

# THE CHAMPION

A NEWSPAPER OF TODAY

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## Preachers in Politics

A good many people are now pointing morals toward the part the preachers of Florida took in the recent political campaign, and exulting in the result, or what they claim to be the result.

The editor of THE CHAMPION believes in the preachers taking an interest in politics. The only fault we find with them is that they did not begin soon enough.

Immediately after the election of Governor Broward a few prohibitionists in DeSoto county thought the time was right to begin working to secure State Prohibition, knowing that the new governor would be favorable to our cause. Two Arcadia preachers, a Baptist and a Methodist, in consultation with the president and secretary of the local W. C. T. U., formulated a plan of action and went to work to get up petitions to present to the incoming legislature.

They found that only a part of the preachers of the State were ready. Some thought it premature, others to the methods proposed, and in spite of the determined efforts of a devoted handful, no general enthusiasm was aroused and the project failed, when vigorous and united action such as has characterized the recent campaign would have carried Florida easily into the dry states.

But since Georgia went dry and Jacksonville's eighty saloons have been augmented by one hundred more those Jacksonville preachers have had brought home to them in such a forcible way the evils of the saloons now in their midst, they got down to earth with their thoughts and were the most active of all prohibitionists in their efforts to keep saloons out of the State.

They went into politics with all their might because in the ballot is their only hope. They did not work to win because of any man, or to defeat a candidate, but to save their own city and homes from the whiskey power.

They lost out because the saloons and whiskey interests were limited by no restrictions as to means or men to do their bidding. Furthermore, many votes were cast by laboring men who saw in the new saloon interests so recently entered the State, renewed activity in building, and they needed work. Those one hundred saloon keepers that have the past year come to Jacksonville, must have homes and they are able to build fine ones; they will hire carpenters and other workmen and the laboring men know that they must have work to support their families. They do not follow out the line of thought and think where the money comes from to build these fine houses. They do not see the misery, squalor, starvation, crime and murders that follow in the wake of this kind of business activity or they would all move to the country and go to digging palmettos for a living.

We believe in good men in politics. We need so many that neither graft, ballot box stuffing or unfair methods can be practiced to prevent a free and intelligent ballot. Until we can arouse the good men of the State we are hopelessly the prey of tricksters, whiskey sellers and grafters.

Punta Gorda has eight heroes. They voted for Stockton on the 16th when to do so must have been dangerous. We wish we had their names to enroll on our list of those to whom honor is due.

We promised to give Mr. Fletcher's picture a place in our columns if he was nominated Senator, and he was. We wanted N. B. Broward, but as we can't have him, feel very thankful indeed that so fine a gentleman and one so worthy of our support as D. U. Fletcher is to represent us at Washington, one whose enemies could find nothing against in character, or public career. Here's our hand Senator, and may you live long and always be a credit to Florida.

We have no apologies to make for the part we took in the recent campaign. It cost us considerable in a financial way from which we expect no returns, for the candidates we worked for did not buy the influence or editorial utterances of a single editor in the State. Ours were never in the market. We lost in a good cause. We go down to defeat in glorious company, and had rather feel the approval of an enlightened conscience than to jingle of ill earned gains in a capacious pocket and be able to take trips to the mountains or seashore.



HON. D. U. FLETCHER

The "Leading Candidate" Who is Nominee for U. S. Senator

## Lily Locals

We have had some nice rains here during the past week

Rev. Henderson held services here last second Sunday and Rev. White the third Sunday

Misses Fanny Watson, of Arcadia, and Mary Mahon, of Jacksonville, attended church here Sunday

Mrs. W. N. Duncan has been quite sick for several days

Chas. Hagan and family, of Pine Level, attended church here last second Sunday

Albert Abbott, of Ft. Green, was a visitor here Sunday  
Miss Clifford Albritton, of Gardner, attended church here Sunday

Leslie Skipper and sister, Ethel, are home from Madison, where they have been attending the Normal

Mrs. Dave Whidden died here Thursday, after an illness of about ten days. She left a husband and two small children. They had been here about a month

Our community is stirred up over school matters. Instead of all pulling together and trying to have the best term we have ever had, several are trying to pull off and organize another school

Lily, Fla., June 23, 1908.

## Words of Praise

June 17, 1908.

EDITOR CHAMPION: While I regret more than I can express the defeat of the cause of temperance yet I am proud of the able assistance rendered by THE CHAMPION. It is a paper well worthy of public patronage because of its purity, moral culture, courage in advocating the cause of temperance which seems to be about the only county paper that did not fear the displeasure of the liquor influence and as this defeat may invite the call of a Wet or Dry Election and for future and similar service please send CHAMPION for life or till ordered discontinued to address of Charlotte Carlton, Nocatee W. CARLTON.

## Political Utopia

(Continued from Page One)

15 per cent of one year's gubernatorial salary, or \$750, in a primary campaign, and the maximum of his expenditures for a general campaign is limited to

\$500. Moreover, within fifteen days after the primary or election he must file a detailed report showing just how and where the money was spent. The candidate is not the only fellow who is hit. The chap who asks him for money is just as vulnerable to the law's vengeance.—Jacksonville *Metropolis*.

## School at the Orphanage

Closing Exercises June 30th, 7:45 p. m., 1908.

### PROGRAM

- 1 Song, "You May Have the Joybells" School
- 2 Prayer
- 3 Welcome..... Emily Douglass
- 4 "The Famine,"..... Longfellow Lucy Littlefield
- 5 "The Gossip," Pantomime..... Fourteen Old Ladies
- 6 Red, White and Blue Drill..... Thirty Little Ones
- 7 Operetta, "A Day in Flowerdom, in Two Acts

### CHARACTERS

Papa Jacques Rose, (Mayor of Rose Arbor)..... Sam Sadler  
Mama Jacques Rose (His Wife)..... Callie Sadler  
Red and White Roses (Their Daughters)..... Juanita Valdez and Ethel Sadler  
Flora, (Queen of Flowerdom)..... May Belle Linhart  
The Chicklet..... Ruby Sadler  
The Moss Rose (A Spinster)..... Sallie Lewis

### BUDS OF THE ROSE ARBOR

Miss Lilac..... Amelia Bates  
Miss Lily..... Vincie Dubois  
Miss Bluebell..... Emily Douglas  
Miss Dahlia..... Aquilla Cason  
Miss Fern..... Nellie Wells  
Miss Daisy..... Lucy Littlefield  
Miss Pink..... Jennie Lee  
Miss Ivy..... Pearl Douglas  
Miss Violet..... Clara Davis  
Miss Hibiscus..... Ada Andrews  
Miss Hidrauger..... Flora Brunley  
Miss Forgetmenot..... Addie Pierce  
Pansy (Master of Ceremonies)..... Roy Wallace  
Sunflower (A Gay Bachelor)..... Phillip Lewis

Other Flowers: Wilson Lee, Moody Oliver, Ed Sadler, Victor Davis, Isaac Boyd, Arnold Bates, Rembert Lamb, Perry Lewis, Oliver Cason, Von Johnson, Esdras and Dewey Littlefield, Lewis Bates, Theo. Wells, John and Royster Oliver, Eli Strange

### THE FAIRIES

Lillie Sadler (Queen of the Fairies), Lee Douglas, Minnie Lewis, Florence Douglas, Mabel Wright, Lula Boyd, Rosa Belle Littlefield, Lucy Ruth Oliver  
8 High Culture..... Callie Sadler  
9 Six O'Clock in the Bay..... Chorns, Sixth Grade  
10 Phantom March. A Drill

We invite our friends to attend these closing exercises. The people of Arcadia are very kind and generous in the support of the Home, and we appreciate this more than we can express in words. We desire all of you to come Tuesday evening, in our new auditorium, at 7:45. The children have done a good year's work in school.

Yours for the children,  
MOTHER BRAN.

## Timely Views and News

Look out for the eclipse of the sun next morning. You won't need to stay away from

The voice of the people may be the voice but sometimes it is the chastening God who for a time we pass under the rod.

Ex-President Grover Cleveland died at Princeton, N. J., June 24. Mr. Cleveland was the only cratic president the United States has had years. He was 71 years of age and leaves four children.

The State Executive Committee will meet in Sonville on the 26th to canvass the official returns and announce the winning nominees of the second primary. Until their report we cannot give out the names of all the winners, for the reports are not unanimous.

The defeat of Bob McNamee, the anti-prohibition candidate for State Senator for Hillsborough County will give prohibitionists throughout the State satisfaction as this gentleman has figured large in wet and dry campaigns in various counties and been given the credit of making them stay

The Republican party last week in National Convention at Chicago, nominated Secretary of War, Wm. H. Taft, for President of the United States and James S. Sherman, of Utica, New York, for Vice President. The ticket is regarded by Democrats as an easy one to beat with W. J. Bryan as Democratic nominee.

We trust our readers will pardon us these reflections on the campaign. It is not our intention to follow them up by others. We are sick and of politics. We accept our defeat, not cheerfully, but tearfully, hoping against hope that things will not turn out so bad as we expect, and that we all live to see a better day for Florida and a choice elected next time.

THE CHAMPION office has "caught up" with politics and will now turn their attention to the production of that famous inimitable, unexcelled, tistically Neat Printing." We have done a deal of this work during the past few months owing to the extraordinary rush of work have been unable to give it the painstaking care that has for our printing so wide a reputation.

Those editors who have nothing but unkind slanderous flings for Governor Broward, probably it their duty to advise him as to what he shall or not do, but it is too much to expect that a man blood in his veins will take the advice of his critics. They might better save themselves the trouble of attempting to dictate to one in every way capable of managing the affairs pertaining to the Governor's office.

The *Starke Telegraph* editor, in reciting reasons why Gilchrist should be elected Governor, said, "When DeSoto County went dry several years ago, the Punta Gorda voting precinct gave the 'dry' majority in the county. Mr. Gilchrist lives in Punta Gorda and his neighbors say that the 'dry' majority in that precinct was largely due to personal efforts in favor of prohibition." The *Starke* editor hits the truth as seldom in the rest of his article as he did in this his word should be taken under oath. Punta Gorda, out of a population of two hundred votes, thirteen years ago, gave twelve "dry" votes. This is not heresy but fact from the official records in the Court House at Punta Gorda. The prohibitionists of DeSoto County have to learn that General Gilchrist ever worked for prohibition in their midst. At the election of 1895, Wauchula, Pine Level, Arcadia, Zolfo, Avon Park, Bowling Green, and Owens each gave more "dry" votes than Punta Gorda. We trust our editors as much as in them lies, stick to the truth. They might find some good things that are true about the General.

## The Nominees

Some of the nominees of the recent primary somewhat in doubt, and the Official count of June 17 will be necessary to remove this doubt, but so far we have been able to tell the following is a list of State nominees: United States Senator, Duncan Fletcher; Governor, Albert W. Gilchrist; all Bryan Delegates to the National Convention, Basil Bowden, Chas. F. Eaton and A. S. Man. The Road Commissioner, between Royal C. Dunn and K. Jackson is still in doubt, both sides claiming victory.