

### CLAIMS OF MR. MAXWELL STRONGLY PRESENTED

As Candidate for Member of the Corporation Commission by Mr. J. W. Bailey.

To the Editor:

The most important addition to our State government within the last 25 years is the Corporation Commission—first known as the Railroad Commission. That the functions of the original institution were soon extended to include corporations and taxation (for it is also the State Tax Commission) and that its powers were accordingly broadened, is the best evidence of the people's appreciation of the institution.

As now constituted the Commission is charged with the duty of regulating intra-State railroad affairs, public service corporations, supervision of State banks, and the equalization of taxation, three functions embracing a domain broader than that of any other one department of our State government. It is in the largest sense a tribunal of justice, before which the rights of the people and the rights of the public service corporations are adjusted. It is at the same time a tax assessing body, which fixes the valuation of stock in all corporations, and, in addition, it has general supervision of tax assessing in North Carolina. In its own right it is the official means of protest on the part of North Carolina against inter-State freight rate discriminations against this State.

That such an institution should have not met the expectations in the outset of all citizens, ready to be expected. Corporation Commissions are innovations in the United States, and being among the first the North Carolina Commission has had to "blaze the way." Its failure to meet the expectations of the more extreme is a testimony to it rather than a sense of its inadequacy; for in reason and in common sense it must of necessity have proceeded cautiously and conservatively. Any other course would have been hazardous, inviting disaster to the State and the destruction of the Commission. That in pursuing a middle course, between the pressure that it do as little as possible on the one hand, and the demand that it pursue an extreme and radical course on the other, it has chosen wisely. The fact that it is regarded as a permanent and necessary institution and that it has the confidence of all classes of our people, is the most convincing evidence. Our corporations must be assured that it is not set for their destruction. Our people must feel equally assured that it will protect them in their rights. All must understand that it is a tribunal of justice—equal and exact justice; all must look to it with confidence and respect, without which any court of justice were better off did it not exist.

Such has been and such is and such must continue to be the task of the Corporation Commission.

I have reviewed these matters in order to introduce the name and qualifications of a candidate for Corporation Commission before the Democrats of North Carolina. So far they have succeeded in placing men on the Commission who have measured up to the delicately adjusted demands of the institution as just set forth. It is of the highest importance that the succession shall be maintained after the same order.

Such an office demands, first of all, a man in whom the sense of justice is supreme—one who will hew to the line of equal rights to all and special privileges to none, bending no more to popular favor than to corporate influence; fearless alike of demagogue and corruptionist.

But this alone is not sufficient. The Corporation Commissioner must be a specialist—he must labor in a field of special knowledge. He must understand the most intricate of commercial subjects—freight rate making; he must be master of that twilight zone between the duty of the public service corporation to the public and to its stockholders. He must know how to regulate without destroying. He must also work out a rehabilitation of taxation in North Carolina—the next great task of the Commonwealth.

The man equal to these tasks must be a specialist rather than a politician; a student and a worker, as well as a courageous and a just man. And it becomes the Democratic party in North Carolina, holding the great trust that it does for the Commonwealth, to see to it that such a man is nominated in the approaching convention. It is in this spirit, I believe, that it so unanimously nominated the lamented Henry Clay Brown two years ago.

In A. J. Maxwell I present to the Democratic voters such a man. It happens that he is a candidate to succeed Mr. McNeill, an eastern man. But this is not the argument for him. It happens also that he is not a lawyer and there is one lawyer on the Commission, Mr. Travis, who is a candidate to succeed himself; and the policy of the party has been to have only one lawyer on the Commission. But this is not the argument for Mr. Maxwell. It happens that there is already one merchant on the Commission, and that Mr. Maxwell is not a merchant. But this is not the argument for him. These are considerations of weight, to be sure, but Mr. Maxwell's candidacy is based upon his qualifications for the office.

In the first place he is the present chief clerk to the Commission, having succeeded Mr. Henry Clay Brown—having worthily succeeded him. Mr. Brown trained him, and naturally fitted and ambitious, he readily mastered that exacting office.

It is rather singular, I may here say,

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upon Mr. McNeill's retirement. Mr. Lee will be the senior member of the Commission with only two years' service. It was intended that the terms of the Commissioners should lap over, so that at no time would that body be without an experienced man. This is necessary, in view of the intricate and delicate duties of the department. It is likewise a sound provision against the uncertainty of the policy of the Commission which would inevitably unsettle our commercial interests. But the death of Mr. Brown and the retirement of Mr. McNeill have brought about a situation in which the most experienced of the Commissioners will have served next January only two years.

That is a weighty reason for taking Mr. Maxwell from the position of chief clerk—wherein he had the experience of a Commissioner, acquired the knowledge of a Commissioner, and was trained by Mr. H. C. Brown—and elevating him to the Commission, submit without expectation of controversy.

Mr. Maxwell is not new to public affairs. He was Mayor of his home town at the age of 25. He has been in close touch with the State administration since 1899. He has been one of the headquarters men in State Democratic campaigns, and for ten years he has been Secretary of the State Senate, having discharged the duties of that position so efficiently that Senate after Senate regarded him as indispensable. Naturally, this work has brought him into an intimate knowledge of men and affairs, of politics and laws in our State. And in this respect he would bring to the office of Commissioner a great and ready fund of invaluable knowledge and experience.

I have said that Mr. Maxwell is neither a lawyer nor a merchant. But he has had a more important work than either. He has had a long record for a young man—he is just 40 years of age. As a newspaper man, editor and publisher, the North Carolina newspaper men know him, and they will bear witness to anything that I have to say about him. There are no more accomplished men than the editors of local papers in North Carolina. I say it in all seriousness, they know a great deal about the people; they know a great deal about personal economy; they know a great deal about political economy; they know a great deal about what is going on, and they have to know, besides, a great deal about business—the business of printing plant. Editing a local newspaper in North Carolina will make or break the man that undertakes it; that is to say, only a true man can stand the test. It was in this school that Mr. Maxwell had his training. He is a careful man; he forms his opinions not on impulse, but with care and the fairness of one who expects to see them put to the test. He has a fine sense of justice. And, therefore, he is conservatively disposed in the true sense—that is, one who would be radical did the right require it, but whose whole inclination is to find the facts and then seek to do the just thing. In my judgment, this trait in him—of careful seeking to do the just and right thing—is his strongest qualification for Corporation Commissioner. He would be equally unmoved by threats of demagogues or blandishments of the powerful. He would hold the scales and weigh out justice in all the storms that might blow.

I confess to a peculiar esteem for the self-made man. Such a man is usually self-reliant. He has long ago learned to rely upon himself, to follow his own judgment. He is apt to be fearless. He has no makers who would cast their pull on him, nor has he any fears of those who would make him. Mr. Maxwell has made his way up in the world. He has had to climb all the way—with neither pushers nor pullers to aid him. He has arrived by reason of his strong will, his studious disposition, his genial temper, his steady work, his good level head, and his actual efficiency. He understands how to labor and he is disciplined in hard work. Such are the qualifications of Mr. Maxwell for the high and important position to which he aspires. I have pointed out that the peculiarly needed on the Commission at this time and that he is eminently qualified for its great task. He is in the prime of life, with the prospect of many years of the ablest service before him. Of such a man no pledges need be required. His life and his work is the best assurance of what he may be expected of him. I do not hesitate to say that he would devote his entire time and energies to make the Commission as efficient as possible in treating the great interests that are entrusted to it; that he would find the facts and administer the law in justice with good conscience; and that in him the entire State would have an officer peculiarly fitted for the contest—close at hand to prevent the present discrimination in freight rates against North Carolina territory—that this is one of the objects of his ambition I know, because I know him, and also on the authority of his personal assurance.

And such being Mr. Maxwell's qualifications, I cannot but believe that the Democrats of North Carolina, ever alert to find and put forward the fittest man, will embrace the opportunity to offer him to the people of North Carolina for member of the Corporation Commission.

J. W. BAILEY.  
Raleigh, N. C., March 25, 1912.

**Death of Infant Son.**  
Friends of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Rich will sympathize with them in the death of their six-day-old son, Percy Randall Rich, which occurred at the family residence, No. 606 Harnett street, Sunday evening at 7 o'clock. The funeral will be held from the house at 3 o'clock this afternoon, conducted by Rev. H. E. Beatty, pastor of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. The interment will be in Bellevue cemetery.

**Why is Sugar Sweet?**  
If sugar did not dissolve in the mouth you could not taste the sweet. GROVE'S TASTELESS CHILL TONIC is as strong as the strongest bitter tonic, but you do not taste the bitter because the ingredients do not dissolve in the mouth, but do dissolve in the acids of the stomach. Is just as good for Grown People as for children. The First and Original Tasteless Chill Tonic. The Standard for 20 years. 50.

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### BUSY SESSION YESTERDAY

Four Negro Women Draw Farm and Jail Sentences in Recorder's Court—Number of Other Cases Disposed Of

A congested docket occupied the attention of the Recorder yesterday morning, though for the most part the cases were without features of extraordinary interest. Probably the feature of the session was the number of women given jail or farm sentences. Carrie Nixon, colored, was found guilty on a charge of an assault with a deadly weapon upon Zollie Pearsall and was sentenced to three months on the county farm. She gave notice of an appeal and bond was fixed at \$50. Ida King and Ida Howe, both colored, drew sentences of 30 days each in the county jail, the former for being drunk and disorderly and the latter for disorderly conduct. Carrie Johnson, also colored, will spend the next 30 days on the county farm for assaulting Maggie Moore, colored, with a deadly weapon in the form of a beer bottle.

Zollie Pearsall, colored, was tried on a charge of larceny and was found not guilty. The prosecution was declared to be frivolous, malicious and not for the public good and the affiant, Nora Nixon, was taxed the costs of the case.

Alfred Sidberry, colored, was found guilty on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon and was taxed \$15 and costs. Eddie James, another negro, was assessed \$10 and costs for an assault upon a female, Ella Robinson, a negro woman, contributed \$10 and costs for being drunk and disorderly, and George Green, colored, contributed a like amount for a similar offense. John Roderick and William Bordeaux, both white, were fined \$5 and costs each for being drunk and disorderly. A nol prois with leave was taken in a case charging Jack Williams, a small colored boy, with disorderly conduct. Buddie Eagles, colored, was found not guilty on a charge of an assault with a deadly weapon upon another negro. Thos. Gustin, colored, was taxed with the costs for a nuisance. Luby Lane, colored, was found guilty of an assault upon a female and judgment was suspended on payments of the costs.

Eight drunks were disposed of in the usual manner, and the appearance of some of these defendants bore eloquent testimony to the dynamic quality of the whiskey that is being sold in Wilmington at the present time.

### FIRST SERMON OF SERIES.

Rev. J. R. Matthews Preached Masterly Discourse Last Night. The services of mission services conducted by Rev. Jno. R. Matthews, missionary, to continue through next Sunday, was begun at St. John's Episcopal Church last night at 8 o'clock. A splendid congregation was present and the sermon was a powerful and impressive one. Bishop Strang was in the church. Mr. Matthews' subject was "The Joy in Heaven Over the Sinner That Repenteth." He developed this under five heads, as follows: (a) God's Love for the Sinner; (b) His Condescension in Seeking the Sinner; (c) His Patience With the Sinner; (d) His Perseverance in Seeking to Save the Lost; (e) The Safety and Security of the Sinner. The speaker used many striking illustrations in giving force to his argument and his sermon was much enjoyed by all.

Holy Communion will be observed this morning at 7:30 o'clock at St. John's Church, and at 5 P. M., there will be a Bible reading service. Mr. Matthews will preach again at 8 o'clock and all are invited to attend.

Raleigh, N. C., March 25.—Davidson College today defeated Lenoir College at Davidson in the first game of the college season there. The features of the game were the hitting of Fry and Pharr and Graham's base running. The score: Davidson . . . . . 5 7 7 Lenoir . . . . . 3 3 5

### SHE SUFFERED TEN MONTHS

Mrs. Blankenship Tells of Her Restoration to Health by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

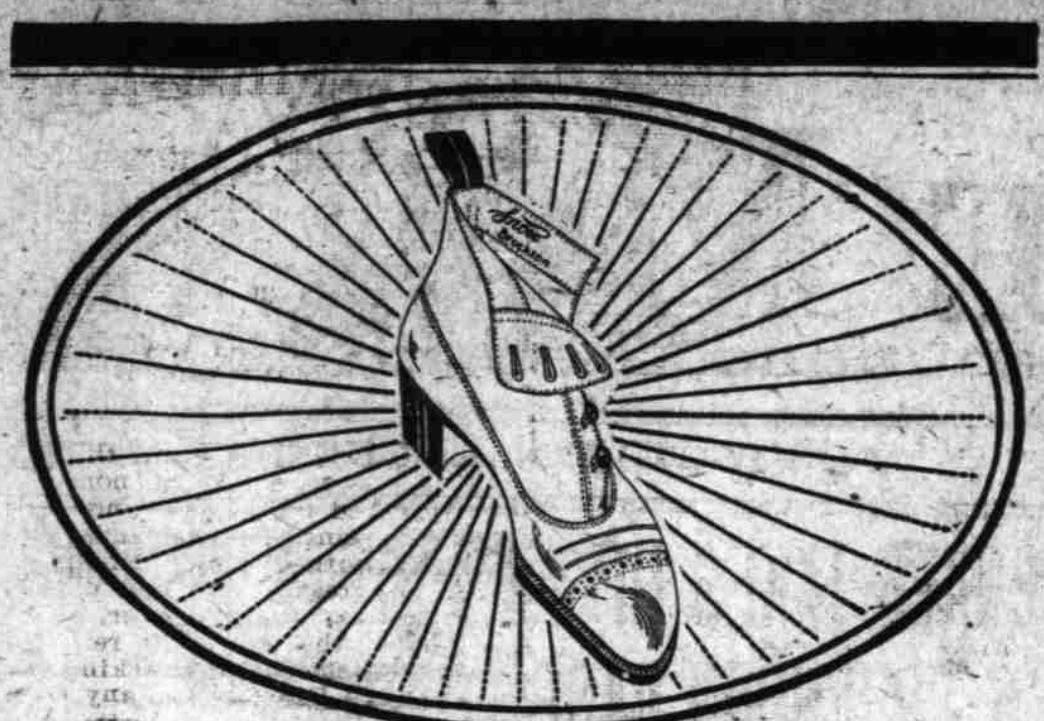


Elliston, Va.—"I feel it my duty to express my thanks for what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me. I was a sufferer from female troubles and had been confined in bed over one third of my time for ten months. I could not do my housework and had fainting spells so that my husband could not leave me alone for five minutes at a time. "Now I have been restored to health and it has come from taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Whenever I see a suffering woman I want to tell her what this medicine has done for me and I will always speak a good word for it."—Mrs. ROBERT BLANKENSHIP, Elliston, Va., Montgomery Co.

### Was Helpless—Now Well.

Trenton, Mo.—"About two years ago I had female trouble and inflammation so bad that I was literally helpless and had to be tended like a baby. I could not move my body or lift my foot for such severe pains that I had to scream. I was very nervous and had a weakness. "Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has helped me to such an extent that I think there is no medicine like it for female troubles. I am up and able to do my work again and I give you full permission to publish my letter for the sake of other suffering women."—Mrs. W. T. PURNELL, 320-10th St., Trenton, Mo.

Bellamy for State Senator. ..



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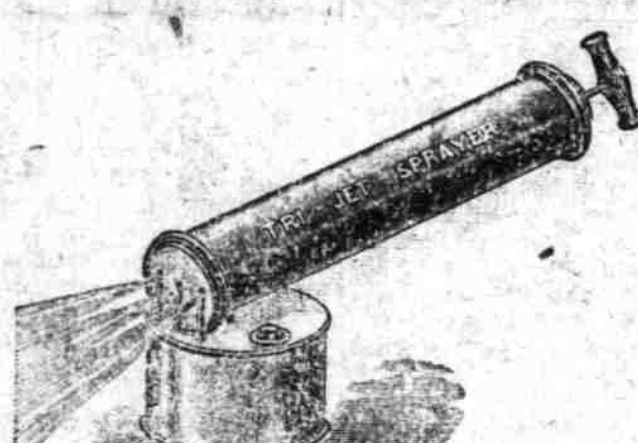
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