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RESOLUTIONS OPPOSING THE PARCELS POST LAW

Delegation from Lynchburg Before
Senate Committee

Messrs. C. G. Craddock, C. E. Caskey, O. B. Barker and D. B. Ryland, prominent business men of Lynchburg, Va., appeared before the United States Senate Committee on postoffices and postroads the past week. They were introduced by Senators Martin and Swanson.

Mr. Caskey stated to the committee that the Board of Trade of Lynchburg had passed resolutions in opposition to the proposed Parcels Post and that the Retail Merchants' Association and Chamber of Commerce had concurred in asking him to represent the views of their members. He said that, if the Government entered into the carriage of merchandise as a business instead of carrying the same incidental to the carriage of instruments of intelligence as now, this departure would lead to other forms of iniquitous paternalism. In many of the towns and cities of Virginia, he said, new industries were growing up. In New England manufacturers had been strongly established. For the Government to carry the merchandise of New England concerns into the markets of Virginia at the same price as that charged manufacturers and dealers for a few miles' haul would cripple such home industries and retard further industrial growth. Local merchants had been active in all movements for industrial growth. To disable them, for the extension of trade of distant retail mail order houses would deaden towns, destroy the home markets of farmers and impair land values. If the purpose was not to build up the business of retail mail-order houses to the proportionate loss of local dealers, the mail order people would not be so active in appearing before the committee and pushing advocacy through farm journals and others supported by their advertising. The farmer, he said, would receive little benefit, because any rate avoiding a big deficit would be too high for carriage of farm produce. If the rate were so low as to make a loss, this deficit would be a subsidy. The Interstate Commerce Commission and State Railroad Commissions, he said, had authority to reduce express rates and merchants are active now to secure such reductions. Government ownership and operation of such utilities, he said, would result in socialism and in nullifying local self government. The proposed Parcels Post, he said, would go far to void the action of counties in voting local prohibition of the liquor traffic. Mail order whisky houses, he understood, wanted it to enable them to ship in their goods.

Charles G. Craddock of Craddock, Terry & Co., of Lynchburg, said his firm dealt with about 10,000 retail merchants. In some single cases these merchants had on their books 500 farmers. The business of the country, he said, is yet largely done on credit. The proposed Parcels Post, he felt sure, would put one third of the merchants out of business and disable another third from ability to extend credits, support their local newspapers and assist in local enterprises. It would deaden the towns and centralize resources and wealth in distant mail order centers. Our Government, was now asked to haul merchandise for such distant concerns, he said, at a cost less than cost of carriage based on rates made in densely populated European countries, wherein the hauls are only a tenth of what they are in the United States and wherein postal employees are paid only half or one-third of what they are paid in the United States. Either an army of extra employees would be necessitated with much additional equipment or letters and newspapers would be greatly delayed in delivery.

Governor Judson Harmon of Ohio, has accepted an invitation from the General Assembly of Virginia to make a visit to Richmond. He will be unable to come before the last week of the Legislature, however to speak.

EFFORTS TO PREVENT CHINESE STARVATION

Relief Committee Makes Appeal
To Christians of America

HELP MUST BE SENT AT ONCE

Sufferings May Continue Until the
Harvests in May

The Central China Famine Relief Committee of Shanghai, China, has sent out the following appeal in behalf of the Chinese famine sufferers:

As you read this letter 2,500,000 people in China are facing starvation. A great effort is being made out here, but apart from the Chinese government, the chief reliance of the Central China Famine Relief Committee is upon the generosity of England and America, and the utmost efforts will fall far short of preventing all the loss of life.

China is facing a tremendous calamity. Most of the two and a half millions who are in such dire need of help, are in the same district where the famine raged last year. The Chinese are in the midst of a struggle for freedom, and unable to do much for their own people, indeed one great reason for the revolution is the recurrence of famine conditions.

Throughout a large portion of two populous provinces schools are closed, business is at a standstill, the weak are becoming beggars, families are being broken up by the sale of wives and daughters, often into the lives of vice, and the people are lapsing into apathy and moral chaos.

In previous famines, people all over America have given as individuals, but it is now proposed that throughout the nation, each city act as a unit, cable at once its willingness to help raise a fund to be sent on as fast as it comes in, and on May 10th cable a total sent to date, with a message of good will in the name of the city. We shall transmit these messages to the Chinese press and publish them in a booklet to be presented to officials and members of the National and Provincial Assemblies, and thus not only help to avert a great calamity but make the elevation of suffering the opportunity of strengthening the friendship between China and the United States.

The time is opportune. America has long been looked on by China as a disinterested friend. The return of a large part of the Boxer indemnity made a deep impression. The instantaneity of the Revolutionary party upon a Republic shows how great is the influence of the United States. All these are beginnings, and with the opening of the Panama Canal will make China a neighbor in a new sense. The demonstration of friendliness on a national scale will in this hour of need arouse great enthusiasm among the men of new China, and the effect upon trade and political relations and on the progress of civilization and Christianity will be incalculable.

The funds raised will be used to avert starvation and at the same time to start China upon a policy of conservation. It is not enough to day to pour rice into the rat-hole of famine. It is planned to give relief only as return for labor on canals and dykes, except in the case of those unable to work. Competent foreign and Chinese engineers will co-operate in making all such work permanent in value in preventing future floods. The famine committee believe that the new government will adopt a program of conservation, and until this can be carried to completion, shoulder the responsibility of relieving famine conditions, thus making the committee which is presenting this appeal the last of its kind in China. The new China is awake to the situation and many influential men are already pledged to such policy.

The famine will be at its worse in February and March, and will continue until harvest in the middle of May. It is imperative that money begin to come in before the end of February if great loss of life is to be avoided.

Better Feeling Now Exists Between All Classes

GREAT changes have come about recently. There is a BETTER FEELING EVERYWHERE AMONG ALL CLASSES. In fact, there is but one class now. Why, in England princesses associate with grocers' wives, all working for the common good.

Here in America the same feeling of fellowship, of equality, prevails. There has been a GREAT AWAKENING.

THE RICH ARE RISING MORE AND MORE TO THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF WEALTH; THE WORKING CLASSES ARE ESCAPING FROM THE TYRANNY OF THEIR LEADERS.

Now laboring men will refuse to be subject to the tyranny of a few fanatics. They will learn to speak for themselves.

There are NO MORE ARISTOCRATS. We are all brothers, brothers!

State Sunday School Convention at Harrisonburg in April

Among the notable gatherings in Virginia in 1912 will be the State Sunday School convention in Harrisonburg in April. Rockingham county in which the convention will meet is not only one of the largest in the State, but probably has more Sunday schools than any other. There are more than 140, and they are all large and enterprising. They promise to fill the convention to overflowing. If the rest of the State does not attend. The whole population of the county are taking much interest in the meeting.

Besides the leading Sunday school men of the State who will be present and speak, a large number will attend from other States. Mr. J. Shreve Durham of Chicago, International Secretary for the Visitation and Home Departments, will make several speeches, and Mr. W. G. Landes, State Secretary for Sunday Schools in Pennsylvania, is also expected. Rev. A. L. Phillips, D. D., of Richmond, Superintendent of Sunday Schools for the Presbyterian church, Rev. J. T. Watts of Richmond, State Secretary of the Baptists, and Rev. G. F. Green of Richmond, Field Secretary for the Virginia Methodist Conference, are all connected with the movement, and will attend and speak.

Striking Coincidence of Events at the V. M. I.

The following clipping from the Richmond News Leader of a recent date refers to Hon. John N. Tabb of Gloucester and Hon. T. L. Tate of Pulaski, and at present a member of the Board of Visitors:

"In the year 1862 two boys matriculated at the Virginia Military Institute the same day, and were 'rats' together. They were assigned to the same squad and same company in the New Market corps. Their company roll call was 'Tabb, Tate,' etc."

"Thirty-eight years later within fifteen minutes of each other, they matriculated their sons at Virginia Military Institute. The sons were assigned to the same squad and the same company, and again the roll was, 'Tabb, Tate,' etc. And so it remained for four years."

"In the present House of Delegates, half century since the first date mentioned, Gloucester county is represented by the Senior Tabb and Pulaski county by the Senior Tate."

"And once more the roll is 'Tabb, Tate,' etc."—The Cadet

Hiding his identity under a number and a postoffice box a man, who, it is practically certain, is a wealthy bachelor of Washington, has broken into the public prints through a unique advertisement. Under a big head "Wanted," the unknown stated that he wished to correspond with available women, no age limit being mentioned, and added that he was ready to give \$12,000 for a wife. He is 49 years of age.

FREDERICK T. MARTIN.



Member of New York Society

OVERDRESS BY GIRLS SHOCK TO MODESTY

Simple Garb Among School Girls
Rarely Seen

MANY USE PAINT AND POWDER

No Other Country as United States
So Indulgent to Children

The February issue of "The World's Work" says:

Modest people in many cities are shocked at the tendency to overdress by young girls; for we seem to be suffering from an epidemic of youthful immodesty in dress. One does not need to read the report of the New York Child Welfare League to learn that the school girl of today has abandoned the simple and charming garb which made her so enchanting, and has taken to hobble skirts, Louis XV. heels, gossamer hose, corsets, coiffure and cosmetics—yes, an astonishing number of girls even to powder and paint.

It's a pity. Of course the feminine young person thus makes herself a sad caricature to an older eye; but the trouble is with the mothers of such children. For the correction of such an impropriety must come by the strong hand of authority. And fashion seems to have got the better of maternal taste or power.

The subject may seem, in some moods, a mere passing fad; but it is really a very serious misfortune. In the first place, a nice girl should be permitted to make a guy of herself; in the next place, overdressing costs money and time, endangers health, and distracts the mind from the more important interests of that most important and delightful period of existence—school days. Not to speak of snobbishness, overdressing causes envy, and a great many other unpleasant things.

There is no other country in which misses are permitted to attire themselves in the fashion of their mamma's and married sisters. No English peeress, no German griffin would dream of allowing her daughter to do up her hair, don a corset, and take to high heels, while she was in school.

In a word, the percentage of children of comparatively wealthy parents who overdress is less than the percentage of the poorer—this, in spite of the fact that it has been commonly supposed that offences against good taste and modesty are more often committed by the rich. Overstepping the proper bounds of youthful modesty, is a serious fact.

Recommend the Improvement of the Race of Men

The Virginia Board of Charities and Corrections have made a report on the increase of the feeble-minded in Virginia, and through them a criminal class, along with recommendations for their care by the State, and a law barring the marriage of such people, which will appeal to any one who reads it.

Medical science has already raised the age limit of man, and it would seem that its recent accomplishments in annihilating disease would add much more to longevity.

Once eradicate the epidemics and moral scourges, and man would become a superior physical being, until in generations to come he would be a far finer specimen than the average man today.

Dr. A. H. Stewart discourses in the Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette for February concerning the personal factors in longevity.

The first requisite, according to this eminent authority, is to be born well. Therefore, to be born of feeble-minded parents is a sin against longevity, as well as against the child and future generations, and hence society, too.

It is the duty of parents to raise healthy children, and it seems also to place a responsibility on the State which licenses the feeble-minded and the criminal to marry. The Board of Charities asks that license be denied to this class.

It is time we are giving some attention to that class whose heredity is their greatest curse, and harmful to the State.

WOULD NOT ABOLISH STAFF OF GOVERNOR

The Colonels Serve Important and
Useful End

The Governor's staff is one of those questions which the newspapers with a cultivated sense of humor seem to be unable to treat seriously. The Newport News Times-Herald, however, lays aside its weapons of wit for once to make a strong plea for this portion of the gubernatorial establishment, as follows:

The Governor has many social functions to perform and he cannot accept every invitation that he receives. But when not present upon occasions here and there he has a personal representative on the ground, a man of culture and good manners to represent him and do the honors. Frequently there are functions at the Executive Mansion in Richmond, where the presence of members of the staff is indispensable.

You may call this "fuss and feathers" if you like, but life would be very stale and stupid without its social functions.

But that is not all to be said in favor of the Governor's staff. The members are his personal friends and are in position to keep him advised as to what is going on in various parts of the State; what the people are saying and what movements there may be in the interest of progress and the public welfare. Through them he keeps in touch with all the people whom he represents, and that must be a great help and comfort to a man in public life.

What harm can there be in such an adjunct? It costs the State nothing; it aids the Governor and it helps to foster the spirit of chivalry in the Old Dominion.

The prejudice against the staff seems to be in the title of the members. Abolish the "colonel" if you will, Mr. General Assembly, but save the staff.—Richmond Journal.

Gospel of Good Health Preached on Farmers' Train

To carry the gospel of good health to farmers, the State Health Department has sent Dr. A. W. Freeman, assistant health commissioner, to accompany the agriculture train now operating on the Shenandoah division of the Norfolk and Western railroad.

So successful was the health campaign conducted last year in connection with the Farmers' Institute trains that the health department, with the co-operation of the agricultural department and the railroad, plans to cover as much of the State as possible this season.

Last year Dr. Freeman carried with him models of sanitary and insanitary outbuildings, and models of insanitary wells, and devoted special attention to those diseases which most afflict rural Virginia, typhoid fever and hookworm disease. While pursuing the same line and distributing literature, the lecturer this year will devote much time to "preaching the gospel" of fresh air, and to instruction in the prevention of consumption.

"This is a most important aspect of our educational work," said Health Commissioner Williams, in discussing the matter, and our educational work is in many respects the most important of all health duties. Much money and much sickness can be prevented by instructing the people in the methods of self-protection. The best results of health work in this and other States are to be attributed directly to the better information of the people."

Richeson's Last Hope Gone

The last hope of Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson, under death sentence for the murder of his choir girl sweetheart, Avis Fennell, has been destroyed by a statement from Governor Foss that he will countenance no efforts to save the self-confessed prisoner.

Governor Foss in conversation with William A. Morse, junior counsel for Richeson, said he would not submit to the executive council any petition favoring Richeson.

Richeson is sentenced to die in the week of May 19th.