutes later. Details of events leading up to the shooting are lacking. Jetton was arrested.

Abe Martin

It's a common thing for corporations t' lay off men, but we never hear o' them suttin' any salaries. Spug is jest another name fer tight wad.

NEWS OF SOUTH RICHMOND

DUMP WAS NUISANCE

John G. Maul, of Spring Hill, Gets $700 Verdict Against City.

Holding that the city dump was a public nuisance, a jury yesterday in Hustings Court, Part II., awarded a verdict of $700 to John G. Maul, of Spring Hill, who sued the city of Richmond for $2,500 damages, claimed to have been caused by fire to his two houses, which caught from city refuse. In his instructions, Judge Ernest H. Wells told the jury that it could find a verdict from the evidence against the city for either maintaining a nuisance or setting fire to the property.

The suit of the Weary & Alford Company against the American National Bank for $3,000 damages, was begun yesterday afternoon.

DAN CUPID GETS TWO

Popular Teachers at Powhatan School Are Married.

Dan Cupid dealt Powhatan School a severe blow yesterday, when two of its young and popular teachers were lost to it by marriage. The happy brides are Miss Mary Russell Lyon, teacher in the sixth grade, who was married to William G. Donley, of Toronto, Canada, and Miss Grace Irene Woodhouse, who became the wife of William Gideon Hopkins, of Baltimore.

Mr. Donley and Miss Lyon were married at the home of the latter's uncle, C. S. Russell, of Petersburg, and will make their home in Toronto. Mr. Hopkins and Miss Woodhouse were married at the Second Baptist Church. Mrs. Hopkins was a teacher of music, and lived in Richmond.

Will Give Valentine Tea.

A valentine tea will be held at the home of Mrs. Charles Jones, on Porter Street, on Friday afternoon and night, for the benefit of the building fund of Meade Memorial Church. The afternoon entertainment will be primarily for children.

Child Dies From Burns.

Wirt Crawford, four years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Crawford, of 1108 Perry Street, who on February 2 was badly burned when his clothing caught fire from a lighted candle, died on Monday night at 7 o'clock from his injuries. Dr. M. P. Rucker hoped to save the little fellow's life by grafting skin to his back, where he suffered mostly, but was prevented by his condition. The boy was alone at the time of the accident, and was rescued from the flames by a neighbor, who heard his cries.

The funeral services were held yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock from the home. The burial was in Maury Cemetery.

To Hold Debate.

A debate will be held on Thursday night in the Chester Agricultural High School for the purpose of selecting a team to represent the school before the Virginia Literary Society. The society will hold its annual debate some time this spring, in which there will be contestants of schools from all parts of the State.

Scouts Training for Meet.

Members of the Forest Hill Troop, Boy Scouts of America, are training hard for the annual meet this spring. There are some good athletes in the troop, and they are expected to make a good showing. They will be entered in a number of events, including dashes, high and broad jumping, pole vaulting, putting the shot and other sports.

Officer Belton on Southside.

Officer P. A. Belton, who was recently reinstated by the police commissioners, has been assigned to duty on the Southside, to take the place of Officer W. E. Waymack, who was promoted to sergeant. Sergeant Waymack is now on his vacation, and will take up his new duties next week.

Personal Mention.

Miss Jeanette Richell, of Alexandria, is the guest of Miss Florence Rex.

Miss Weeda Hall is improving, after undergoing an operation at the Memorial Hospital.

Mrs. R. F. Langley, of Norfolk, who has been visiting Mrs. Ida Dorsett, the guest of Mrs. H. A. Maurice, has returned home.

Mrs. S. J. Brooks, of 1122 Decatur Street, is improving from an attack of pneumonia.

Miss Margaret Baldwin has returned home from a visit to Farmville.

Mrs. W. C. Pulliam has recovered from an attack of grip, and is able to be out.

News of Petersburg

The Times-Dispatch Bureau,
5 Bollingbrook Street,
(Phone 1485)
Petersburg, Va., February 10.

At the meeting of the Board of Aldermen last night a resolution, offered by Mr. Poole, was adopted, the Common Council concurring, instructing the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance providing for a bond issue of $200,000 for the erection of a municipal administration building, auditorium and armory. At present the officials of the city have their offices scattered through several buildings, four or five at least. The matter of a municipal building, creditable to the city, has long been discussed—its location to be on the Courthouse Square, and the city's adjoining property. The resolution will have to go to the Council for concurrence, and to the Finance Committee for recommendation.

Two nominations for membership of the board to fill a vacancy from the Fourth Ward were made last night—James H. Gray and Charles G. Irvin. Mr. Irvin was elected by a vote of 6 to 5 for Mr. Gray.

The board transacted a great deal of business. It deferred consideration of the River Street improvement until the March meeting.

The board concurred in various measures sent up from the Council. Among them is the ordinance for newly numbering the houses of the city, on the block system, at a cost of about $2,500; to amend the city charter so as to permit the extension of water mains and the sale of water to points outside of the city not exceeding a distance of two miles; indorsing the city of Richmond for a Federal reserve bank, etc.

A protest from citizens of Webster Street against the proposed changing of the grade of that street, because of injury to property, was read and referred. An appropriation of $500 was made for the purchase of additional wood for the poor.

Proposed Combination.

A special meeting of the stockholders of the Petersburg Investment Corporation was held last night in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, the object being to consider a proposition to consolidate or combine with the Citizens' Hotel Company, Inc., in the building of a modern hotel on the site of the Shirley, on West Tabb Street. The meeting was largely attended, and much interest was manifested. Hatcher Seward explained the tentative plans for the hotel, which are subject to change—the frontage, depth, capital, etc. These plans contemplate a five-story building, with 125 rooms, at a cost of about $100,000, in the shape of an "L," with modern, up-to-date equipment and conveniences. After full discussion, a resolution, offered by R. H. Mann, was unanimously adopted, providing for the appointment of a committee, one of whom shall be the president, to confer with a committee of the Hotel Company, relative to the combination, and report to an adjourned meeting on February 24. The committee will report a plan of combination, including the proposed valuation of the assets of the two corporations, and such other data as will enable the stockholders to vote intelligently on the proposition. The committee named under the resolution consists of R. H. Mann, M. C. Jackson, and R. M. Craddock.

Mrs. Laura I. Clark.

Mrs. Laura I. Clark, aged seventy-six, died at her home, "Laurel Brooke," in Dinwiddie County, this evening. She is survived by two sons and one daughter, C. B. and Hon. Thomas E. Clark, formerly a member of the House of Delegates from Dinwiddie County, and Miss Mamie J. Clarke, all residents of Dinwiddie County. Her funeral will take place on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock from her residence, and the interment will be at Laurel Brooke farm.

Woman Burned to Death.

Puss Johnson, colored, was burned to death about noon to-day at her home on Federal Street. She was paralyzed a few days ago, and was a helpless invalid in bed. How the fire originated is not known, as no other person was near the house at the time. The fire communicated to the bedding, which was burned, and the unfortunate woman was roasted alive. A colored youth named Wilson, living near-by, ran into the house and endeavored to save the woman, but he was driven back by the smoke and flames. In her struggles the woman rolled to the floor and perished. The department was called out, and saved the house from much damage, but the furniture was ruined. The woman who cared for the invalid had temporarily left the house.

Injured in Runaway.

W. V. Croshaw, white, driver of a delivery wagon for B. W. Matthews, was seriously injured in a runaway accident on High Street to-day. In driving down the street his horse became frightened at an automobile, and, running away, came in violent collision with a telephone pole. The pole was broken, the wagon was badly damaged, and Mr. Croshaw was thrown out on the brick pavement. He was badly injured about the face and head, and was sent to his home on Custer Street to receive medical attention. His nose is broken and he is suffering from concussion.

Death in Chesterfield.

W. T. Shackleford, formerly of Prince George, died yesterday afternoon at his home in Chesterfield County. He was a well-known and respected citizen, was fifty-six years old, and is survived by his wife and five children. He also leaves a brother, E. T. Shackleford, of Chesterfield, and two sisters, Mrs. Robert Roper and Mrs. W. E. Newcomb, both of this city.

The funeral of David Callender, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Callender, of this city, who died at Denver, Col., on Tuesday of last week, took place this afternoon from St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

WOUNDED OFFICER KILLS ASSAILANT

Danville Policeman Shoots Negro Who Stabs Him in Resisting Arrest.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]

Danville, Va., February 10.—Percy Foster, a negro, was shot and killed by Police Officer W. C. Hall here tonight at 10 o'clock. Hall is in the hospital with the muscle of his left arm severed, and a deep stab wound over the left breast. His condition, the physicians attending him say, is precarious.

Foster sought admission to a colored moving picture show on Patton Street, when a police officer whose duty it is to see that good order prevails, refused the negro admittance. Foster, with two others remonstrated, and the officer seeing that the man was drunk, called to Officer Hall nearby and asked him to take the negro to jail. Just as Hall seized Foster he drew an open knife from his sleeve-cuff, and made two vicious slashes at the officer. Hall reeled against the wall of the lobby to the theatre, and, drawing his Colt, fired two shots at the negro standing a few feet away from him.

The negro piled up over a box, and died in half an hour. Hall was hurried to the hospital. He lost much blood before he received assistance. Foster had the reputation of being a bad negro. He was to appear in court tomorrow on a charge of gambling. He was always in and out of jail. Hall is the youngest member of the local force and recently married.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCK IS FELT IN NORTH

Falling of Chimneys, Swaying of Houses and Some Destruction Reported.

New York, February 10.—An earthquake which lasted from fifteen to thirty seconds and disturbing particularly what are geologically known as the Devonian and Silurian sections of the northeastern part of the United States, took place shortly after 1:30 o'clock P. M. to-day. It was especially severe in the central and northern parts of New York State. Virtually all of New York State, including this city, felt the shock, and New England generally, lower Eastern Canada and parts of New Jersey and Eastern Pennsylvania, were shaken. Tremors were recorded as far south as Washington and as far west as St. Louis.

At Albany, the shock was severe enough to shake pictures from the walls of the Capitol, and at Binghamton, a laborer was killed by the caving in of a trench in which he was working. At Fort Plain the heavy doors of a bank vault shook under the influence of the quake, and from other parts of the State the falling of chimneys, swaying of houses and destruction of fragile objects was reported.

According to Dr. Edmund O. Hovey, curator of geology, of the American Museum of Natural History, the character of the record left by seismograph in his institution, shows that the movement of the quake was not attended by great lateral oscillations.

The latest earthquake previously registered by the seismograph of the American Museum took place on November 8, 1912, and occurred in Alaska. The vibrations then were twice as great as those made to-day. No local seismic disturbance comparable in magnitude with the one recorded to-day can be recalled by the attaches of the museum. The last earthquake felt in New York took place in the territory of Charleston, S. C., in 1886. In 1884, a general disturbance took place over the greater part of the area affected to-day.

Leave for Florida.

Mrs. M. L. Boyle, of Church Hill, and her son, Dr. M. L. Boyle, Jr., accompanied by a party of friends from Baltimore, left last night for a trip to Florida.

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