

JUST A MINUTE, BROTHER FARMER VOTER OF THE SEVENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

You are, of course, aware that the Primary Election is coming on pretty soon, and we will be asked to support someone for Congress to succeed Mr. Page.

Now, there are about 250,000 people in the Seventh District and only about 12,000 can be said to live in towns; the others live in the country and small villages, and are essentially farmers like you and me. Get this fact clearly in mind and then listen carefully to what I am going to say.

There are now four candidates for the nomination to Congress from the Seventh District; three of these are lawyers, and one is a combination business man, farmer, good roads advocate, newspaper editor and philanthropist—a man in sympathetic touch with every class of citizenship of the Seventh District, and who knows to the minutest detail the needs of the average man in every county he seeks to represent. I would have somewhat preferred a good farmer to represent the 250,000 of us farmers in the next Congress could one have been found to fill the bill, but since no bona fide farmer seems to be available for a candidate, I have decided to support the man in whom is combined the best qualities, not only of the farmer but of the business and professional man as well—a man who can equally represent all of the different classes of our citizenship and the whole of our industrial interests, many of which he has been instrumental in promoting.

I am unfortunate in having but one vote in the coming Primary; had I two votes I might cast one for any one of the worthy members of the bar who feel called upon to represent us farmers in the National House of Representatives. I am convinced that we have no stronger lawyers nor any more worthy citizens in the Seventh District than the three gentlemen of the Legal Profession who are opposing Mr. Varner in the coming Primary. But, Brother Farmer, I am going to give you seven fundamental reasons why I prefer Mr. Varner to any one of these gentlemen. Here are my reasons:

First—Mr. Varner has always been a loyal Democrat and worked hard and long, late and early, both in season and out of season for the supremacy of the Democratic Party. Not only has he given his time to the party in a personal way, but he has given the columns of his valuable paper to the cause of democracy, and given them without money and without price. These things the other gentlemen could not have done had they so desired since they did not possess so important a mouthpiece as the Lexington Dispatch; and it is not known that they would have supported the Democratic candidates without pay had they been in control of so important an organ of publicity.

Second—Not only has Mr. Varner been a fearless, hard-working, loyal Democrat, but in the midst of all his political activities he has found time to serve his fellow men—the farmers in particular—in a more material sort of way. For years I have known him to give both his valuable time and hard-earned means to the advancement of the best interest of the people, not only of his county but of the entire Seventh District as well. Thousands of dollars and weeks of toil have been unselfishly spent in an effort to better rural conditions among his fellow countrymen—and spent without saying a word about it to anyone or taking, or desiring to take, any credit whatever for having done so. I am convinced that it is a part of his nature to act thus.

On one occasion, Mr. Lincoln said: "All men act from selfish motives"; but, he had hardly made the state-

ment when he stopped the stage coach, got out and lifted three pigs out of a ditch and gave them to the mother, which was in distress over not being able to get them out by her own efforts. On returning to the stage, someone asked him where the selfishness came in in that act, and he replied: "I could not have slept tonight had I passed by and left that sow distressed over those pigs."

I am convinced that this is the brand of selfishness that has prompted Mr. Varner to do many of his acts



HON. H. B. VARNER.

of public benevolence. Perhaps our lawyer friends have done likewise, but so far I have been unfortunate in not having heard about it.

Third—Mr. Varner not only dreams dreams, but has been able to awake to a realization of his dreams. I would give a thousand times as much for a man who goes on doing good things and saying nothing, as for the man who goes on saying good things and doing nothing. It is the man who convinces me that he will do good things in the future by having done good things in the past that I favor. Our present advancement along all lines is due primarily and solely to the activities of dreamers. You and I dreamed of a model farm home for a number of years before we secured it; Fulton dreamed of the steamboat years before he sailed it on the Hudson, and Stephenson likely experienced nightmares over the steam-engine long before it thundered along the track. We need dreamers, we want dreamers, and we must have dreamers! only let us be sure not to send dreamers to Congress whose visions will be prompted by the desire to secure castles for themselves at the expense of us farmers who elect them. Bear in mind that if any Congressman goes from the Seventh District to Washington this year the farmers of this District will send him, since we constitute more than ten to one of our population.

To be more specific, I do not think that anyone would question Mr. Varner's having devoted more time and given more money in the interest of better schools, better rural health conditions, better live stock, better roads and better farming than any other private citizen in the State. Mr. Farm Demonstrator, I know you are not supposed to have anything to do with politics except to cast your own vote, but if you can select any one of the other candidates, or any other man in the State for that matter, who took \$500.00 of his own hard-earned money and gave it to one of your brethren to secure the continuance of the Demonstration work in his coun-

ty where the board of County Commissioners refused to appropriate it, I wish you would trot him out and let us have his picture. This was done to my certain knowledge by Mr. Varner for Davidson county some years ago.

Fourth—Since I am convinced that he knows the needs and desires of the Farmers of the Seventh District as no other man who has so far announced himself does, I am persuaded that he will lend his influence and energy to the passage of such measures in Congress as will meet our needs and promote our welfare, and at the same time not neglect the need of other important interests in the District. Perhaps any one of the lawyer candidates would do this if they only knew the conditions of the rural districts as Mr. Varner knows them. But, do they?

Fifth—Better roads is a prime necessity in this country, and in our district in particular. Sooner or later, we are going to have good roads if we have to build them ourselves and pay every dollar of the expense, but I feel that this should not need to be done. During the past ten years the Federal Government has spent at the rate of \$2,000,000 a year for good roads in Cuba, Porto Rico, Panama, the Philippine Islands, the Hawaiian Islands and Alaska—and how much in the United States? One-half a million and that for only experimental road-building. Why should we be taxed to build roads in Cuba and not be allowed to use some of our Federal Tax Money to construct roads by our doors? This condition has come about through our sending to Congress men who were not interested in internal improvements. It is unthinkable that Mr. Varner would not succeed in getting Federal Aid in the construction of some leading lines of post roads in the Seventh District. He has for some time been behind the good roads movement in the South, and has practically all of the good roads influence behind him, and with this peculiar advantage he could easily bring things to pass in the good roads movement that would not be even attempted by any of the other gentlemen.

Sixth—Mr. Varner's best efforts have been in the advocacy of measures which are for the uplift of public morals and private living. He was an ardent advocate of bus-legislation, and has been a tower of strength in the aid he has given the enforcement of the law. He has stood for measures and men and has never at any time followed the line of least resistance, but stood for what he believed to be right and for the best interests of the people regardless of consequences. In his newspaper he has stood not only for high ideals, but has year in and year out for nearly a quarter of a century fought not only the battles of democracy but for better living and civic righteousness. He has taken no middle grounds, nor sat on the fence, nor waited to get on the popular side. This is the kind of man Mr. Varner is and you always know where to find him.

Seventh—I am convinced Mr. Varner's acts have not been prompted by political motives, and nothing in Mr. Varner's life has ever led me to believe his political and benevolent acts were in any way prompted by selfish motives. Certain it is that he could not have had his eye on the place he now seeks.

I shall vote for Mr. Varner, and hope you will do likewise.

M. J. HENDRICKS,
Pudding Ridge Farm,
Cann, Davis County, N. C., May 1, 1916.

(Advertisement.)

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Something About May.

By "Observer."

Just where or how the month of May derived its name is not easily determined. What is regarded as authority, however, says the name originated from the word *Maiores*, the name in the original constitution of Rome. The old version that May was named in honor of Maia, mother of Hermes, is now said to be erroneous and was merely surmised because of the similarity of the two names.

With the exception of Decoration Day, the month is without a holiday or a day given special importance either by tradition or history. Up until half a century ago, the opening day of the month was almost universally observed as "May Day," when out-door festivals were held, and when a May pole was the central attraction. On the evening before May 1st, baskets of flowers were distributed from friend to friend, the distribution generally being in secret. The baskets were left on the door steps after night had fallen.

There are different versions of the origin of Decoration Day. Tradition has it that a German soldier who, coming to this country at the time the Civil War broke out, enlisted. After

the war was over he remarked that in Germany it was customary to scatter the flowers on the graves of soldiers once a year. This is supposed to be the origin of Decoration Day. In May, 1865, Adj. Gen. M. P. Shipman suggested this custom to Gen. Logan of the G. A. R. who immediately issued an order in which he named the day—"For the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country and whose bodies lie in almost every city, village, or hamlet churchyard in the land."

Elbert Bode Says

Park barred politics may yet put the country on the hog.

The way to keep the boy on the farm is to have a neighbor with a stump, good looking daughter.

None of the monarchs of Europe seem to be very keen after the 1916 peace prize.

The small boy only refers to what other boys are allowed to do when he wants to do something he shouldn't do or which he has been told not to do.

Fifty years from now it may be quite a distinction to be a member of the Society of Survivors of the Ford

Peace Mission.

The farmer's boy these days knows more about a carburetor and a differential than he does about a breaking plow and harrow.

Another man has been sentenced to 150 years' imprisonment. Even with reductions for good behavior that is going to be a lesson that he will remember for a long time afterwards.

Bernard Shaw, or some one of equal prominence, once said he would not be a mother for \$10,000. Possibly he couldn't find anyone willing to have him for a mother at that price.

When a girl knows you are coming to spend the evening and you find her with a raw onion breath, somehow you get suspicious that possibly your company isn't welcomed quite as ardently as you might wish.

An agitator thinks he is the whole country, and as the "whole country" unanimously approve his actions, he is kept busy smiling back his appreciation and thereby gets the reputation of having a smiling disposition.

The Rev. J. A. Cowing, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Jefferson city, Mo., has tendered his resignation because members of the church brook no smoking during their meetings.