

THE NEW ENTERPRISE  
Madison, Florida.

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COLUMBUS B. SMITH, Editor.

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THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1907.

There is nothing like it—the Gadsden county Sumatra tobacco.—Quincy Times. Oh yes there is, brother. Plenty more like it in Leon, Jefferson and Madison. The only difference between the Gadsden and Madison kind is that the Madison kind is, probably, a shade better.

Col. Peter Knight is reported as having gone to Hot Springs with his family for a stay of about six weeks. Of course he knows his business but he would better be at home hustling about for evidence to clear himself from the charges made against him by editor L'Engle. Looks like that much touted criminal prosecution for libel is being unnecessarily delayed.

W. B. Crawford, son of Hon. Clay Crawford, and a bright young man, has bought a controlling interest in the Pensacola Evening News and assumed the editorial management thereof. He promises many improvements in the paper and already the editorial page shows marked advancement. There's something on it these days. Success to the News and its new editor.

The Punta Gorda Herald has figured it out that it will cost at least \$20,000 for a man to make the race for governor. If this is a fact—and figures, you know, don't lie—we rather think there won't be so many gubernatorial candidates on the primary ticket next year, notwithstanding there are so many candidates now in newspaper sight. "Money makes the mare go" and the lack of it, we opine, will prevent a good many would-be governors from making even a start.

At a meeting of the State Board of Pensions held July 10th the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, that persons entitled to pensions under Chapter 5600, Acts of 1907, who apply for the amount allowed in case of total disability, must submit the affidavit of a reputable physician stating specifically the personal ailment and conditions that render the applicant entirely helpless and incapacitated, physically or mentally, for any work or business.

Cromwell Gibbons having returned from his four months stay in Cuba with, it is said, a "big bunch of coin," we may now look out and listen for political rumblings from his direction. "Gibby" has political bees buzzing about his head all the time and it is a well known fact that he thinks he would fit very nicely in the gubernatorial chair. Whether or not a majority of Florida voters can be brought to think the same way is altogether another question, but then "Gibby" has plenty of nerve and with enough of the coin of the realm connected with it there's no telling what might happen.

Of course the alleged conspirators, Knight, Stovall, the Judge and all the others, have said their emphatic say and denied in words of indignation and wrath the charges which editor L'Engle made against them. It was the expected which happened—they couldn't do anything else. But they also say that they will see to it that L'Engle is properly and persistently prosecuted in the courts for criminal libel. That is more to the point. The people of Florida are crying for a final disposition of the charges and the courts are the proper places to prove or disprove charges as serious as these. If the alleged conspirators are innocent then they should have no difficulty in establishing their innocence to the satisfaction of the public and, we repeat, failing in this they should and we believe will, receive the contempt which their alleged conduct merits. By all means, gentlemen, if you are going to make a court case out of it, do so now while the entire matter is fresh in the public mind. By way of parenthesis we might state that from the looks of things editor L'Engle seems prepared to prove every charge which he has made. He certainly has the best of the argument thus far.

Alleged "brainstorms," "traps," and epithets of like character are very poor and flimsy arguments against cold type and photographic copies. It won't do, gentlemen. Meet fact with fact, argument with argument, truth with truth, and then you may hope for a popular verdict of established innocence. The people have no interest whatever in the man, don't care much whether he is "suffering from brainstorms" or has fallen in a trap. But the people are widely awake to the fact that the man has brought ugly charges against other men and has bolstered up his charge with the very best evidence. If you can disprove the evidence you owe it to yourselves and the entire people of Florida to do so and that without delay. Stop talking about brainstorms and the like and get busy to acquit yourselves.

The following very pertinent and timely paragraph is from the Orlando Reporter-Star. "July and August seem to be the months when the business men of all cities cease to advertise. Probably because from time immemorial their forefathers always called the months of July and August "dull season." Who makes the dull season? Why the merchants who allow these months to come and go without advertising. Do people quit wearing clothes during these months? Then why should the merchants cease advertising? Get up a mid-summer sale—start something to quicken the pulse of trade. The season is only dull because you make it so. This is the time to make business.

The Quincy Times gives this sage and timely advice: "Watch the politicians and keep your powder dry." Don't matter so much whether you keep the powder dry or not, but there never has been a time in the history of the State when the people should watch the politicians as closely as now.

J. F. Sherwood, president of the Live Oak Publishing Co., since its organization, and managing editor of the Live Oak Democrat, has sold his holdings in said company and is now in the far west attending upon an invalid child. The departure of Sherwood is a distinct loss to Florida journalism and this editor especially is sorry that he has left us. His successor, Chas. W. Irvin, though a new man in the State's newspaperdom, has taken hold in proper style and together with "old man" Dixon will continue to make the Live Oak Democrat one of the most readable papers in Florida.

Jacksonville thinks that she is threatened with an influx of whiskey dealers from Georgia when that State is made "dry" by its legislature, and is talking about a raise in the price of license. Incoming dealers, or those who contemplate moving into Florida, had as well make up their minds that if they do come their stay as liquor dealers will probably not be for long. Sentiment in Florida is rapidly drifting towards State prohibition, and we now predict that when the legislature meets in 1909 there will be something doing along that line.

Governor Broward, his wife and eight daughters, together with a sister have gone off on their summer tour and will visit New York, Jamestown and other places. It is said that the furniture for the new governor's mansion will be selected and purchased by Mrs. Broward while in the cities of the East. The governor should by all means extend the visit to Washington and while in that city call on the president to prove to him that Florida people agree with him in his anti race suicide theories.

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