

The Bulletin

C. S. Stanton, Publisher. Alfred Holman, Editor.
B. B. Page, Business Manager.

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"Ma" Ferguson's Troubles

There seems to be a disposition on the part of a good many people in Texas to treat the present governor of that state as though she were a man, and examine into her official conduct since she took office last January.

There are various charges and insinuations of divers derelictions, and counter charges from her impeached husband that these charges and insinuations are merely political tactics; and after the manner of political investigations it is likely that the main issue will be obscured behind some screen of strategic smoke. But at least the raising of a fund of \$300,000 to defray the expense of a special session of the legislature looks like business, if it is actually true.

Bootlegging has been dragged into the affair, but in a country where so much of it goes on it cannot at this distance be regarded as the basis of the principal grievance. There is more or less talk about public contracts, but there always is such talk, public work must be done by somebody and there seems to be no feasible way to prevent the contractors from making a little money.

More serious, and more distinct as a source of public damage, has been "Ma" Ferguson's use of the pardoning power. That power is given governors to enable them to modify hard cases under the law, and correct errors that may have crept into criminal trials, although it has been made so difficult to convict a criminal of anything in this country that there is not often much need of it for that purpose. But "Ma's" pardoning record since she took office now exceeds 1100 crooks turned loose on society, and of that the people of Texas certainly have a right to complain.

They have been stripped of a large part of the protection of the criminal laws, and any thorough "investigation" should have that fact in mind and show some of the results of this jail-delivery policy. It would not do to have other governors following "Ma's" example.

Painless Dentistry

"The rumble of trucks passing the dental college is causing patients to dental clinic."

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