

## Ralph W. Page Urges Support of Herbert Hoover and H. F. Seawell

Men, Not Parties the Issue, He Says in Letter to Pilot.

To the Editor of The Pilot:

Twice the people of this part of the country have unanimously endorsed a citizen of Moore County for the position of Federal Judge. In both cases the ability and character of their candidate was so outstanding and universally recognized, that the most prominent of our Democratic leaders and partisans vied with each other in unqualified and enthusiastic effort to place him on the bench. Both times we—all of us—were working for Herbert F. Seawell. So was I. So was everyone else.

Such efforts as these represent about all the elation and satisfaction a courageous, free-minded, independent American citizen gets out of politics. I make bold to write all this because Mr. Seawell is again a candidate before the people. It is a signal honor to the county, our neighborhood, and a credit to the good sense of the Republican party, that at this critical period they have selected our neighbor for this difficult public duty. Personally we know him. He is our

friend, he has for years been our counsellor and advisor. We know intimately his worth and his ability and we are proud of him, and fond of him. In God's name then are we not to vote for him? Are we, his friends and neighbors of Moore County, to overlook the capacity we have here at home, and, discarding confidence and pride in our own and all friendly feeling, to be told we have to vote for someone else?

**The Man, Not the Party.**  
Democrat or no Democrat, Mugwump, Prohibitionist, or Ku Klux, I'd vote for my own that I knew to be true and tried, if all the politicians in the universe were to bowl me out at the same time. I wanted to say that I feel very strongly, and a very great many of my neighbors feel, that this county should give its loyal support to Herbert Seawell, the man, rather than any party war cry whatever.

I don't want to spoil anyone's chances by appearing to have ideas of my own at a time when it appears to be scandalous to think at all. But since I'm at it I may as well add the reasons why one member of an old Democratic family is going to vote for both Seawell and Herbert Hoover.

It so happens that Hoover is intimately and personally known to a great many of the most capable men in the State. As Food Administrator under Woodrow Wilson, he worked in daily contact with the best men we had. To tell them, or anyone that knows him, the ordinary set of campaign innuendoes—such as Mr. Daniels' favorite sly crack about how he is somehow mixed up in stealing oil—is nothing short of an insult, and in anything but the great American bunco game of politics, would be so acted upon. We need no ballyhoo; we know Hoover to be the very best type of American executive. We personally know that he has the experience and training and knowledge, interest and acumen, to do this job. Very well, are we to be hullabalooed out of this absolute information by talk about preachers, or bigotry, or drink or Thomas Jefferson or whispering campaigns or forgotten wrongs of a bygone era? Not me, anyway.

I suppose I have as much right as any man to call myself a Democrat. There have been as many warriors in my family tree in the Democratic lists in famous old battles as in most. Then why do I desert the celebrated old wigwag? Why not stick through thick and thin, mostly very thin, right or wrong, sense or nonsense?

**Mr. Smith's Nomination.**  
Here is what I am told by two distinguished leaders of the Democratic party, no longer ago than last Monday at the celebrated courthouse in the city of Carthage. Words to this effect. We didn't like Al Smith for President. Nobody in North Carolina liked him. We didn't believe he was fit to be President. We don't want to be ruled by that sort of man. He has just exactly nothing in common with the old party we lived and died for, neither in inheritance, training, beliefs, association, appearance, or experience has he any common principle with the old stock American planters and soldiers and statesmen of the Jefferson, Randolph, Calhoun, Davis school, that constitute what we mean by a Democrat.

But, bad as he is, he's nominated, and so you must now forget, or pretend you never knew, how different and unsatisfactory he is, and vote for him anyway, because we've pinned a badge on him. This changes his nature.

That's no reason to vote for anybody. My idea is that we should vote for a man because of what he is, not what he is called. Personally I think Al is a very able as well as entertaining Tammany politician. I don't hate clever and capable Tammany politicians. But many do. Personally I wouldn't care a cent if he was a HOLY ROLLER, if he could do his job. But neither can I possibly fool myself into thinking he has any connection with the old South, or the new South, or any single one of the ideas and ideals we used to cling to under the name of Democracy." He may be. I really think he is a good executive. But so is Mussolini and so was Li Hung Chang, the Chinaman. I wouldn't want either one ruling over me. We want to be governed by our kind. Al Smith is not our kind. His whole life has been spent, moulded and influenced by a people and ideas utterly foreign to us. East side New York people, good people, but are not our people—Irish, Italians, Argentines, Assyrians and Greeks, the great melting pot of Southern Europe. Many of these are splendid people. But even so I do not want them to govern me. Neither this nor their influence. Perhaps this is bigoted, perhaps provincial. But anyway it's my right. On one statement alone I would condemn Al Smith as leader of my people. He wants to lift the bars and let in another flood of aliens, the people who constitute the only constituency he has ever had.

**Freedom of Thought.**  
The vital thing in every man is that he should think and act for himself. The distinction between an American as conceived by such men as Lee, Cleveland, Roosevelt and Aycock and a German soldier is, simply, that one is free to think and is able to think and the other obeys orders.

The vital thing for the country is that from among our number, from among our friends and acquaintances we select the best to conduct our public business for us. And anyone that tries to herd people to the support of any unfit man, no matter what Totem Pole or Party purpose is served, is an enemy of his country. And anyone that would compel free American citizens to abandon their minds to even so unanimous and brilliant a committee as that assembled recently at Houston, is undertaking to destroy the Republic. The day we are lined up like convicts, and are marched to the polls to vote in unison, the country will be handed over, bag and baggage, to the politicians, and won't be worth saving.

RALPH W. PAGE.  
Aberdeen, N. C.  
October 11th, 1928.

## BUILDING BOOM CONTINUES TO BREAK RECORDS HERE.

(Continued from Page 1)  
Talking Machine president, is planning the erection of a hunting lodge on the old Buchan plantation south of Aberdeen, which he recently purchased.

A new building is going up in Aberdeen for the use of the telephone company, and another large building is projected, announcement of which will be made later, it is said. Building in Vass has been confined to the construction of the huge new water

tank which is to supply the village in the very near future. At Cameron during the past year several new homes of the latest styles in architecture have sprung up during the past year, and others are in prospect in this thriving community.

# Where We Can Serve

No matter how much thought is put into the planning of a home, how well it is built or how completely it is furnished, the final effect—that last touch of hominess—depends upon the lighting.

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When Father pulls his easy chair up before the fire, settles down with his pipe and slippers and reaches for the paper his complete satisfaction depends on the reading lamp at his shoulder.

And when Mother peruses a magazine by the living room table or settles herself in the sewing room with her mending her contentment is dependent on the softly shaded lamp beside her.

And the children—studying their lessons or doing homework, reading or playing games—proper lighting is essential to their welfare always.

Truly, good lighting is the keynote of home contentment and happiness. And in addition to the arrangements for proper distribution of the lamps in the home the various outlets, floor plugs and power plugs must be considered for future as well as for immediate convenience. Our men are experts in the planning and installing of wiring systems for old or new homes. Our work and materials are first class in every respect, our prices decidedly moderate and our interest in your problems genuinely sincere. Call us at any time for a discussion of your lighting problems and an estimate of your needs. There is, of course, no charge for this service.

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