

GUBERNATORIAL RACE IS CLOSING IN UNCERTAINTY

Relative Standing Of Three Candidates Hard to Gauge From Sidelines.

(Special to The Star.)
Raleigh, May 31.—The passing of the second week preceding the primary on June 5 failed to develop anything new in the political situation in the state so far as candidates for state and congressional offices are concerned.

The only matters of special interest during the past week was the filing of the expense accounts of the various candidates and the appearance of republican applicants for the presidential nomination in the state.

The expense accounts show that Mr. Morrison has spent a little more money than have the other two candidates in the very intensive campaign he has waged during the past five weeks. The Charlotte man passed the six thousand dollar mark. Mr. Page spent \$5,000 and Mr. Gardner crissed the \$4,000 mark in expenses, according to his reports.

Neither of the candidates have a very wide margin left over to spend in the second primary.

No Material Change.
The standing of the three candidates reveals no perceptible change to the general public. Anything is likely to happen and about the only thing that would prove surprising to the political observer would be for any one of the candidates to get the nomination in the first primary. It is possible, of course, but very improbable that one of the candidates has a chance to win out in the first primary. Even the most ardent friends of the candidates admit that this is improbable. Both Morrison and Gardner claim that they will lead in the first primary, while Mr. Page's manager says that the Blases man will get in the second primary, without intimating which of the other two he will nose out of the second race, and watch the race Page makes in the second primary, is the admonition of Manager Charles Ross.

It is generally admitted that Page will be a mighty hard man to beat in the second primary. That has been the general opinion all along, for he is probably the second choice of a larger number of voters than either of the other two men. But the old timers in the political game believe that Page will run third and will not have a chance to get the benefit of these voters who prefer him as a second choice. That, however, is not worrying the Page supporters, who claim that Page's strength is not the noisy variety, and that he will fool the old timers worse than they have ever been fooled in their lives.

The opinion as to whether Morrison or Gardner will lead in the first primary is divided. Friends of both men are now claiming the edge on the situation. It is generally admitted, both by more or less disinterested people and by some of the friends of the Shelby man that he is not as strong now as he was two months ago. That of course is emphatically denied by the managers and workers for Gardner, but there isn't any doubt about the general impression being that Gardner lost vote, rather than gained them when he refused to answer the questionnaire of the labor unions and the farmers.

The Lesser Lights.
As to the candidates for the smaller offices in the state there is little talk or interest. It is generally conceded that M. L. Shipman will have little trouble in repeating his performance of the last election in defeating David P. Dillinger for the nomination for commissioner of labor and printing. Shipman has returned from the west on which trip he visited Gaston county, home of his opponent. There he was assured that he would again defeat Dillinger in his home county. Likewise the consensus of opinion is that Stacey W. Wade will have little trouble in getting the nomination for insurance commissioner. Letters coming to Wade from every section of the state, assure him of the nomination.

There are so many candidates for the job of Col. Penn Wood is giving up as state auditor, that it is practically impossible to tell who is in the lead. There has been some talk of Baxter Durham, D. McDonough, Col. D. F. Boyd and J. P. Cook. All of these men have made an active campaign, and possibly have a little lead, although W. F. Woodley has done some good work and may nose some of these candidates out.

That Associate Justice W. A. Hoke will be nominated to succeed himself on the supreme court bench is the general opinion, but if sentiment has crystallized as to the candidates for the other place on the bench, news of the crystallization has not seeped through to Raleigh. The race for the second place lies between Judge W. J. Adams, of Carthage, and B. F. Long, of Statesville, and former Judges W. P. Stacey, of Wilmington; Owen H. Gulon, of New Bern; N. J. House, of Kinston, and Prof. N. Y. Gully, dean of the law department of Wake Forest college. All of these men have been making an active campaign, but if any of them have secured a very pronounced lead over the others it is impossible to tell it now.

The only other state office for which there is a contest is that of state treasurer. E. F. Renrow, of West Raleigh, is seeking to displace Benjamin R. Lacy, and has been active in the campaign to the extent of more than a thousand dollars. Mr. Lacy has not been inactive, but he has not spent a great deal of money on the primary, because, he says, he did not have it to spend. He believes that he will be an easy winner over his opponent. Should Henry E. Thompson, of Wilson county, defeat Commissioner W. A. Graham, for the headship of the department of agriculture it would be a big surprise to the folks hereabouts. The incumbent has a good many opponents, but Mr. Thompson is not well enough known generally to take advantage of the opposition that might develop.

Presidential Possibilities.
The democrats will have no opportunity to express their preference for a candidate for the presidency, for a candidate for the presidency, for a candidate, and he was certified as the nominee of the party. The delegates to the national convention will be instructed to vote for Senator Simmons as a favorite-son candidate on the first ballot and then they will be at liberty to switch to any other candidate they desire. The vote of this state, in all probability, will go to W. G. McAdoo after the first few ballots.

The republicans will have a more interesting and a little bit more complicated time in their choice for the presidency. The state convention and some of the district conventions instructed for Judge Peter C. Pritchard, as the favorite-son candidate of the republican party, but the Asheville jurist failed

to qualify for the nomination or for the race in the primary, while two of the other presidential candidates did qualify. So the name of Pritchard was left off the official primary ballot and the names of General Leonard Wood and Senator Hiram Johnson were put on. Republicans will have the opportunity of casting their votes for either of these two candidates.

The North Carolina delegates to the republican convention will have to leave either on the day of the primary or the day following in order to reach Chicago on the opening date of the convention. It will be impossible for them to secure certified results from the presidential primary in North Carolina, so that if they desire to head the result of the primary they will have to follow newspaper and other unofficial reports of the results in this state. To all intents and purposes they will in all probability be uninstructed for they do not have to follow the primary results unless the vote is certified by the state board of elections.

SCHOOL CHILDREN SEE SCREEN VERSION OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR
Grammar, that bugbear of nearly every juvenile existence, has taken on a new lease of life by being filmed, according to a story in Popular Mechanics Magazine for June. The school children of Minneapolis, Minn., recently saw enacted, in three local motion picture theaters, the story of Mr. English Grammar. They found how Mr. Verb, little Miss Pronoun, and all the rest of them, were related. They sympathized with "Fine," "Wonderful" and other adjectives who were so overworked that they fell down in exhaustion. They learned too, why "Swell," "Grand," "Gee," and other outlaws are not allowed to live in respectable grammar row.

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