

MATHEWS' REPLY TO GENERAL ELLIS

Bartow, Fla., March 12, 1908.
To the Editor Ocala Banner:

As Attorney General Ellis recently published an open letter addressed to me on account of an editorial appearing in my paper, the Polk County Record, I wish to let the public know a little more about the subject.

In Mr. Ellis's open letter he practically admits my contention, except in his misconstruction of one part of my editorial. I never said that his opinion was based upon or founded upon Governor Broward's suggestion or ideas, but I meant to convey the idea that by reason of Governor Broward's having claimed for two or three years from the stump and through the press that the school fund was entitled to 25 per cent. of the proceeds of the public lands, and having requested an opinion from Mr. Ellis upon this subject, that the opinion was called for, was brought about as a result of the suggestion or agitation of Governor Broward. I did not mean that Mr. Ellis's opinion was not honestly given upon the law, but I claim that the governor was the leader in the matter, and Mr. Ellis does not deny this. What I kicked on in my editorial was the apparent effort of certain corporation papers to give Mr. Ellis more credit than was due and at the same time actually not even give the man who had brought up and pushed the question any credit whatever. I understand the tactics of these papers. They wanted to mislead the public, and just at this time, upon the eve of the primary, make the people think that Mr. Ellis was doing wonders for the school fund.

As a matter of fact, the state school board, at a meeting when Mr. Ellis was absent, about three months before he rendered his opinion, passed a resolution declaring that the school fund was entitled to 25 per cent. of the proceeds of the public lands, and made a demand on the internal improvement board for the same. They acted without his opinion three months before he rendered it. Why didn't certain papers praise the entire board for this action, as they were some months ahead of the attorney general on the proposition. Couldn't it be a matter of politics with these papers? The law has been the same since long prior to the time the present attorney general went into office. He talks about a servant of the people being bound to perform this constitutional duty and what he proposes to do. Then why has he, regardless of this constitutional duty for about four years past, failed to do the constitutional duty that a servant of the people is bound to perform?

The school fund has suffered to the extent of many thousands of dollars during his term of office, yet not until February 5, 1908, just on the eve of a primary, did we ever hear of his advising or advocating that the school fund was entitled to this part of the proceeds of the public lands. I ask the question why? Ignorance or neglect of duty on the part of the legal adviser of the state cabinet. I still think the attorney general has played a second fiddle in this transaction, and that the Times-Union and True Democrat were unfair in not telling the whole story and in ignoring Governor Broward's efforts in the matter.

Very truly,
G. G. MATHEWS.

A REMARKABLE GATHERING OF WOMEN

There has assembled at Washington D. C., one of the most remarkable congresses of modern times. Women from almost every section of the United States and from many progressive foreign countries are now in attendance upon the International Congress of Mothers, the sessions of which beginning on March 10, will extend until March 17. This aggregation of notable women has met for the specific purpose of discussing and inaugurating plans for the welfare of the child and this stupendous work has been undertaken under the auspices of the National Congress of Mothers.

For six days whatever appertains to the mental, moral and physical benefit and development of the child will receive the earnest attention of women, who by reason of their peculiar fitness for this work have been selected to represent at this International Congress of Mothers' organizations devoted to child study and kindred subjects, both in this country and in Europe. Delegates from Great Britain, France, Germany, Holland, Greece, Switzerland, Japan and South Africa are meeting with American women upon the broad plant where mother love is the dominant influence and the mother heart is the controlling factor in the development of the human race.

Every State Congress of Mothers has sent prominent women to represent the organization in this wonderful gathering of distinguished and useful women. At no period of the world's history have so much thought and energy been given to the inauguration of the best methods for the development of childhood along moral, mental and physical lines. The

most helpful and beneficent educational and philanthropic movements of the present day have their origin and amplification in the study and comprehension of the relations existing between the child and the community, the girl and the boy and the nation. Questions of broad national and international scope will occupy the attention of the delegates to this great convocation of women, and men as well as women of world-wide reputations will discuss the problems appertaining to child-life and development. The physical afflictions of children, such as deafness and blindness, will enlist the attention of the congress, and will be discussed exhaustively by eminent specialists. Whatever tends to augment the welfare of the child will receive from the delegates to this International Congress of Mothers a careful solicitude and consideration commensurate with the tremendous import of the human problems involved.—Atlanta Georgian.

WEBSTER AND THE BILL

Porter Wright, who was a servant in the employ of Daniel Webster, says the great statesman's sense of humor was infinite. On one occasion a man presented a bill to him for payment. "Why," said Webster, "I have paid the bill before." The neighbor assured him that he was mistaken. "All right, then; call again in the morning and I will settle with you." As soon as the man was gone Webster called his son Fletcher and told him to look over his papers and see if he could not find a receipted bill. To the surprise of both two receipted bills were found, showing that the bill had been paid twice.

Webster put the receipt in his pocket and said nothing. In the morning the neighbor returned for the money. Webster took his seat under the old elm and ordered Wright to bring out the decanter. Filling the glass to the brim, he handed it to the man and told him to drink. Webster then began: "Mr. Blank, do you keep books?" The man assured him that he did not. "Then I would advise you to do so," said Webster, and pulling one of the receipts from his pocket handed it to him.

The man was covered with confusion, while Webster continued: "And while you are about it you had better get a bookkeeper who understands double entry!" at the same time handing him another receipt. "Now," said Webster, "I am going to pay this bill just once more, but I assure you, upon my word of honor, that I will not pay it the fourth time."—Chicago News.

THE MIRACLE OF THE CENTURIES

The Repentance of Mrs. Spade Foot and Her Beginning of the "Strenuous Life!"

Who shall say that when our strenuous president lets pearls of wisdom fall from his lips those pearls invariably fall before swine?

The president is a versatile talker. Until he became completely occupied with the business of nominating Secretary Taft, he frequently discussed:

"Many, many things,
Ships and shoes and sealing wax, and
cabbages and kings,
And why the sea is boiling hot,
And whether pigs have wings."

But in nearly every speech he touched upon the evils of race suicide, and the duty of persons of both sexes to become parents. About the time that President Roosevelt stopped in the middle of a formal address at St. Louis—or was it East St. Louis?—to congratulate a workman who had brought his baby to the speaking, a hammer struck a stone in New York state, and out hopped a lady toad who had remained idly in the block of granite for at least 1000 years, according to the scientists. The president was still swinging through the middle west, talking of the glory of bringing babies up, and bears down, when Mrs. Spade Foot—that is to say, the lady toad—was placed in less cramping captivity. In parallel columns in the daily press Mr. Roosevelt's speeches, and the ten centuries of complete idleness of Mrs. Spade Foot were chronicled. Naturally Mrs. Spade Foot felt ashamed of herself. According to the New York papers the stork is hovering over Mrs. Spade Foot's apartments, to the wonderment of the scientists, who estimated the period of her enclosure in the granite block.

But why should the scientists puzzle themselves to the point of sick headaches? Mrs. Spade Foot has simply repented. So violent has been her grief and sense of humiliation at having slept snugly in a rock for 1000 years that the sincerity of her repentance has worked a miracle.—Courier-Journal.

LAME SHOULDER

Whether resulting from a sprain or from rheumatic pains, there is nothing so good for a lame shoulder as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. Apply it freely and rub the parts vigorously at each application and a quick cure is certain. For sale by all druggists. x

WATERMELON LORE

The humorists always associate the African with the watermelon, assuming that the taste of the colored man for his favorite dainty arises from his life in the southern states, where the melon vine grows like a weed.

As a fact, however, the African taste for the watermelon is hereditary. The vine is a native of Africa, where it is found wild in the great central plains of the continent, and has also been cultivated for many years.

In Egypt the melons grown along the Nile rival those of Southeastern Missouri.

The melons mentioned by the Israelites as being among the good things they had in Egypt were undoubtedly watermelons, for in the wall paintings about the time of the exodus the melon vine is represented, and in one case a long procession of slaves is depicted, each bearing on his shoulder a huge, dark-green watermelon.

Botanists say that varieties of the melon are found in Southern Asia, and some even claim that the plant grows wild in Central and South Africa; but Africa no doubt is the original home of the melon, and in his preference over every other kind of vegetable or fruit the African merely displays a taste that has become fixed in his race by thousands of years of indulgence, for in Central Africa ripe watermelons are to be had every month in the year.—Washington Herald.

They are telling us that "Jim" Barrs is the wise attorney who advised the pig-headed railroad commission that an editor has no right to exchange space in a newspaper with a railroad man for space in a railway coach. If "Jim" did that, Jacksonville is welcome to him; we relinquish all claim to such a rare bird.—Brooksville Argus.

"Give the devil his due," Brother Russell. "Jim" Barrs is not the attorney of the railroad commission, and he is too good a lawyer to even give such a "fool opinion."—Lake City Index.

FOR DISEASES OF THE SKIN

Nearly all diseases of the skin, such as eczema, tetter, salt rheum and barber's itch, are characterized by an intense itching and smarting, which often makes life a burden and disturbs sleep and rest. Quick relief may be had by applying Chamberlain's Salve. It allays the itching and smarting almost instantly. Many cases have been cured by its use. For sale by all druggists. x

THE ORCHARD CASE

Harry Orchard, who testified in the famous Boise trial that he was hired to murder Gov. Steunenberg, has pleaded guilty at his own trial. Judge Wood will sentence the man March 18.

The confession of Orchard, followed by the acquittal of the men he charged with having procured him the murderer of Gov. Steunenberg, formed one of the most interesting chapters of the history of criminal trials in this country. As Orchard now pleads guilty and accepts his sentence strength is added to the story he told upon the witness stand when it was believed by many persons that he had promises of immunity, or reason to believe that he would gain immunity by testifying against the contracting assassins.

It seems improbable and almost impossible that Orchard did the murder of his own volition. The conviction of the mere tool upon his own testimony seems a discouraging failure of the law to deal with a vital problem. There is, however, no good reason why Orchard should not be made to pay the penalty. It is not probable that he will be sent to the gallows. If he is sent to the penitentiary for life he should be made to serve his sentence. If it is impossible to convict any but actual assassins in such cases the refusal of the authorities to show mercy to those who are convicted may at least serve to discourage the professional murderer. Any concession made to Orchard in the way of clemency from the governor, or any other future governor of Idaho, would merely encourage similar crimes.—Courier-Journal.

Prof. H. A. Howell of Havana, Cuba, Recommends Chamberlain's Cough Remedy

"As long ago as I can remember my mother was a faithful user and friend of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, but never in my life have I realized its true value until now," writes Prof. H. A. Howell, of Kowell's American School, Havana, Cuba. "On the night of February 3rd our baby was taken sick with a very severe cold, the next day was worse and the following night his condition was desperate. He could not lie down, and it was necessary to have him in the arms every moment. Even then his breathing was difficult. I did not think he would live until morning. At last I thought of my mother's remedy, Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, which we gave, and it afforded prompt relief, and now, three days later, he has fully recovered. Under the circumstances I would not hesitate a moment in saying that Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is what only saved the life of our dear little boy." For sale by all druggists. x

PENNSYLVANIA GRAFTERS FOUND GUILTY

Contractor Sanderson, Auditor Snyder, Treasurer Mathews, and Superintendent Shumaker All Pronounced Guilty by Jury

Harrisburg, Pa., March 13.—The jury in the first of the capitol conspiracy cases gave a verdict of guilty as to John H. Sanderson, contractor; W. P. Snyder, former auditor general; W. L. Mathews, former state treasurer; and James M. Shumaker, former superintendent of public buildings and grounds.

Motions for new trials were made in each case.

The jury came into court at 8:52 o'clock, and a minute later Foreman Dunkle, in reply to clerk of court's warden, announced that they had agreed upon a verdict. It was read to the court, and then aloud. The jury was not polled, but when the clerk read the verdict, convicting all of conspiracy, each man gave his assent by a nod.

Only Sanderson and Snyder were in court when the verdict was given, and neither would talk.

The maximum imprisonment for each defendant in this case is two years and \$1000 fine.

The four men were convicted of defrauding the state in furnishing the new capitol, which cost the state about \$13,000,000 instead of \$4,000,000, the figure at which the contractors estimated.

When the cases now pending against the four persons who were convicted today are concluded the other defendants will be heard. The state claims that there are frauds amounting to nearly \$5,000,000 in furnishings of the capitol.

STOCKTON—FLAGLER LETTER

Research has been made into ancient history by the political enemies of John N. C. Stockton in order to find material with which to compass his defeat for governor. The old charge that Mr. Stockton once played false to the people because he was compelled to throw up his hands and acknowledge defeat in a business contest with the Flagler interests, has been resurrected. It is silly. The old saying that "business is business" may have had its origin in an attempt to defend unfair business methods, but in so far as it relates to cut throat business competition it simply means that to "him who hath shall be given" the interests of the man with the short purse. In this alleged contest Mr. Stockton had the short purse, and therefore the little end of the deal. In his efforts to close the best possible bargain with the interests opposed to him he wrote a letter in which his enemies with reckless disregard for political fairness are constructing as an abandonment of the peoples interests. And yet the only "people" concerned in the deal were those of the first and second part, and Mr. Stockton was the second part, and Mr. Stockton was the whose interests "got it in the neck."—Palatka News.

NO USE TO DIE

"I have found out that there is no use to die of lung trouble as long as you can get Dr. King's New Discovery," says Mrs. J. P. White of Rushboro, Pa. "I would not be alive today only for that wonderful medicine. It loosens up a cough quicker than anything else, and cures lung disease even after the case is pronounced hopeless." This most reliable remedy for coughs and colds, la grippe, asthma, bronchitis and hoarseness, is sold under guarantee at T. Ydings & Co's drugstore. 50c. and \$1. Trial bottle free. x

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This is the ruling of the Post Office Department, and of course it will be rigidly enforced. Hence we take this means of notifying subscribers who are in arrears that unless this order is complied with their names must be stricken from our mailing list. We regret the order but are in no wise responsible for it and are compelled to pay obedience to it. We earnestly request that subscribers co-operate with us in this matter.

Very respectfully,
THE OCALA BANNER.

The naval experts before the senate committee are determined to shoot the battleship fleet to pieces before it can reach Frisco.—Atlanta Journal.

MILLINERY, Ocala House Millinery Parlors

Our annual Spring Opening was the best and most satisfactory in the history of this establishment, and the many satisfied customers is a splendid indication that they are also well pleased. However, a large number of our Prettiest Pattern Hats are still here, and those who have not yet been supplied will do well to call and let us show this line. To describe these hats is not possible in this small space, but we ask the ladies from out of town especially to come in and inspect them.

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