

THE ROANOKE RAPIDS HERALD

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CARROLL WILSON, Owner and Editor

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EDITORIAL

THE MAJORITY PARTY

For the first time in 75 years, the Democratic Party can lay claim to the fact that it is the majority party of the nation. Before this, the Party has won national campaigns but only after the majority party had disgusted the voters, even some of its own, with the carelessness or corruption which comes from too much power too long; or when splits have come in the majority party such as when Teddy Roosevelt left for the Progressive experiment.

In our own time we recall some of the long list of defeats handed William Jennings Bryan as the Democratic nominee; we recall the downfall of Cox, the hopelessness of Davis, the Smith debacle. We have always been the minority party.

Even in 1932, it was necessary to woo the progressives of the nation, along with Republicans discontented with the long list of Hoover mistakes, in order to win with Roosevelt. 12 long years of Republican misrule had angered even the staunchest Republicans. But there was no guarantee they would not return to their own party, the majority party, after they had forgotten their peeve against Hoover. It had been done before time after time.

If we were asked to point to the most significant feature of the record-breaking 1936 election, our unhesitating reply would be that Roosevelt has performed the impossible: he has welded into being from a scattered and scattering minority party the new majority party of the nation. The progressive element of the Republican party has been definitely and finally weaned away from that party forever. They will not return for they have found in this new Democratic party that for which they have been seeking.

Disgust with Harding, unfriendliness with Coolidge, discontent and distrust with Hoover, may have started them on the road to the Democratic party, but it took something magnetic, something deeper than any passing whim or fancy, something which irrevocably tied their heart and soul to a cause, in order to have them leave that party of their fathers for good.

The answer is Roosevelt and his New Deal. Tuesday's figures speak for themselves. The President and his administration realized the greatest vote of confidence and trust ever given in the history of the country. And in those ten millions majority, among those 25 or more millions who cast the largest vote ever accorded an American citizen, were millions of former Republicans, who left their party four years ago to try a new party—and having tried it have not found it wanting. They have stayed with it, will continue to stay with it; thus a new majority party enters American history.

We have very little patience with those few Democrats who claim they are the only real Demo-

crats left. They call themselves Jeffersonian Democrats or by some other name to distinguish them from the vast majority of the Democratic party, because as they say, this party today is not the party of ten, twenty years ago. No. That Democratic party was a minority party. They say the Democratic party of today has turned aside from the party principles of ten, twenty, thirty years ago. This Democratic party has new ideas, new ideals, unthought of, unheard of, generations ago, at which our Democratic forefathers would shudder were they to return today.

Ah, would they? Would they shudder any more at the changes in the Democratic party than at the scientific, physical, cultural, social, and moral changes of the country and the world? We think not. Adjusting themselves to the modern way of living, they would just as easily adjust themselves to the modern Democratic party.

And modernizing it has saved it—not only saved it—this modernization, this adapting it to the new trends of world progress, to the new ideals of social justice, has made it the most powerful party in America. We believe Jefferson himself, after studying world conditions of today, would applaud the Democratic party of today for having the foresight, the intelligence and the courage to present to the nation a party abreast of the times.

Victory brings its responsibilities. Those defeated can now rest and await developments. There is no rest for the victor. To preserve that which has been gained in this national triumph, the Democratic party must be wary of the pitfalls awaiting the unwary and the over-confident.

We have a great two-party system, thru which the people express their preferences. That we must maintain. It happens that now for the first time our party has the confidence and fidelity of a majority of our citizens. We must do everything in the next four years with the sole idea of retaining and solidifying that faith and confidence. That is the only way to keep the Democratic party the majority party.


A NEW INDUSTRY

It can be called a new industry because it has been a long time since the old Roanoke Fibre Board Co. has run for any length of time, and it is with genuine pleasure every citizen of Roanoke Rapids sees preparations under way by the Manchester Board & Paper Co. of Richmond to operate the board mill once more.

This will mean that every plant in Roanoke

CARO-GRAPHICS by MURRAY JONES JR


CRIMINALS




"ALL RIGHT—
COUNT OFF"

ONE OUT OF EVERY 25 PERSONS IN N.C. IS A CONVICTED CRIMINAL WITH A PRISON FARM RECORD

DO YOU KNOW YOUR STATE?




FIRST SETTLER



GEORGE DURANT, DURANT'S NECK, THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER IN N.C. 1663 PURCHASED HIS LAND FROM THE INDIANS

GASTON CO.



GASTON HAS MORE INCORPORATED TOWNS THAN ANY OTHER COUNTY IN N.C.—NINE

DID YOU KNOW THAT
POLK COUNTY'S "NATURE'S THERMOS BOTTLE" IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE A GREATER VARIETY OF PLANT LIFE THAN ANY COUNTY IN THE UNITED STATES

?

• THE EDITORS OF CARO-GRAPHICS INVITE YOU TO SEND IN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT YOUR COMMUNITY •

Rapids will be operating again and as we all know so well it is upon those turning wheels of industry that Roanoke Rapids depends for its daily living and future happiness and progress.

We welcome the Manchester Board & Paper Co. to Roanoke Rapids and wish for them all success in their Roanoke Rapids Branch. We welcome as a citizen their local manager, B. W. Davenport, and promise him and his company the cooperation of Roanoke Rapids in this new enterprise, which means another payroll and more folks employed in our city.

A SPEEDY RECOVERY

The many friends of Congressman John H. Kerr, Judge to most of us, were distressed to learn of his injuries sustained in a recent automobile wreck, injuries which have kept him in bed since.

We happen to know that the pain of his injuries was not half so important to the Judge as the thought that he could not come to Roanoke Rapids on October 26th and speak in behalf of President Roosevelt and the entire Democratic ticket. For Judge Kerr had written a special speech for Roanoke Rapids and had a special message for our citizens.

It would have been fitting for him to have delivered it in the court room of the new Municipal Building which he helped us get, and from the windows of which he could have looked out and eyed the new Post Office building which he, and he alone, got for us. What a speech the Judge could have made to us in such a setting.

W. C. WILLIAMS Funeral Director

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