

# The Laurinburg Exchange

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## DEMOCRATS CLAIM MAJORITY IN HOUSE

Expect to Re-elect Clark Speaker and Kitchin Leader—House Will Decide Tenth District Squabble.

Washington, Nov. 13.—Democratic house leaders now in Washington disagree with the Republicans who claim they have a majority in the next house. What the Democrats claim is a conservative list of the house giving the Democrats 219 members, one more than a majority. This does not include Meyer London, the Socialist, who has nearly always lined up with the Democrats, and the two independents, Martin, of Louisiana and Shaw, of Minnesota. On the other hand, the Washington Star, the Republican organ in Washington, claims only 27 members for the Republicans, with six "scattering."

Democratic leaders who have gone over the election returns carefully declare they will have a large majority and with the assistance of the independents and Randall, of California, who voted with and attended the Democratic caucus last session, will be able to re-elect Speaker Clark and Majority Leader Claude Kitchin, thereby retaining all of the present Democratic members with the \$250,000 or more of house patronage now held by Democrats.

Whatever happens there is sure to be a bitter fight. A prominent Republican said tonight that there are a number of Republicans from the west who will not support James R. Mann, of Illinois, for speaker. The regular Republicans declare Mann will be their candidate. So there you are. One Democrat who arrived tonight stated that there are a number of so-called Republicans elected on the Republican ticket who will not support any Republican for speaker but will vote with the Democrats for Champ Clark. These men, this member says, come from the far west where Woodrow Wilson swept the country in last Tuesday's election. Party fighting many states, it is claimed, has caused a wide breach in the Republican party and Republican members of Congress in some instances will not support the old line Republicans when the house is reorganized.

There is certain to be a contest over the 10th North Carolina district, Democrats and Republicans declare, no matter whom the canvassing board in North Carolina declares to be elected. Should Britt be given his commission it would be in his favor because it would allow him his seat and he would vote with the Republican organization. On the other hand, if Zeb Weaver, the Democrat, is declared to be winner, Weaver would be able to assist Democrats in organizing the lower branch of Congress. Considerable interest is shown here in the 10th North Carolina district. Every member available at this time and both sides are working day and night to see to it that each and every member possible is elected and counted.

The following are the states and number of congressmen claimed by the Democrats:

Alabama, 10; Arizona, 1; Arkansas, 7; California, 6; Colorado, 3; Connecticut, 1; Delaware, 1; Florida, 4; Georgia, 12; Illinois, 6; Indiana, 4; Kansas, 5; Kentucky, 9; Louisiana, 7; Maryland, 4; Massachusetts, 5; Michigan, 2; Minnesota, 1; Mississippi, 3; Missouri, 14; Montana, 1; Nebraska, 3; New Jersey, 2; New Mexico, 1; New York, 17; North Carolina, 10; Ohio, 13; Oklahoma, 6; Pennsylvania, 7; Rhode Island, 1; South Carolina, 7; South Dakota, 1; Tennessee, 8; Texas, 18; Utah, 2; Virginia, 9; Washington, 1; West Virginia, 2; total, 219.

### TENTH DISTRICT FIGHT.

Said Now That Fight Will Be Threshold in House of Representatives.

The contest in the Tenth congressional district, North Carolina is assuming national proportions and reports has it that the fight will be carried to the House of Representatives for final settlement, regardless of whether Mr. Britt is declared the representative again or whether Mr. Zebulon Weaver, Democrat, gets the seat. The board of canvassers and Buncombe county will meet Thursday morning of this week and officially go over the vote of that county, and upon their decision rests the fortunes of Mr. Weaver and Mr. Britt.

### Prominent Visitor in County.

Hon. D. C. Roper of Washington, D. C., brother-in-law of Mr. W. T. McKenzie of Gibson, has been spending a few days with Mr. McKenzie and other relatives in this section. Mr. Roper was formerly First Assistant postmaster general and resigned this post to become active in the campaign for President Wilson's re-election. Mr. Roper had charge of the organization of the field forces of the Democratic party in the various states and proved himself a most capable leader and campaigner. Mr. Roper arrived Wednesday morning to join her husband here and in a few days they expect to return to their home in Washington.

### 12,516 Bales to November 1.

Mr. W. T. McKenzie of Gibson states that figures collected by him for the Federal ginners' report show that up to November 1 there was ginned in Scotland county 12,516 bales of the 1916 cotton crop. Up to the same date last year there were 21,123 bales of the 1915 crop ginned. This year's ginning for the same period last year amounts to a little more than 59 per cent of last year's production.

## JOHN CHARLES McNEILL AND HIS WORK.

Henry E. Harman, Who Knew Poet In the Heyday of His Early-Won Glory, Discusses His Life and Work.

The South Atlantic Quarterly, one of the most interesting literary publications of the South, contains in its latest issue a magnificent tribute to the late "John Charles McNeill and His Work," by Henry E. Harman, Litt. D., author and critic. It is of special interest and is here reproduced:

"The thought of old, dear things is in thine eyes,  
O, month of memories!  
Musing on days thine heart hath sorrow of,  
Old joy, dead hope, dear love.

"Thy glory flames in every blade and leaf  
To bind the eye of grief;  
Thy vineyards and thine orchards bend with fruit  
That sorrow may be mute."

In the above lines, quoted from his famous poem October, John Charles McNeill perhaps reached the height of his brief career as a writer; and yet this one poem possesses merit enough to enshrine his memory in the soul of every North Carolinian who loves the beautiful. In the opinion of many critics, it is the finest poem ever written by a native of the State, and had he left no other literary legacy, this alone was enough to make him famous not only among his own people but to the world at large.

As I knew McNeill in the heyday of his early-won glory, he was one of the most lovable men and one of the most unpretending. Once when he paid me a personal visit in Atlanta, I somehow forced him to talk of his literary work in which I always took special interest. He told me how few things he wrote satisfied him, "and yet," he went on, "there are so many beautiful things in the world and these produce so many beautiful thoughts that I find myself writing more than I should. But, alas! the most beautiful songs escape me entirely. I am able only to catch and transcribe their faintest echoes." Then rising and walking in some excitement, which was unusual he said, "Ah, if one could catch and hold the heavenly music and the words long enough to put them on paper, how different our songs would be. But these escape us, and what we write is only the faintest echo of what we feel."

And that was the key to all the beautiful poems of John Charles McNeill. He was a born poet and heard the divine call, and the inspirations that came to him were so strong and powerful that when he wrote the lines they were disappointing to him. He always felt that the human song he put on paper was unworthy of the divine music which had illumined his brain under the spell of inspiration. This feeling, this trait, and this characteristic in McNeill's work clearly marked him as a genius of uncommon promise, and one of the sad days of North Carolina was the 17th of October, 1907, when the brave young master of a thousand unspoken songs passed beyond the great divide.

McNeill was the poet of Nature who could look across a landscape and see a poem on every hillside, in every meadow, and on the far stretches of every wooded mountain. His listening ear caught the music of a love song in every breeze and in the Winter's wind the echo of a dirge. To him all Nature was animate, living, breathing, saying things to man. In every pine top was the music of some invisible choir, and upon every landscape was laid the matchless reproduction of the painter's brush.

Each returning Spring brought to him the scent of fresh violets, and his soul went back to the time when the world was young and when the poets filled all the woodland with nymphs for men to love and worship. In Summer every lazy cloud that floated in the heavens was to him the emblem of liberty of which he so often sung. Each Autumn brought him new colors of matchless glory, and these fired his young soul with that nameless inspiration which found a worded outlet in that sweetest of all his songs, October.

I knew his love for the Springtime and I knew his love for the Autumn. Of these he had often spoken and was unable to decide which left the greatest impress upon his soul. The reader will remember that in his earlier works is a poem "To Melvin Gamou, Suicide," in which these lines appear:

"To have seen the sun come back, to have seen  
Children again at play,  
To have heard the thrush where the woods are green  
Welcome the new-born day;  
To have felt the soft grass cool to the feet  
To have smelt earth's incense,  
To have shared the laughter along the street,  
And, then, to have died in May!"

To many of the admirers of McNeill's poetry these are the finest lines he ever wrote, and they embody a wealth of tenderness and pathetic beauty. For in this remnant of his genius is to be found his great love of life and of Springtime, and his pity for the unfortunate who should choose to leave it all in the month when

"In leaf and blade life throbs and thrills  
Through the wild, warm heart of May."

Since our poet himself died during the glories of October, I have wondered what a poem in itself his untimely death was in the midst of all the Autumn splendor.

During the years when John Charles McNeill did such splendid

(Continued on page 8.)

## MAC CAMERON RECIPIENT OF GOLD-HEADED CANE.

Vance County Democracy Holds Big Jollification Meeting at Henderson.

The Henderson Daily Dispatch of Saturday, of which paper Mac Cameron formerly of The Exchange, is advertising manager, carried a three-column story of a big Democratic jollification meeting held at Henderson Friday night. This office has been favored with a copy of same and we are reprinting extracts from the article. Mr. Cameron, along with other members of the Dispatch's staff, received a handsome gift from the people of Henderson and Vance county as an appreciation of the paper's services in rendering a complete election news service. The following will be of interest to friends of Mr. Cameron here:

Rob Kittrell, known to the halls of the House of Representatives at Raleigh, spoke first. He thought that the American people had achieved the greatest victory in their history, and that the Democratic party had more cause for pride than ever before. Then he branched off to the election service that had been furnished to the people of the city and the county by the Daily Dispatch, and wound up his remarks with the presentation of a handsome gold watch to Editor P. T. Way as a token of appreciation of what the paper had done. The "silver-tongued orator of Vance county" spoke next, and J. C. Kittrell presented a gold-headed cane to H. A. Dennis, associate editor of the Daily Dispatch. E. M. Rollins, who has led the forces of education in Vance for the past several years, congratulated the county upon re-electing a schoolmaster to the highest office in the land, and he wound up by presenting another gold-headed walking cane to Mac Cameron, advertising manager of the Dispatch. R. S. McCain shared the view of the "some one" who said that no great achievement had been accomplished without the aid of woman, and he proceeded to tell how the Dispatch's newly-acquired facilities in the installation of one of the biggest linotype machines on the market had made the election service possible. His gift was to Miss Lena McMurray, city editor of the Dispatch.

Contributions for the purchase of these gifts were made by the people of Henderson and Vance county, irrespective of party allegiance, and dozens of Republicans aided the fund being started by the Democrats. The speakers said that the people here had received the best service of any city Henderson's size in the whole State, and some places even bigger, and that what had been given them was impartial, fair, and without tinge of any sort of an effort to hold back anything. Just here, in connection with the story, although it is taken care of elsewhere, it may be said that members of the Dispatch's staff who were the recipients of these evidences of appreciation, do themselves appreciate the thoughtfulness of the people of the county and the city, and can assure them that every member of the staff has found great pleasure in all that has been done, and that always in the future the same honest efforts to be of service to its patrons will be made by this newspaper.

### ROBINSON PLEDGES SERVICE TO DISTRICT.

New Congressman From 7th Thanks Friends for Their Loyalty During Campaign.

(Special to News and Observer.)  
Wadesboro, Nov. 10.—Lee D. Robinson, Congressman-elect from the Seventh District, when asked for a statement, said:

"After receiving the official returns from all counties in the district except Davie, Davidson and Randolph and although a liberal margin for my late opponent in these counties, I am glad to have received a majority of upwards of forty-four hundred votes. This is indeed very gratifying and I feel constrained to give the credit for such a magnificent showing to the loyalty of my friends throughout the Seventh District. A candidate never received more kind treatment in his home county and I am profoundly grateful to all who have worked so unceasingly here and throughout the district.

"It will be my earnest endeavor to serve the entire district and shall be the representative in Congress of all parties. On political questions I will be with my party."

Mrs. Easter Pitman.

Mrs. Easter Pitman died Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock in a hospital in the city of Raleigh following an illness of several weeks. The remains were brought here for burial Monday and funeral services were held from the Pitman home at East Laurinburg at 3 o'clock Monday afternoon, Rev. James Long officiating. The interment was in the Laurinburg cemetery.

Mrs. Pitman was about 45 years of age and is survived by a husband, J. B. Pitman, and the following children: Mrs. Bertha Hare of Salisbury, Mrs. Alice Hudson of Bladenboro, Misses Ethel and Ruth Pitman of Laurinburg, Rowland Pitman and J. W. Pitman of this city.

### Entertainment Postponed.

The entertainment, which was announced for this Friday night at the school auditorium, has been postponed indefinitely on account of the danger of an epidemic of diphtheria. There are a few cases reported in the community and it is thought best to take every precaution in order to get rid of the disease and its dangers. Another date for the entertainment will be announced as soon as it is thought wise to have it.

## DR. CLARENCE POE ADVOCATES SCHOOL INSPECTION.

Graded Schools of Laurinburg and Statesville Inspected This Week.

Medical school inspection work which is on the program of the State Board of Health to be done in various county and city schools this winter has already begun and is now in operation in Beaufort, Iredell and Scotland Counties. Dr. T. M. Jordan is this week making a medical examination of the school children of Statesville, while Dr. A. C. Bulla is engaged on the same work at Laurinburg. After finishing the work in the graded schools of these towns they will then take up the same work in the counties.

A medical examination for every school child in the State is no longer considered an expensive and unnecessary right of every child.

Dr. Clarence Poe, editor of the Progressive Farmer, says in regard to the importance of health work in the public schools, medical school inspection work in particular: "Not only must we reform our public school curriculum so as to give adequate attention to health subjects, but there should be a medical inspection of school children, a public campaign against typhoid, malaria, hookworm and tuberculosis. And sooner or later some plan must be worked out by which the stricken child of the poor may have as good medical and hospital attention—as fair a chance to win back life and health and strength—as the stricken child of the rich. And if this be 'socialism' make the most of it!"

## MEDICAL INSPECTION SCOTLAND SCHOOLS.

Begins Monday, December 4, and Continues to Holiday Season—Pupils Reading Circle.

By L. M. PEELE, Supt.

On the following dates the physician sent out by the State Board of Health will be at the schools named opposite the dates for the purpose of examining the school children for physical deficiencies. This examination, which our very progressive county commissioners have made possible, should be taken advantage of by every one in the county. That dull boy, found in every school, might be making his mark but for some slight defect, which the simplest operation would eradicate. It is to be hoped that all school will greet the examination on his arrival at every school on the dates named after each school.

Mason Cross High School; Monday, December 4, L. M. Peele, Gibson, principal.

Rockdale school; Tuesday, December 5, D. J. Walker, Gibson, principal.

Tabernacle school; Wednesday, December 6, Miss Covington, Old Hundred, R. F. D., principal.

Laurel Hill High School; Thursday, December 7, R. R. Walker, Laurel Hill, principal.

Erwinville School; Friday, December 8, Prof. Morgan, Gibson, principal.

Aberdeen, Monday, December 11, Janie McNeill, Laurel Hill, principal. Rachels School; Monday, December 11, Raymond Monroe, Laurinburg, principal.

Sneed Grove School; Tuesday, December 12, Prof. Brown, Laurel Hill, principal.

Woodville School; Wednesday, December 13, Fannie Wright, Laurinburg, principal.

Laurel Hill School; Wednesday, December 13, E. B. Cole, Laurel Hill, principal.

Oak Lawn School; Thursday, December 14, Miss Eugenia Cassidee, Laurinburg, principal.

McKinnon school; Thursday, December 14, Annie McLaughlin, Maxton, principal.

Spring Hill high school; Friday, December 15, E. G. Clary, Wagram, principal.

John Station school; Monday, December 18, J. A. Wilkins, John Station, principal.

Hasty school; Monday, December 18, Marie Monroe, Laurinburg, principal.

Caledonia school; Tuesday, December 19, Carrie McIntyre, Laurinburg, principal.

Leviner school; Tuesday, December 19, Louise Monroe, Laurinburg, principal.

McGirt school; Wednesday, December 20, Evelyn McGirt, Maxton, principal.

Wilkes school; Wednesday, December 20, May Bostick, Wagram, principal.

Murray school; Thursday, December 21, Sallie Smith, Laurinburg, care E. F. Murray, principal.

Watson school; Thursday, December 21, Ed Currie, Laurel Hill, principal.

## MR. ROBINSON GRATEFUL FOR SCOTLAND'S VOTE.

Popular Congressman-Elect Sends Note of Thanks to His Scotland Friends—Pledges Best Efforts.

The following note of thanks to the voters of Scotland county has been received from Hon. Lee D. Robinson of Wadesboro, with the request that we publish same in The Exchange. Mr. Robinson strikes a happy vein and pledges his best efforts in the interest of friends and country:

To the voters of Scotland County: It would be impracticable for me to write each of the voters of Scotland County, who were kind enough to support me in my candidacy for Congress from the Seventh Congressional District, in the election held on Tuesday, the 7th day of November, 1916, and I take this method of thanking each and every one of my friends for the loyal support which they gave me in said election.

No candidate for office ever received more loyal support than was accorded me in the late contest for which I am profoundly grateful. I desire to state to each and every one of my supporters that if I can serve them in any way I want them to feel free to call upon me. In matters political, I, of course will act with my party, but in matters non-political I will be the representative of the entire people of the District, regardless of party, and I want my friends of opposite political faith from myself to feel that I am their representative and want them to call upon me at any time that I can serve them.

Again thanking my supporters for the handsome vote which I received in the late election and assuring them of my appreciation I am,

Yours very truly,  
Lee D. Robinson.

## KEEPS SILENT A YEAR AND CURSES TUBERCULOSIS.

Baltimore Medical Men Indorse New Method of Treatment Involving Great Will Power.

Baltimore, Nov. 9.—Medical men of Baltimore are declaring the success of two novel methods of treating tuberculosis that have had a thorough testing out on Baltimore patients for more than a year.

In the one case a prominent Baltimore manufacturer, head of a big firm, kept silent for one year to give the tissues in his vocal organs a chance to strengthen and thus resist the spread of the tuberculosis infection. The other treatment has been tried by a number of patients. It involves the closing off of one lung to give the other infected lung a chance to recover.

Both these cases were handled at Eudowood Tuberculosis Sanitarium on the outskirts of Baltimore.

The silent treatment involved the exercise of great will power on the part of the patient. His conference with a noted specialist was his last word for a whole year. He kept in touch with his affairs and communicated on a pad. At the end of the year his voice was husky, but soon became normal, and now the spread of the disease has been stopped to such an extent that he has regained lost weight and is in fine health.

## NEWS OF HAMLET.

Big Celebration Held Friday Night; Negro Charged With Murdering Wife.

Hamlet, Nov. 13.—On Friday night Hamlet celebrated the election of President Wilson with a big torchlight procession, parading the principal streets and visiting a number of prominent citizens, among them the leading Republican and postoffice candidate. Hamlet almost to a man supported the Democratic ticket this year. Most of the Republican votes at this precinct were voted by the Croatans who live along the State line and by a number of negroes, there being more negroes voting this year than since the memorable Red Shirt campaign, which started in this county.

Last week a negro named Eli Byrd shot his wife and attempted suicide by taking bichloride tablets. His wife died Friday and Eli is now in the Richmond County jail awaiting the result of the poison. He has been very ill and the chances for recovery are slim. Before committing the deed he wrote a will addressing same to Attorney E. A. Harrill of Hamlet. In this will he gave \$100 insurance money to the attorney. The letter was written before the act was done and as soon as received from the mail Mr. Harrill communicated with the sheriff in an attempt to prevent the crime, but the sheriff was too late, the shooting having just occurred when he reached the house.

### Building New Home.

Mr. H. McN. Lytch is building a most handsome and commodious new home on his farm about two miles west of Laurinburg on the Laurel Hill road. Mayor W. D. Tucker of Laurinburg has the contract, which calls for a nine room residence and which is now in course of construction. As soon as completed Mr. Lytch and family will move into their new home.

### A Foolish Doctor.

An old darkey was sick and his physician advised him that he must live on chicken soup and must not go out after dark. After the doctor had gone he said: "That doctor may be very smart, but he sho' was talkin' foolishness when he tell a nigger he had to live on chicken soup and then not allow him to go out at night."—Ex.

## LAURINBURG CELEBRATES DEMOCRATIC VICTORY

Democrats of All Ages Join in Big Jollification and Love Fest Friday Night.

There was something doing in the old town Friday night of last week and the scene was one to arouse the interest and enthusiasm of the most reserved person in the county. The boys just naturally turned themselves loose and at that, it is not out of place to say, this was no place for Republicans. It was just a happy, good-natured, most joyful celebration and the informal invitation went out to "whoever will" to help do the thing up brown for Wilson, peace and prosperity. There was not a discordant note in the whole production and the outbursts of enthusiasm and unrestrained good feeling were spontaneous and flowed like the waters from a fountain of youth and eternal good cheer.

We had about forgotten to tell the occasion of the big "to-do," but it was not "Much Ado About Nothing," for Woodrow Wilson and the American electorate had succeeded in putting one over on Wall Street, the G. O. P. and Teddy R. et al. And there was nothing to it but to tell the world about it, and the world didn't give a tinker's d— how long the story was, because it made mighty good listening. And the boys kept the good work up long into the wee small hours—and they do tell us some of them have not got over it yet, just so overcome with joy that their wives are beginning to get "sorta uneasy about 'em."

It was everybody's celebration and everybody made of it a howling success. In fact it was about the biggest howling aggregation ever assembled in this neck of the woods—and we do not mean to speak disparagingly of the dogs. To tell the truth, it was the most unanxious thing ever staged here and all were agreed even to the smallest detail, because every fellow could celebrate according to the dictates of his own mind; and the women could talk all their blooming pleased and nobody was forced to keep silent and listen.

We don't know how it all happened and to save our gourd we can't even say just when the thing got started or who turned on the gas, but it was no time before the whole town was alive and every one was doing "his part." We have a faint, elusive recollection of seeing some folks on the street. There were folks walking and folks riding—nobody flying except in spirits; there were automobiles with women and children and pretty girls. And then they were some more folks and more automobiles and then some more women and children and the pretty girls just kept a coming. And there was a great crowd and the gosh-dardest, ding-bustedest noise you ever yet have heard. The people all seemed very much excited and were behaving in a most ludicrous manner, as if nobody cared what happened; and they didn't because they knew Woodrow would make it all come out right in the wash anyway. And the thing just kept going on and on until, well at last we went to sleep and the sun came up next morning just a shining the same as ever. And he was up a long time before lots of folks hereabout were.

But why should we worry? The sun is going to shine mighty bright for the next four years anyway, and there'll be plenty of time to get up, and do lots of other things.

## TO INVESTIGATE DEATHS FROM TYPHOID.

Deaths From Typhoid Fever No Longer Pathologically Warranted.

Not until recently, says the State Board of Health, has typhoid fever as a cause of death been at all questioned, whereas many other causes of death have been given searching investigations. But now when a death occurs from typhoid fever, someone is said to be to blame. A noted English sanitarian has said that every time one dies from typhoid fever, someone should be hanged. Aside from these views and in the light of modern medical science, typhoid deaths are now admittedly the result of sanitary blunders or criminal carelessness, and instead of a death from typhoid passing as providential, unavoidable, or for some mysterious reason, its source will be sought out and the responsibility placed where it rightly belongs.

The existence of typhoid fever bears the stigma of disgrace for two reasons. First, because we know more about its prevention and its filthy source than most any other disease and second, because its presence betrays filth either as to our food and drink or as to our personal habits. Ignorance is no longer a cloak under which to hide the disgrace of typhoid fever. We know all about it—how it is contracted, how it may be prevented and how immunity against it may be had for several years at a time.

### Spring Hill School.

A communication received at this office states that Friday, November 10, the girls basket ball team of Spring Hill High school and Antioch High school played a most interesting game, which resulted in a defeat for Spring Hill, Antioch winning by one point, the score being 14 to 13.

### A Parcel Post Sale.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Milton church, near Laurinburg, will hold a parcel post sale at the home of Mrs. E. F. Murray Friday afternoon, November 24, beginning at 3 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.