

Editorial Page

Election Laws Under Scrutiny

One of the controversial matters that was discussed in the last state campaign was the simplification of the ballot in Virginia. That, this matter which at times grew bitter between the Democrats and Republicans, has not gone altogether unnoticed, is shown by the fact the Gov. Pollard in his message to the General Assembly, now in session, proposed a change in our voting laws. The general assembly acting on this advice has already under consideration relative to simplifying the ballot in our state.

It has always been the contention of the Republican party that the ballot has been too confusing. This has been borne out to some extent, perhaps, by the fact that thousands of ballots are thrown out at each election. It would now seem that the Democratic party is determined, through their leader, Governor Pollard, to investigate this charge, and remedy the situation. Several bills are under consideration, relative to this situation. One would have a voting machine, another would have a method to use a cross mark opposite the party, the voter intended to vote for, signifying his intentions for that party in full. There is also under consideration a bill to require the Republican party to hold a primary the same as the Democratic candidates are required to do. From all of this it would seem that it is a foregone conclusion, that Virginia is to have two parties in the future. Fortunately our group in the Valley have little trouble in getting on the books. And, they hold fair elections here too. Seemingly, our greatest hold-back is to get our people to pay their taxes and register.

Pay Your Subscription

There are many whose subscriptions have become due since the first of the year and some that were carried over from December. We are trying hard to give you a standard newspaper, it can only be done by your co-operation. Your newspaper cannot carry your subscription mail out many over-due subscriptions anymore than your grocer can carry your bill, on-and-on. We shall again soon, if you care to have the paper continue, PLEASE PAY UP. Thanks.

Thoughts of a Subscriber

Unless the Negro can learn to cooperate on a large basis the RACE will meet serious obstacles in the very near future.—Dr. Vernon L. Johns, President, Virginia Seminary and College.



MY LAND

It is a rich and rare land; It is a warm and full land, It is a dear and rare land, It is a native land of mine.

It is a land where hearts are brave; It is a land where hearts never waver; It is a land where hearts die to save her, It is a land where hearts die to save her.

It is a land where hearts die to save her; It is a land where hearts die to save her, It is a land where hearts die to save her, It is a land where hearts die to save her.

It is a land where hearts die to save her; It is a land where hearts die to save her, It is a land where hearts die to save her, It is a land where hearts die to save her.

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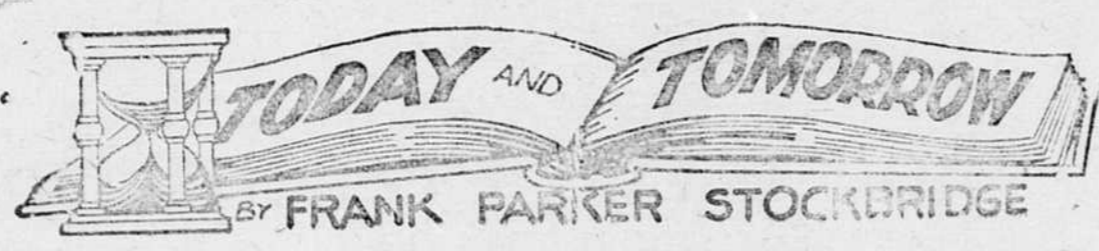
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CORNSTALKS

Just as the invasion of the European cornborer has put up to every farmer in the corn-growing regions the problem of how to get rid of his cornstalks and hold the pest in check, new inventions for the utilization of this farm waste for making paper and also a substitute for lumber have been perfected.

GAS

The International Red Cross is preparing for the next war. One of the certainties about the next war on any large scale is that poison gas will be used on a larger scale than ever before. War is no longer an affair of kings and hired armies; it is whole nations against whole nations. The aggressor in the next great war will

not wait for the enemy to assemble an army but will try to wipe out a whole city by dropping poison gas from the clouds.

What the Red Cross is looking for is some means of detecting the most minute trace of poison gas in the air. A prize of \$2,000 is offered to the successful inventor. And we call this a civilized world!

EMOTIONS

Anger, fear, worry, especially the latter, kill more people than "real" diseases, according to a report recently made to the New York Academy of Medicine. There is no such thing as overwork, either of body or mind. The body, given sufficient nourishment, will quit of its own accord when fatigue becomes too great, and a night's sleep will put it back into trim again. Probably no human being has ever used his brain to its full capacity. Men who have studied that subject say that most of us use less than a quarter of our power of thought.

But let worry, jealousy, fear of losing one's job, one's money or one's sweetheart, creep in, and the whole picture is changed. The emotional tension tires both mind and body, which cannot go on without violent stimulation, and the process of decay is hastened. Most of the deaths from heart disease and kidney trouble are the result of emotional tension rather than any real defect in the physical organs.

LIFE

With all the talk about the increased average length of human life, the age of seventy still remains the normal limit for the human being. So Dr. Louis Dublin, medical head of one of the great insurance com-

panies, reports. Only exceptional individuals live beyond 70, and in America the proportion who die between 65 and 70 is increasing. Yet the average American lives longer than those of his father's generation did, much longer than in his grandfather's time. That is because of illnesses which used to kill off babies, children and young people of both sexes are not so prevalent as formerly.

Every American baby born today has a reasonable chance of living to 55, which is the average length of life in this country, as against 43 in most of Europe. But the man who reaches 55 cannot count on more than fifteen years more of life with any degree of certainty, and the chances are that he will pass on in ten years.

COAL

Geologists of the Dydd South Pole Expedition have found coal in Antarctica. Great Britain takes occasion to remind the United States that considerable parts of the land there are under the protection of the British flag. Trouble-makers, especially the sensational newspapers which prefer war to peace because war is more "newsy" are already trying to lay the foundation for international strife.

If we ever do go to war against Great Britain it will be over something far more important than a coal-bed located where the temperature is always below freezing and usually 40 degrees or so below zero. Even if the coal were accessible it would not be worth getting over. Coal is losing its importance in the economic scheme of things because oil has become the principal fuel of the world's navies as well as the merchant marine.

Hear an Interesting Story of an Adventurous Life---

'The Man Who Would Be King'

The story of the life of John Mitchell, Jr.

by Roscoe C. Mitchell.

Watch for Date.

COVINGTON, VA.

The Bridget Club met at the home of its president, Miss Bessie Carter. Quite a few were present.

Bridget Lucy Norris came home after attending the Davis-Burks wedding. She reported a fine time.

Mrs. H. J. Adams was called to Roanoke, Va., to see her brother, who was so ill.

Misses Margree Barber and Virginia Harris spent the week-end in Iron Gate, Va., visiting Miss Leftwich.

The First Baptist Church is planning a men's day and women's day, so let us women stick together again in peace and harmony.

Rev. C. W. Ingram preached one of his fine sermons Sunday morning. The B. Y. P. U. was fine.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilliard Norris are visiting their daughter in Glen Ferry, W. Va.

Mrs. Eva Warwick is on the sick list. Mrs. Maud Harvey is feeling fine these days.

LYNDHURST, VA.

Messrs. Irvin and Maurice Aikward were the Sunday afternoon guests of Mr. and Mrs. James Reid.

Mr. Paxton Waler, of Waynesboro, was the Sunday guest of Mrs. Ruth Morris.

Misses Clara and Mabel Aikward gave a birthday party on the 15th in honor of their brother, Mr. Maurice Aikward, of Elizabeth, N. J. Games and music were enjoyed by all until a late hour, when refreshments were served. Those present were Misses Rhea and Ora Pryor, Eunice Reid, Blanche and Mary Brooks, Messrs. Theodore Briscoe and John Johnston, also Miss Nellie Johnston.

mas. The Elite Art Circle has had two meetings.

Mrs. Geneva Williams entertained the circle on January 15th and Mrs. Mayme S. Jones, on January 29th.

Mrs. Eliza Walker has returned from Burkaville, Virginia, where she has been taking a treatment for several months.

Mrs. Lilly Fields Carter has gone to Pittsburgh to take a position in that city. She plans to spend the winter out in Spring.

Mrs. Rena Alexander spent the week-end in Roanoke, Virginia.

Mrs. Edna Eaves, of Charlotte, N. C., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Henry Matthews, on Diamond Hill.

Mrs. Rosa Hale, who has been away for some time, is at home for the winter.

Rev. Cook and family, spent Saturday in Lynchburg on business.

Mrs. Edlow Morrison, of Washington, D. C., is with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Louise Morrison, on Ruffs Lane.

Dr. A. W. Pleasants was called to Roanoke a few days ago to see Mr. W. H. Preston, who at this writing is very ill. Mr. Preston is a Lexington man, he is now superintendent of the Roanoke Division for the Southern Aid Insurance Company.

Little Dorothy Fielding, the daughter of Mrs. Gertrude Russell Fieldings, was fatally burned at her home, on Diamond Hill, Sunday morning, January 26th, and died at Jackson Hospital Sunday night.

Dorothy was about five years old, an attractive and promising looking child. She seems to have caught fire while trying to get warm, and her clothes became ignited. She ran for help and her mother made every effort possible to extinguish the flame, but not until the child was burned, all over did she get the furious fire out.

KING DAVIDS SHOW

REMARKABLE PROGRESS.

THE IMPERIAL ORDER OF KING DAVID'S ANNUAL STATEMENT

At the close of 1929 all claims were paid except the claim of James Pettus, whose mother, Mrs. Mamie Pettus Craft, died two years ago, in February. She was a member of Star Hope Lodge No. 112, Prince Edward County, Virginia. We have advertised for him four times, but he has not been found. Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Mr. James Pettus will please notify him that the Imperial Order of King David is still holding \$100.00 for him, the death claim of his mother.

Every death claim was paid promptly, some within 24 hours after notification.

The Imperial Order of King David lost during the past year 93 members. Total amount paid \$8,825.00. We have added to the Order 1,278 new members.

We have a balance on our credit in the various banks of Richmond over \$19,000.00.

We take this opportunity to thank all of our members, co-workers, and deputies, whose names are too numerous to mention, for their faithful work and loyal support, and pray that God's richest blessings will rest upon them.

Mrs. A. G. Thompson Taylor, Grand Worthy Ruler, Miss Mary M. Scott, Grand Worthy Scribe, Mrs. L. P. Southall,

IN MEMORIAM

YATES—In memory of my dear wife and our mother, Minnetta Yates, who departed this life one year ago today, January 28, 1929.

We grieve for you when all is still, May God with you abide; Our mind is filled with sad regrets As on the day you died.

Dearest wife and mother, thou hast left us, We cannot see thy face no more; Nor hear thy gentle voice Until we reach the other shore.

Farewell, Minnetta, how we love you, How we miss you more and more; But God will keep you in His bosom Until we meet you over there.

Husband, A. Yates, and Children.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of our dear son and brother, Lloyd R. Lee, who departed this life six years ago, February 3rd, 1924.

Midnight stars are gleaming, Upon a lonely grave, Where sleeping, but not dreaming, Lies the one we loved, but could not save.

Peaceful be thy rest dear son, It is sweet to call your name, In life we loved you dearly, In death we do the same.

The moon and stars are shining, On a lone and silent grave, Beneath lies one we dearly love, But one we could not save.

His loving mother, A. M. Lacy Lee, sisters and brother, Everett



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It is a consensus of opinion here that something is dogmatically wrong with the colored group in Richmond; noted particularly when an attempt is made to get unanimity of action for proposed social, economic or community movements. It is also noted that there seems to be too much division in thought, as well as in action. We make this our concern for this week because we consider it of prime importance.

Let us give some attention to the historical background for this division or lack of cooperation. Subsequent to the War Between the States, the Negroes of Richmond developed more rapidly in education and business than Negroes in many parts of the South and their rapid rise in the cultural and business world was a wonder of that day. When there were only 10 colored banks in the United States, we had four in Richmond, and our cultural life was the model for other sections. The pioneer work done in the old Richmond High and Normal School was largely responsible for this.

Our large uneducated majority naturally allied itself to the few educated leaders and soon found itself divided into several camps, with two main groups which grew in power. A natural antipathy developed between these groups and all of our community efforts became partisan. Although the original Richmond Negro is almost extinct here, a good bit of this jealousy has seeped through into this generation and this is primarily what we see today in our lack of cooperation.

Another unfortunate thing happened. We lost a large number of the second and subsequent generations that graduated from the old high school: They went to New York, Philadelphia and other Northern cities and in their places we received thousands of Southerners, who had not had the advantages we enjoyed. Richmond's cultured group failed to encourage contact with these Southerners and denied them a splendid opportunity to imbibe our spirit, and this created a group hostile to native Richmonders.

These conditions are being gradually remedied. The educational institutions here are moulding this heterogeneous group of ours into one in culture and habits and points of view. In time this will give us a citizenry which will know how to cooperate:

In the meantime, the greatest need of the present is a loud-speaker to amplify the voices of our leaders. If the populace could hear plainly the voice of our leadership, they could more readily respond. There is enough profundity of thought and calibre of ability in the leadership here to accomplish the task of placing Richmond in the forefront of colored communities in America, if we only had a journal of sufficient power to command and rally the folk in big majorities.

Our ailment of non-cooperation is caused largely by the lack of a sufficient mouthpiece. The Planet is committed to the task of giving Richmond a loud-speaker to be used by any and all interests for the forward march that we believe is ours for the future