

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT

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Tallahassee, Friday, April 5, 1907.

Jeff L. Davis is now editor of the White Springs Herald. In last week's issue he said: "Let's all pull together for White Springs. This is where we live."

The Tampa Tribune says: "Enter the Tallahassee solons and their retinue of voluntary and involuntary attendants. Here's a chance for the peonage spotters."

A great deal has been said about lobbyists in the public prints during the recent weeks. Now let the Legislature keep its eyes open that ex-State officials, and maybe some present State officials, do not do the lobbying act.

The Live Oak Daily Democrat says: "It is reported that Hon. Walter Kehoe, one of Florida's bright and brainy men, will be a candidate for congress in Congressman Lamar's district. There will be something doing up in that district if Col. Kehoe does enter the race."

His many Tallahassee friends were delighted to have popular Andrew Gray, of the business department of the bright and newsy Live Oak Democrat, with them during the first days of the week, and we congratulate him on the good work that secured the election of his young brother as one of the pages of the House of Representatives.

The True Democrat extends congratulations to Hon. W. Hunt Harris, President of the Senate, and Hon. Eugene S. Matthews, Speaker of the House of Representatives, on their unanimous election. Both are deserving of the high esteem in which they are held by Floridians, both have clean records, are experienced, and our Legislature has begun as if they meant to do something in the interest of the people of Florida.

The Industrial Record Company, of Jacksonville, will in June issue a special Immigration Edition of its most valuable publication. It has received the unqualified endorsement and support of the State Board of Trade, the Jacksonville Board of Trade, the steamship lines, naval stores factors, lumber men, etc., and should receive encouragement and patronage from every point in the State. A representative will soon visit Tallahassee. Lend it all the encouragement possible.

Dr. E. S. Crill, one of the best known and most highly respected public men in Florida, represents his district in the Senate again. While in the city during the Legislature he makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. W. H. Markham, and his hosts of Tallahassee friends are always pleased to welcome him here. While State Treasurer, Dr. Crill resided in Tallahassee, and Tallahasseeans feel that he partly belong to them, and many of us would like to see him occupy the Governor's mansion for four years.

Just after the primary election that defeated his Czarish Constitutional Amendment Drainage Scheme by a crushing majority, in an interview Mr. Broward was accredited with having promised that he would have passed at this session of the Legislature laws that would cause "weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth!" Was the paragraph under the heading in his message, "The Right of the Ruble to Correct Information," intended as the first dose?

While traveling from point to point, making stump speeches during the drainage campaign, Governor Broward, the supposed servant of the people, who sacrificed much time from his office, and threw the dignity connected therewith to the winds, on almost every occasion accused all editors who opposed him in his plans and schemes as being "owned, controlled, subservient to some interest, tools of corporations," etc., and before that, of "selling space with sentiment thrown in." Could he prove such charges? Is he any better than we, that he should not be criticised when he deserves to be?

A REMARKABLE DOCUMENT.

"You may fool all the people sometimes, some of the people all times, but you can't fool all the people all the time."

For the first time in the history of the country, perhaps, a Governor of a great State has felt called upon to devote a large portion of a public document to the airing of his personal spleen against certain newspapers, calling them by name. In his message to the Legislature now in session, Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward undertakes to cajole the members into making certain criticisms of himself a misdemeanor and punishable by heavy penalties.

Of course the attempt is made, it is alleged by the Governor, for the public good, and to protect the Board of Internal Improvement against slander. But it will be recalled that the criticisms complained of have been directed in the main against the Governor. That is what hurts.

That is what makes him squeal. What a rattling of bones in the grave of the illustrious warrior and statesman of whom the Governor is a namesake must have taken place when that message was read, if those long passed away have any knowledge of the fantastic didoes cut by those bearing their names throughout the ages. What a whimper to come from a Napoleon!

For years Florida laws have been considered too unfair to the newspaper publisher, and would have been greatly modified ere this, but for the many doubtful statesmen who want a shield for themselves—to prevent just criticism.

No one has room to doubt what would have followed a departure from the truth by these papers in criticising the Governor. Libel suits would have been pending all over this State. The prisons would perhaps have been filled with editors—for it is well known the Governor does not hesitate to carry a point—honorably if he can, but carrying the point is the main thing.

The Governor's wail is not unlike that of a type of boy found at every public school. He is usually overgrown, loud-mouthed and really formidable in appearance, but let some little fellow come along with courage enough to enter into combat with him. The big fellow immediately sets up a howl and rushes off to tell teacher. Every reader of the True Democrat has heard the derisive laughter that greets such an act.

Precisely in this manner has that part of Governor Broward's message been received.

The True Democrat feels honored that it is one of the papers the Governor has asked the Legislature to spank and put to bed. It has had occasion to criticise his methods of government, his usurpation of local authority belonging distinctly to the various counties, his foolhardy squandering of the people's money in a foolish project for foolish ends. But in every instance we have been prepared to prove each material allegation. Therefore, we have nothing to regret, nothing to take back, in fact nothing to do but to reiterate every material allegation made in these columns against the Governor or the Internal Improvement Board.

They are all true. That's what hurts.

The True Democrat extends a special welcome to the members of the Legislature and to brethren of the press who may come to Tallahassee during the session of the Legislature to visit and make themselves at home at the office, where they can read all the papers to their hearts' content. This invitation is particularly extended to those newspaper men who are now also law makers.

What queer material "the mighty," by accident is sometimes made up of. Governor Broward has shown in his message how severely he winces under criticism and the defeat of his pet schemes. Could he not be just as successfully criticized on his political record in Duval county, where he is perhaps best known, and as a defier of law a filibuster. People who have lived, and do live in glass houses, should not throw stones.

Eureka! Yes, I Have Found It at Last

Found what? Why, that Chamberlain's Salve cures eczema and all manner of itching of the skin. I have been afflicted for many years with skin disease. I had to get up three or four times every night and wash with cold water to allay the terrible itching, but since using this salve in December, 1905, the itching has stopped and has not troubled me.—Elder John T. Ongley, Rootville, Pa. For sale by Tallahassee Drug Co.

GOVERNOR AND NEWSPAPERS.

In the year of Our Lord—in the land of liberty—the birthplace of a free press, a governor of a sovereign State from his exalted place as chief executive of six hundred thousand human beings, makes utterance to an exudation of twaddle regarding newspapers that would make a Russian press censor turn green with envy.

On the whole the Governor's message is a very tame and mediocre production. It is pronounced in being more conservative than his past public record had given us the right to hope.

He will now class in one respect though with such governors as Pennypacker; such politicians as Platt, of New York, and as the champion of "gag laws" and "press muzzlers" as are known in monarchies, when truth and publicity must be kept dark.

We respectfully suggest that the Governor's proposal is not only without excuse in justice and reason, not only injurious to the highest public interests of the great majority, but that it would be entirely ineffective, since no Florida jury would render a verdict of guilty under it, and it would be unconstitutional.

Take an instance: The Governor asserted during the late campaign that statements made by the Times-Union were grossly false and misleading, dictated by the desire to deceive the people in a matter of great public concern. These statements have now been upheld by decisions of the courts and maintained by the investigations of the irrigation and drainage experts in the field. But if the law proposed by the Governor had then been enacted, a mandamus could have been secured, and that source of information denied the people.

Now one question for the Governor: If the newspapers shall be punished for making untruthful, false or malicious statements as to the candidate, how shall the candidate be punished who makes false and malicious statements as to the course, character or purpose of a newspaper? Will the Governor tell us why he desires to protect A against B, but has no care for the safety of B when attacked by A? Is it not true that candidates have been more guilty in this particular respect than newspapers?

Who is to determine the truth? Will the candidate or official undertake this? Will not the truth be a question asserted and disputed according to factional spirit and alliance? Where the factional allegiance dominates in the contention of politicians, will not the truth be determined to the self-satisfaction of each unit?

Is a personality involved in the case of the Governor?—Times-Union, 4th.

"ROOSEVELT OUT-ROOSEVELTED."

After giving Governor Broward credit for all the good things in his message, the Tampa Tribune of the 3d says:

"It would have been well, however, if some benignant spirit stopped his hand ere the Governor penned the last paragraph of his message. Probably no public document has shown such a complete collapse from being an instrument declarative of freedom to one so full of the evil intolerance and despotic utterances of a czar. Herod is out-Heroded; Roosevelt is out-Roosevelted. That any sane man with the liberal and democratic environment of the twentieth century should be capable of a deliberate attack upon the freedom of the press is, we confess, quite beyond our powers to understand. This absurd paragraph in the message is so absolutely contradictory of the sentiment that precedes it that one has to read it twice before really believing that the words are there and that he is not the victim of an hallucination. Is it possible that the Governor allows a petty vindictiveness to control him? That, fretting under newspaper criticism which he has, at times, brought upon himself, he makes this foolish attempt to retaliate? Well, of course, his recommendation in this respect will meet with the scorn and condemnation it deserves, as we hardly think there is one member of the Legislature so subservient as to lift his voice against the hard working body of newspaper men who have been in the foremost ranks of those who have raised Florida to her present prosperous condition."

A Criminal Attack

on an inoffensive citizen is frequently made in that apparently useless little tube called the "appendix." It's generally the result of protracted constipation, following liver torpor. Dr. King's New Life Pills regulate the liver, prevent appendicitis and establish regular habits of the bowels. 25c at all druggists.

Hard Times in Kansas.

The old days of grasshoppers and drought are almost forgotten in the prosperous Kansas of today; although a citizen of Codel, Earl Shamburg, has not yet forgotten a hard time he encountered. He says: "I was worn out and discouraged by coughing night and day, and could get no relief till I tried Dr. King's New Discovery. It took less than one bottle to completely cure me." The safest and most reliable cough and cold cure and lung and throat healer ever discovered. Guaranteed by all druggists. 50c and \$1. Trial bottle free.

That Hon. T. A. Jennings, of Pensacola, will be the administration candidate for Governor is the assertion of the Orlando Democrat, and it offers circumstantial evidence to that effect. But it is all in the nature of hearsay evidence.—Short Talks, Times-Union.

We have that editorial, but without reproduction of it until Hon. T. A. Jennings is heard from on the subject. Why should the present administration have a candidate for Governor? Had not each of the present holders of positions better be looking out for his own election. The Governor's Private Secretary, Miss Jefferson Bell, of the Comptroller's office, and a number of other department clerks, the Orlando Democrat, says gave him the information. [Since the above was put in type Hon. T. A. Jennings is out in an interview in Pensacola Journal defining himself clearly. We will publish same next week.]

The young man or lady who is so void of principle, sense and rising as to snarl up his or her lip when some respectable gentleman or lady passes by and speaks in a polite way, ought to be abolished from civilization. They think they are the whole cheese, when the truth is, they are nothing but the thin cloth which abounds the cheese.—Our Southern Home.

Do not worry about it, my brother, for every community, unfortunately, have at least a few of just such characters; but, fortunately, they "cut very little ice." It is well to remember it takes a variety of curious things to make up this good old world of ours.

The reports of Messrs. Holloway, Croom, McLin and various other officials are neatly printed on a very good grade of paper. No one can now conscientiously complain of the work of the State printer.—Palatka Times-Herald.

And no one, that we know of, is kicking. The present printer is doing neat and prompt work, and is justly being complimented for it. He is different from his predecessor, I. B. Hilson, who always went on the plan of rushing it out in any old shape, so long as it was accepted and paid for and he got the money.

Senator Zim, of St. Augustine, is being prominently mentioned as a possible candidate for commissioner of agriculture in the primary next year. There will be others.—Live Oak Democrat.

If we mistake not, Senator Zim has denied that he would be a candidate against Mr. McLin, and we are of the opinion he said in his newspaper that he would endorse and support him for reelection.

Editor W. H. Maypoles, of Our Southern Home, puts it thusly: "The most consoling part of an editor's life, since the abolishment of the free railroad passes, is in his being a good, first-class journeyman printer."

Hon. W. Hunt Harris yesterday introduced in the Senate a bill asking for an appropriation to build a lock and dam across the head of the canal that flows out of Lake Okeechobee into the Caloosahatchie river. The amount of the appropriation asked for was \$25,000. An appropriation for this purpose is deserving. Along the banks of the Caloosahatchie river is some of the most fertile land and largest orange groves in this State, but these groves have been flooded on several occasions during the rainy season when Lake Okeechobee overflows, and if a lock and dam across this canal will prevent these overflows an appropriation is deserving, and should be made by the Legislature. We are informed by parties who have visited the Caloosahatchie river that this lock and dam will not only prevent the ultimate devastation of the rich valley, but will increase the value of property in the valley and add many hundred thousand dollars to the wealth of the State in orange groves and truck farms. The people in the Caloosahatchie valley want relief and want relief immediately, and they claim that the lock and dam proposition is the quickest and safest manner in which they can hope for relief from these overflows. If a rich section of Florida can be saved by such a small appropriation, then the people of this valley should be considered above anything or any section by the Legislature in making appropriations during this session for deserving and beneficial purposes.

Come to Monticello, Fla.

FOR THE

GALA SPRING FESTIVAL!

April 25th, 26th and 27th.

Benefit of Christ Church Guild Rectory Fund.

PERKINS OPERA HOUSE.

Three Magnificent Performances. Thursday Night, April 25th, REFINED VAUDEVILLE. Songs, Sketches, Classical and Rag Time By trained vocalists and dramatic artists Friday night, April 26, the comic opera, "THE MICADO!"

With a Star Cast. Elegant Costumes! Delightful, Sparkling Music! Forty people on the stage. Professional singers; beautiful women; handsome men; bewildering ensemble of grace and beauty.

The Greatest Event in North Florida

Saturday Matinee, April 27, 2 p. m. A little folks' program. Children artists. Drills, Marches, Sketches and Songs. Come to any or all performances.

A special coach will leave Tallahassee on the 26th for Monticello to hear the "Micado," and return same night. Tickets for the performances, 50 cts. Reserved seats 25 cents extra.

Telegraph or write for reserved seats to MISS OLIVE ULMER, Monticello, Florida.

The True Democrat gladly welcomes the return among its valuable exchanges of the Christal River News, and wishes Editor King the best success of his life.

The Women's Easter edition of the Ocala Banner was an excellent newspaper in every respect. The Banner has been a good, all-round newspaper for lo, these many years, however, and the venerable editor, Frank Harris, has been with it all the while. No newspaper in Florida has, perhaps, done more good for the State.

The Florida Legislature will convene in Tallahassee next Tuesday. Then we shall see what we shall see.—Lake City Reporter, March 29.

Right you were, my brother; we are seeing some funny and peculiar things every day now, but among the greatest to develop so far is Mr. Broward's "weeping, wailing and gnashing of teeth" proposed legislation. Have you read his message through carefully.

Whooping Cough.

I have used Chamberlain's Cough Remedy in my family in cases of whooping cough, and want to tell you that it is the best medicine I have ever used. W. F. Gaston, Posco, Ga. This remedy is safe and sure. For sale by Tallahassee Drug Co.

Let our legislature keep its "weather eye" open for the Insurance Scheme, the School Book Trust Scheme, the Dispensary Scheme, or any other kind of old schemes that may be looked forward to with longing eyes, and that may mean the building up of political machines, so that perhaps in greater abundance may be furnished to the chosen and faithful for political work they will be expected to do to keep some of the "masters of the people" in office.

His Dear Old Mother.

"My dear old mother, who is now 83 years old, thrives on Electric Bitters," writes W. B. Brunson, of Dublin, Ga. "She has taken them for about two years and enjoys an excellent appetite, feels strong and sleeps well." That's the way Electric Bitters affect the aged, and the same happy results follow in all cases of female weakness and general debility. Weak, puny children, too, are greatly strengthened by them. Guaranteed also for stomach, liver and kidney troubles, by all druggists. 50c.

The Tallahassee Democrat reports that two State officials, Hons. B. E. McLin and H. Clay Crawford, went fishing on the Wakulla river recently and caught sixteen mullet with hook and line, and the Democrat adds that "it will be hard for even Editor Jordan to accept this story without some misgivings." But he does accept it without the slightest doubt, for it has not been long since he reported a similar incident at Punta Gorda. It depends on the kind of bait used.—Punta Gorda Herald. That settles it, we took the gentlemen's word for the catch, and now we believe the voters of Florida are satisfied that both those gentlemen know what kind of bait to use for catching even the Florida mullet. The bait used for catching the Wakulla mullet, however, were the regular wiggling worms, they were fishing with for bream. Messrs. McLin and Crawford are both good fishermen, as well as faithful State officials, and the True Democrat esteems and respects them both.

Out of Sight.

"Out of sight out of mind" is an old saying which applies with special force to a sore, burn or wound that's been treated with Bucklen's Arnica Salve. It's out of sight, out of mind and out of existence. Piles, too, and chilblains disappear under its healing influence. Guaranteed by all druggists. 25c.