

HIGHLANDER DEMANDS FAIR PLAY FOR BAILEY

Takes the "Big Four" Newspapers to Task For Employing a "Subsidized Republican" Correspondent, Whose Chief Duty According to Highlander, is to Defame Mr. Bailey, Democratic Candidates, and Praise Mr. Morrison and Mr. McLean.

SAYS CHARLOTTE OBSERVER, WINSTON JOURNAL, ASHEVILLE CITIZEN, AND WILMINGTON STAR, IF THEY WANT THE PEOPLE TO BELIEVE WHAT THEY PRINT ABOUT MR. BAILEY, "WILL HAVE TO GET SOMEONE BESIDES A SUBSIDIZED REPUBLICAN TO DO THE WRITING."

The Above Papers, Says the Highlander, "Must Have Let Their Hatred For Mr. Bailey Blind Them to Every Sense of Fairness and Propriety, To Do Such a Thing."

(Shelby Highlander.)

The Highlander in this issue espouses the cause of Hon. J. W. Bailey for the Democratic nomination for the Governorship of North Carolina, believing that it can in addition to supporting one of the most brilliant men in public life in the State, assist in a small way in helping to smash one of the most powerful political "rings" that has ever been known in the history of the State. At present Mr. Bailey is the only avowed candidate in the field, though it is generally understood that Hon. A. W. McLean will in a short time make his announcement.

If Mr. Bailey receives the nomination it will be by the vote of the rank and file, the present state organization and practically all of its henchmen already being lined up to whoop it up for the machine candidate, who as yet has failed to chirp.

Practically all of the daily papers including a large percentage of the Raleigh correspondents, are busy sending in stuff to their papers favorable to McLean, and it appears that Mr. Brock Barkley, Raleigh correspondent for the Charlotte Observer Asheville Citizen, Wilmington Star, and Winston-Salem Journal, is on the State's payroll as Secretary to Governor Morrison's Shipping Commission, for which he received, until recently, a salary of \$1,500.00 per year. It also appears that Mr. Barkley does not render any service to the State, to amount to anything, in consideration of his salary. We do not say that the enjoyment of this sinecure influences or directs his pen, but it is well known that he reports all things relating to Mr. Morrison's administration and to Mr. McLean's candidacy, favorably, and all things relating to Mr. Bailey's candidacy, unfavorably.

The fact that Mr. Barkley was receiving this subsidy from the administration has been known to the public for several weeks. Just how long the newspapers represented by Mr. Barkley have known of his connection we are unable to say, but since the public announcement of the fact, there has been no report of Mr. Barkley's resigning from either of these papers or of their having asked him to resign.

We are informed that this is the same Mr. Barkley who edited "The Review" in Charlotte a short time ago and waged a very bitter campaign against Mr. Clyde Hoey, democrat, in favor of Mr. John M. Morehead, republican, when these two gentlemen ran for the seat in Congress vacated by Hon. E. Y. Webb. It is understood that Mr. Barkley was born of republican stock and therefore may have come by his republican inclinations quite naturally. We have no quarrel with him on that score. We are at a loss to understand, however, how Mr. Barkley got to be a regular correspondent for four such papers as Asheville Citizen, Charlotte Observer, Wilmington Star and Winston-Salem Journal—papers that boast of their democratic record and regularity.

Of course, Mr. Wade H. Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer and Mr. Barkley, have been drinking at the same fountain—both holding jobs under Mr. Morrison's administration from which nearly all, if not all, the work has been eliminated. This fact may have blinded the Charlotte Observer to the impropriety of such a connection. As to the other papers mentioned, there is bound to be some strong invisible influence operating behind the scenes to cause such staunchly democratic newspapers to employ a republican correspondent to represent them in Raleigh as official purveyor of political news, the chief duty of which reporter, apparently, is to attack another democrat in his campaign for nomination for Governor. These papers must have let their hat-

red for Mr. Bailey blind them to every sense of fairness and propriety, to do such a thing.

Surely, it cannot be said that the Charlotte Observer knew nothing of Mr. Barkley's record. The Review was published in Charlotte. It supported Mr. Morehead, republican, also of Charlotte, against Mr. Clyde Hoey, democrat, of Shelby. It was very generally circulated in Charlotte and in the 9th Congressional District. Is it possible that the Charlotte Observer was not cognizant of the forces operating to defeat the democratic candidate in that memorable struggle?

Suppose we follow Mr. Barkley's career a little further. What do we find?

After Mr. Hoey, the democratic candidate had defeated Mr. Morehead, the republican candidate supported Mr. Barkley, the Charlotte Observer put Mr. Barkley on its staff and sent him over the State to report the speeches of Mr. Morrison, who was then a candidate for nomination for Governor against Mr. Max Gardner and Mr. R. N. Page. A little later he is sent to Raleigh and becomes the political reporter of the Observer and other democratic papers mentioned herein.

After arriving in Raleigh, Mr. Morrison's administration appointed Mr. Barkley Secretary to the Shipping Commission. His duties, so we are informed, consist largely of drawing his breath and his salary of \$1,500.00 per year, the while he puts in full time for his newspapers, filling them with praise of Mr. Morrison's administration, predictions of victory for Mr. McLean and defeat for Mr. Bailey. To cap the climax, in December, 1923, just as the present campaign was opening, without any increase so far known, in his duties as Clerk of the Shipping Commission, Mr. Barkley's salary was raised by the administration \$300.00, making his salary at present \$1,800.00 per year.

What does it mean? The Charlotte Observer, Asheville Citizen, Winston-Salem Journal, Wilmington Star, Mr. Morrison's administration and Mr. Barkley, are all strong in their opposition to Mr. Bailey. Can it be that this is the explanation! Surely no other influence could induce these democrats to make common cause with a republican against a fellow democrat.

We still have faith that the rank and file of the democratic party want to see fair play, and we doubt if many will approve of such a thing as this. Certain it is, if the papers referred to want the reading public to believe what they print about Mr. Bailey, they will have to get some one beside a subsidized republican to do the writing.

CAN A DEMOCRAT CONVENTION IN OPEN ENDORSE ALL MORRISON HAS DONE?

(Continued from page one) ons, apparently to further strengthen ring rule. That was bad enough.

2. But was aggravated a thousand times, when Watts was caught in a dirty act, and the papers said Morrison was among the first to get to him, offer sympathy, and somebody suggested that Watts deny it all and make a fight which was more than he could do, having some conscience left.

3. The numerous and sundry mouth explosions, in which men better than he can ever hope to be were called all sorts of fools and such for disagreement in matter of state.

4. What was said and done about the Maxwell letter that broke up legislation for the time, and the spending of \$45,000 for an audit of the books that the public could not see until the committee had worked it over, and if any body whatsoever, knows any more about what treasury conditions are now than they did before the money was spent, let him speak. Lots of men would pay good money for a statement from honest Ben Lacy as to how much cash he has and how much the general fund owes, right now.

5. The McBrayer graft could have been called theft, in a pinch. All the white wash investigation, holding on a man sucker, who was supposed to have been placed where he was for political purpose or reward. Investigators found him guilty of law violation; but asked his retention. All this the Governor kept quiet about, agreed to, until Judge Sinclair had McBrayer indicted; then it was the Governor claimed ignorance of the law and forced the trustees to push McB "off the roof", but put his consigliere in his place, leaving it so McB. could better sell peaches to the Sanatorium.

These and others are the high spots, and if the democrat party in convention assembled can swallow all that and say it endorses all that and more then it is highly probable more men will vote for Ike Meekins, for that reason, than for the taxes Bailey is trying to reform. Right here comes in a long chapter that would be appropriate, namely the discussion of the financial ability, prior to his election, of the man who has essayed to and has taken finances entirely out of the hands of those who have ordinarily handled them.

Of course the aim is to keep the finances muddled, so the real deficit between revenue and appropriations, in general fund will not be known until after the convention and primary, or after the primary and convention, which ever comes off first. It is a fact that a ring of politicians cannot afford to confess they hit off the wrong man, and Morrison and all he has done will go through with a whoop, if the opposition can be kept, in the main, off the convention floor.



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S. J. JACKSON
Roxboro, N. C.

DUPLIN COUNTY TO GO FOR MR. BAILEY

Mr. Bailey was speaker at Clinton last Monday. Those who heard him saw he made a wonderfully good speech. When Mr. Bailey starts his campaign in real earnest down this way, there is going to be an outpouring of the voters to give this exponent of good government and economical administration a welcome that will show him Duplin County is going to cast its vote for him and his principles.—Duplin Record.

AYCOCK MONUMENT UNVEILING NEXT WEEK.

All North Carolinians are interested in the announcement that the beautiful monument to Charles Brantley Aycock in Capitol Square, Raleigh, will be unveiled there Thursday, March 13 at noon.

Three lifelong friends of Governor Aycock will participate in the program, Dr. Edwin A. Alderman presiding and making the introductory remarks, while Hon. Josephus Daniels will make the historical address, and Governor Cameron Morrison will accept the monument on behalf of the State.

All friends and admirers of Governor Aycock are invited, so special invitations being issued, and a great assemblage is expected. As the unveiling will occur at the time the North Carolina Education Association is in session reduced rates on all railroads will be in force.

The statue and the accompanying historical panels illustrating North Carolina's progress are the work of Gutzon Borglum of Stone Mountain fame, one of the world's greatest sculptors.

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Cured Fertilizer Has Increased Farmers' Earnings

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