

TOWN OFFICERS AGAINST PROHIBITION. B. H. S. CONTEST VILLAGE ELECTION

Poorly Paid as Viewed by H. S. Says Abraham Lincoln Was Opposed to Prohibition. From the Detroit Journal of Late Date.

Fine Oratorical Contest Will Be Given at the High School March 12th. A Splendid Program.

Two Good Tickets in The Field. You Pay Your Money and Make Your Own Choice.

Franklin, Mich., Feb. 22, 1908.
To the Editor of the Birmingham Eccentric.

Dear Sir: I send you herewith enclosed a few thoughts in regard to our state government. I would like to send you also something about the Grand Jury, the Con. Com., which is not ready yet. Read this over and if you think it suitable for the ECCENTRIC, you may print it.

You know my intellect is not as strong as it once was and I dare not trust it without a review. A few more years and I will be at the end of my rope.

I have looked in some of the articles of Dr. H. Leonard but have not given them up. It is too deep and complicated a study for my 84 years. Twenty years back I would like to have tackled the subject in earnest. Will I ever see you any more in this world? Maybe not.

With kind regards,
H. S. Cox.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

It has been said by many of our leading papers, when the subject happens to be ripe for comment, that State Legislatures are not honest, about two-fifths as far as we can count on, and we know not how much of it is given up to prostitution and corruption.

Patriot Fleming, the Con. Com. are worse yet, for they could not end their labors without the proverbial itching-scratch.

I would like in this article to throw a little light on a certain kind of legislation. I mean that grand old code, which is the three grand pillars, viz: wisdom, strength and beauty of our own state government, found in our township organizations, whose deliberations and legislative work if it may be called so, is the nearest approach to honesty of any of our public deliberations.

One thing is never forgotten in the deliberations of our legislature, in so far as the salaries of all state officers, non-state officers, show many times have they been changed and raised.

Back again in the forties a statute appears to have been made, defining what shall be paid to township officers, making their pay as follows: To every township officer, for one day's work, \$1.50, for every half day, 75c and he is forbidden to charge any more, and it remains so to the present time. If a day's work was worth \$1.50, a half day would be worth 75c. I have been on the township board nine years, out of the 36 years of holding the office of justice of the peace at the above rates. The writer does not mention this in complaint, but to let the people who hold and administer the most important deliberations of this state government are too often passed by unnoticed by the higher toned, following legislators.

The writer has watched the proceedings of our annual legislative bodies when they assemble, and since it was changed to biennial sessions. For the last 60 years not one of the people's servants have made a move to give to township officers, even the per diem of a common laborer, thinking perhaps they do not know quite as much as themselves and will not complain.

What a disgrace our legislature has brought on itself by the Brierley scandal, but it was ever so, away back in Caesar's time, Brutus and Cassius got into a quarrel. It was a falling out of two friends of the Roman tri-umvirate, a case of the pot calling the kettle black, both twitted each other with taking bribes of the Sardinians. I hope not, but expect our Lansing investigation will not end as that did. White-washing finally, when they found they were in the bribery business, they dropped their quarrel and made friends again.

Hear what Cassius said to Brutus: "Oh Brutus have you not loved enough to bear with me when that rash humor which my mother gave me, makes me forgetful?" To which Brutus replied: "Cassius and henceforth when you are over-earnest with your Brutus, he will think your mother's child and leave you so."

Notice to Our Customers. We are pleased to announce that F. H. Honey and T. H. Forough, cold and lung troubles, are not affected by the National Pure Food and Drug Law as it concerns no quinine or other harmful drugs, and we recommend it as a remedy for children and adults. All druggists.

CARD OF THANKS.

Mr. Volney H. Lee and family, wish to thank their many friends for their kindness and sympathy.

Mr. V. H. Lee will be at his home on Brown Street, Friday and Saturday, and offers all household goods for sale.

The Ladies' Aid of the Baptist church will hold their monthly business meeting and dinner at the home of Mrs. Peter Anderson, in Troy, March 11th.

Editor The Journal: The Journal recently printed an excerpt from a sermon delivered by the Rev. A. Raymond Johns of the Wyandotte Methodist Episcopal church; the pastor's theme being "Lincoln and Moral Reform." The minister spoke for prohibition and said that he believed that if Abraham Lincoln were alive today he would be fighting for prohibition. No aspect was a basis for this belief. As Lincoln favored temperance, Lincoln did favor prohibition. He was unalterably opposed to it and expressed himself in the following strong and unmistakable terms: "Prohibition will work a great injury to the cause of temperance. It is a species of interference with itself, for it goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetite by legislation, and in making crimes out of things that are not crimes. A prohibition law strikes a blow at the very principles on which our government is founded. I had no objection to laboring to protect the weaker classes from the stronger and I can never give my consent to such a law as you propose to enact."

"Until my tongue shall be silenced by death I will continue to fight for the rights of men."

Men of the mental caliber of Lincoln cannot be found of the outside of prohibition. A review of the lives of the great men of the nation, from Washington, Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams, and so on, demonstrates the truth of this assertion, even as does the attitudes of the foremost thinkers of the world.

Regulation of the liquor traffic, along practical lines such as are embodied in model license laws is the solution of the liquor problem. Meanwhile the prohibitionists will have to repudiate the utterances of Abraham Lincoln.

President Lincoln Model License League.

FARMERS ARE IT EGGS ACTLY

Brewers and Distillers Worrying About the Poor Farmer When Prohibition Comes

The brewers and distillers are becoming deeply interested in the farmer these days. Their interest is of a very different kind from that of the farmer, who is interested in the amount of money they pay for grain, and the number of bushels they get. Their figures are about right on the number of bushels, but away off on the money they pay for corn and barley. They figure corn at 75c per bushel and barley at \$1.00 which is more than double the average price given in the United States' statistical abstract for 1906. They intimate that there would be no market for these bushels if liquor manufacturing was prohibited. They entreat farmers not to allow prohibitionists to destroy the market for their grain.

Let us note a few facts. The figures for 1907 show that the farmer gets 10 percent of the grain crop of the nation. It does not seem like a very hard job to figure out ways in which it could be utilized.

There is nothing the farmer is to note is this: After the liquor manufacturer has sufficiently rotted the grain to extract his poison, he then feeds it to hogs and cattle, or sells it to feed and hogs are put on the market in direct competition with other stock that is raised on wholesome grain. Stock feeders who use this by-product of breweries would have to purchase grain from the farmers.

Third, The farmers could do like the old Hoosier told Dan Voorhees, "Raise more hogs and less hell." There are men who now buy 5 cents worth of pork once a week for their families, that should, could and ought to offer a pork-club, or a porter-house steak every day, if the liquor traffic were abolished; plenty of women and children to wear the shoes made from the extra hides. Plenty of work for open men to manage the pens that the pig-breeder would be encouraged by families that have too long been living on half rations.

Yours sincerely,
M. J. Carey.

\$100 paid by Dr. Sheep for my recent case of grippe or acute cold that a box of Preventives will not break. How is this for an offer? The doctor's cure was a failure. The doctor's remedy was a failure. The doctor's cure was a failure. The doctor's remedy was a failure.

Mr. William Rife, of Royal Oak, was a business clerk in Birmingham, Monday of this week.

The Literary society of the Birmingham High School will turn over its meeting of Thursday evening, March 12th, for an oratorical contest, to be participated in by eight of the members.

The High School of Michigan has been divided into districts, each school of which is to have a contest. The winners of these local contests go to the district meeting and compete for the championship of the district, then in turn the winners here compete for state championship. The district in which Birmingham is, meets at Fenton, March 28, 1908.

The contest at the High School, March 12th, at 7:30 p. m. is to be a benefit for the Senior class. More time and work is being put upon this meeting of the Literary than upon any previous meeting of the society. The general admission is as usual, fifteen cents, the tickets may be obtained from the pupils. It has been the custom to turn over the meeting for the benefit of each year's graduating class, ever since the society originated. All previous meetings have been exceptionally well attended and it is hoped this one will come up to par.

The program is as follows:

I. Music, Overture, "Moonshine."

Orchestra

II. "Character" of Lincoln, Charles Streeter.

III. "Life of Lincoln" Frank Walker.

IV. Music "American Patrol" Orchestra.

V. "Florence Nightingale and the Red Cross" Katherine Berz.

VI. "Patriotism" Eula Schlaack.

VII. "The Negro" Jessie Reid.

VIII. Music "Old Alabama" Orchestra.

IX. "Growth of America" Grace Lach.

X. "Child Labor" Grace Lach.

XI. Vocal Solo. To be selected.

XII. Music "The American Flag" Lillian Stauch.

XIII. "The Power of Public Opinion" Ella Smith.

XIV. Music, "Paeonmaker" Orchestra.

That Birmingham has at last aroused herself enough to put two tickets in the field for a village election is a fact. For many years past the annual caucus has steadily, year after year, named the officers, as only one ticket has been given to our voters. Attempts the past three or four years, to name an opposition ticket have all died a boring, but this year two tickets are presented to you and all is well.

At the regular caucus held Friday evening last, Feb. 28th, the votes on the different nominees ran from 35 to 38, and this caucus nominated a ticket called the Citizens' ticket.

President, Almoner Whitehead. Clerk, George H. Satterlee. Treasurer, Charles J. Shain. Assessor, Thomas H. Cobb. Trustee, two yrs., Cassius W. Crawford.

Trustees, two yrs., Volney Nixon. Trustee, two yrs., James W. Cobb. Trustee, one yr., Chas. H. Schlaack. Library Trustees for three years, Martha Baldwin, Verona L. Post, For two yrs., Adeline L. Stearns, Belle W. Bigelow.

For one year, George H. Mitchell. Edward R. Smith. Saturday evening, very nearly as many enthusiastic and interested voters met at the town hall, for, as they said, business, not for or frolic, but with a lively move, nominated the People's ticket.

For President, George E. Daines, Clerk, Guy L. Watkins. Treasurer, Fred G. Crawford. Assessor, Maurice R. Blair. Trustee, 2 yrs., Durward B. Wilkinson, William Eugene Smith, I. Lee Truax. Trustee, one year, Walter Nichols, Library trustees, three years, Mrs. William E. McClellan, Mrs. Mary B. Cooper.

Library trustees, two years, Mrs. Emma C. Snow, Mrs. Fred G. Crawford. Library trustees, one year, Dr. John M. Ramey, Dr. Charles M. Raynole. PLATFORM.

I. That the Board will occupy room in the Library-Municipal Building, where the rent will be free instead of paying \$75 yearly for council chambers in a house.

II. That in building street crossing, sidewalks, covered gutters will be made to allow free passage of water at all times instead of from 4 to 6 inch sewer-pipes placed under the walk, which easily clog with rubbish and ice.

III. That surface drainage and sanitary system will be thoroughly and intelligently considered as to outlet construction and the best manner of carrying money for the same, and a full report submitted to the citizens as early as possible; which report may be used as a basis for proposals for action by the people.

IV. We believe that water pressure should be maintained 24 hours a day.

V. We believe that the D. U. R. should give us a passenger waiting room instead of compelling patrons to wait in the open air.

VI. We believe that horse snow-plows should be employed to clear the snow early mornings and whenever necessary.

VII. We believe there should be organized a fire company, to take care of the hose and tools for fighting fire, and that all fires the Chief of the fire department should direct the company.

Good for Everybody. Norman R. Coulter, a prominent architect of the Belvoir Building, San Francisco, says: "I fully endorse all that has been said of Electric Bitters as a tonic medicine. It is good for every body. It corrects stomach, liver and kidney disorders in a prompt and efficient manner and builds up the system. Electric Bitters is the best spring medicine ever sold over a druggist's counter; as a blood purifier it is unequalled." At Charles J. Shain's and Cobb & Cobb's drug stores.

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