

The High Point Enterprise.

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No. 52

IT WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

The Banquet at the Elwood Last Night Was a Decided Success in Every Particular.

Not in the history of North Carolina has there been such a gathering of notable men, on such an occasion, as that at the Elwood hotel last night in response to special invitations sent out by the Manufacturers' Club of this city. The meeting was more than unique. It was broad and liberal in every sense and was called to deal with business matters, in which the government, manufacturers, railroads and financial institutions were all mutually interested—the trade relations of the South with other countries. The government, from the standpoint of extending her trade relations as against foreign countries, encouraging the export trade about which so much has been said in both branches of Congress. The manufacturers in the matter of widening the market for the ever increasing output in our rapidly increasing manufacturing industries. The financier's and banker's interest centers in the two, because as they prosper, latter increase their wealth and power. Thus was idea conceived when the manufacturers of High Point decided to bring together the representatives from the departments of government and business. How well they succeeded can only be felt by those present at the meeting last night. As one of the eloquent speakers said in closing the banquet that he felt proud of the gathering because there was soul, brotherly feeling in it. It was pitched on that high plane on which no small or selfish idea can survive and in this atmosphere always the true, patriotic, public spirited man always finds his abode. It is up there that moral and intellectual giants walk arm and arm without the molestation of that smaller species, whose ambition is simply existence.

Program of day was perfectly carried out. Some of the guests came in at noon affording the members of the club opportunity of entertaining them at the club rooms. The greater number arrived about 8 o'clock. The special train bearing Secretary Metcalfe and party from Washington arrived at 8 o'clock.

The committee was received at 8:30 o'clock on the private car of President Spencer and proceeded at once to the parlors of the Elwood where an informal reception was held for half hour or more. The Secretary, the Cuban Minister, our Senators and Representatives, President Spencer and other officials Southern railroad, rather preferred to take the matter informally and the thirty minutes was devoted to the easy-going good old-fashioned North Carolina handshakes.

At exactly 9 o'clock the orchestra struck up the grand march and the guests filed into the dining room.

At 11 o'clock the speaking began, Mr. J. Elwood Cox the toast master arose and said:

"Before announcing the distinguished gentleman who is first to speak this evening, I wish to take

this opportunity, on behalf of the Manufacturers Club, to welcome you one and all and to thank you for your presence on this occasion.

"Seldom, if ever, in our State has a Cabinet Officer, a Foreign Minister, as many Eminent Statesmen, prominent Railroad men and Captains of industry been assembled as are here to-night.

"We feel that this is not only a compliment to High Point, but to our State, and indeed the entire South. More especially do we feel this since we learn our distinguished guest actually declined an invitation to address the Chamber of Commerce of New York City, that he might come here, and this too at the request of our good President.

"Two Republics are represented here in token of a desire to know each other better.

"The map of the world has been greatly changed in the last few years. New doors of business opportunities have been opened and one of the greatest questions with business men now is, how to enter them for the best results?

"We are fortunate in having with us this evening the official head of the new department in our Government, that of Labor and Commerce and his presence here proves that he has at heart the best interest of all sections of our great and prosperous country.

"To us perhaps this is the most important department in our Government and it gives me great pleasure to present to you its distinguished secretary—the Hon. Victor H. Metcalfe."

Secretary Metcalfe's Address

I thoroughly appreciate the more than cordial welcome given me to-night, and assure you that I have looked forward with great pleasure to meeting you gentlemen and talking with you in an informal way about some of the resources of your State and the bright prospects that are in store for you in the future. I only regret that I cannot stay with you longer and judge for myself, from personal observation and inspection, of the wonderful growth and development of your State. And especially do I regret that I cannot personally visit and inspect each of the fifty manufacturing establishments and factories located in this city.

And right here permit me to say that no city in the Union has, under similar conditions, made such wonderful progress in manufacturing as High Point. Your developments as a manufacturing center is due entirely to your own efforts, to the push, the energy, the enterprise, and I might add, the nerve of your business men, and in my judgment it will not be long before your city becomes the great manufacturing center for furniture in the United States. Lying, as High Point does, midway between the great developed markets of the North and the rapidly growing markets of the South and Southwest, she is most favorably located to catch her share of the great export trade which will inevitably follow the opening of the Panama canal. Drawing from nature's bounty for supply of raw material for use in your factories, and no other State in the Union offers such a variety of woods, both hard and soft, as North Carolina, and from your fertile areas for supply of food you need go for little outside the bounds of the State in which you stand pre-eminent for the progress and energy of her people. But while you gentlemen are interested

in the growth and development of your own city, you are also interested in the growth and development of the State at large. And while it is not my purpose to-night to speak at length regarding the various industries of your State, yet I do want to call special attention to some of those industries for the purpose of showing the remarkable advancement made by you since the year 1890, and that advancement can best be manifested by giving you some figures, which figures, in my judgement, show most conclusively that the State of North Carolina, taking into consideration area, population, and wealth, has made more wonderful progress along certain lines during the past decade than any other State in the Union. To the average man figures are dry and uninteresting, but to the business man and the man of affairs they tell the story of the year's business and show him on which side of the ledger the balance is placed. And so these figures which I now propose to give you tell the story of progress and development of your State and place North Carolina in the credit instead of debt column of the ledger.

Secretary Metcalfe then gave some very remarkable figures showing the great increase in the development of the industries of the State. He closed with a most beautiful tribute to North Carolina:

"For years you have been living under a cloud, but now the clouds are rolling away, the sun is shining and a new era is dawning—an era of progress, of prosperity, of bright hope and promise for the future. As North Carolina's great Senator, Zebulon B. Vance, once said, in speaking of another people, and I may be permitted to paraphrase his remarks, 'The vapors of the night have been caught upon the wings of the morning breeze and swept away, perfect day has at last been established and now there is peace.' And that it may be so for all time to come is the earnest and sincere wish of the people of all sections of our country—North and South, East and West."

The Secretary took his seat amid deafening applause.

The Cuban Minister.

Mr. Cox, introducing the Cuban Minister, Senor Quesada, said:

"To you sir who represents our sister republic of Cuba: It was very gracious in you to accept our invitation and thus lend your presence to this occasion, which has for its object closer business relations with your country."

The Cuban Minister is one of the patriots of his country. He served in the convention that made the present constitution of Cuba. Fervently he spoke of the love of his people for the United States. In a dramatic way he pointed to the flag and made a glowing allusion to the gallantry of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt as he led his gallant charge. He spoke of the open door in Cuba, the needs of his people, the enormous productions and his belief in the efficacy of Reciprocity. He was hopeful that the United States would eventually control the trade with his country that now goes to Germany and England. The minister spoke with much feeling at times, his blood always warming up when he alluded to the relations of his people with the people of the United States. It was a highly entertaining effort and the speaker was often applauded.

President Samuel Spencer.

"For whatever success High Point has attained credit is largely due to the liberal policy of the Southern Railroad. She stands to-day a practical illustration of a successful manufacturing community—without railroad competition, something that used to be considered well nigh impossible.

"We have with us to-night the President of this great railroad system. We will now hear from Mr. Samuel Spencer on our 'Mutual Interests.'"

These remarks by the Toast

Master were received with prolonged applause as Mr. Spencer arose. Mr. Spencer made one of the best speeches of the evening.

Senator Simmons.

Senator Simmons had a new subject and one that will interest the Southern people more and more every year. The scarcity of labor on the farm has caused our public men to make an investigation of Immigration and Senator Simmons has taken the initiative in framing laws which will encourage the right kind of Immigration to the South. He spoke to this last night and made a masterly effort in justification of his actions which are already endorsed by many progressive citizens of the State. The Senator made it plain to his hearers that the right kind of Immigration could be directed this way without injury in anyway. He closed by showing how this immigration could be secured. The Senator spoke 20 minutes and was warmly applauded.

Senator Overman.

Senator Overman's speech on "Cuban Reciprocity" was full of spirit and spoken in his usually entertaining manner. He dwelt upon Cuban Reciprocity and gave his opinion of the needs of the Cubans and Americans jointly as business neighbors. Senator Overman is a man of extraordinary fine appearance, a good debater and his words last evening were unusually impressive and convincing. We shall probably reproduce the speech in full.

Judge Boyd.

Judge James E. Boyd said that he was among his home people and did not intend to make a speech especially at that hour, but in a few happy remarks he caught the ear of all and elicited much applause.

Congressman Dixon.

Congressman Dixon, the North Carolinian from afar, arose amid much applause and it could be seen that the young Congressman felt keenly the demonstration. He declined to make a speech, however, after 2 o'clock, but made some very humorous allusions to "the products" of the State before he sat down: One of these was the meeting of a stranger in the West with a pint flask of "Wilkes County Juice" in his pocket. The fellow gave it a splendid name and eulogized the State for producing such a grade—He told Mr. Dixon that it was the only stuff of the kind he had ever seen that tasted as well coming up as it did going down. Mr. Dixon received quite an ovation from his North Carolina friends.

Mr. Southgate.

The last speaker of the evening was Mr. J. H. Southgate, of Durham, who paid a most glowing tribute to "White Rock." Mr. Southgate said that he felt honored to be one of the guests at such a meeting, not alone for the benefit to be derived in a business way which must of necessity follow such a gathering, but he would like to have it said that such an occasion was so successfully carried out with nothing stronger than the pure water as given us by the Maker. His words were truly eloquent, inspiring and uplifting, and instead of the reference being taken in the usual light manner, it brought forth much feeling. It had its effect on the entire assembly and everyone present felt prouder of the occasion and, felt highly honored at having such an eloquent exponent of the doctrine so long and successfully expounded by High Point.

The meeting closed at 2:30 a. m. and at 3 o'clock the special train pulled out for Washington. It was truly a great occasion and if the State never has another the influence of this notable gathering will be felt for years to come.

- LIST OF SPEAKERS.**
- Hon. Victor H. Metcalfe, Secretary Labor and Commerce.
 Senor Don Quesada, Cuban Minister.
 Gov R B Glenn, North Carolina—Her Industrial Awakening.
 Senator F. M. Simmons, Southern Immigration.
 Samuel Spencer, Our Mutual Interests.
 Senator Lee S. Overman, Cuban Reciprocity.
 Judge James E. Boyd, The Last 20 Years, What it Means to the South.
 Hon. Joseph M. Dixon, North Carolina from Afar.
 Hon. W. W. Kitchin, The Past a Struggle—the Future a Hope.
 Mr. W. W. Finley, Transportation.
 Hon. R. N. Page, The Business of Politics.
 Hon. E. Spencer Blackburn, A Young Man's Part.
 M. V. Richards, The Coming of the Double Track.
 Joseph G. Brown, Lanking a Necessary Adjunct.
 Hon. John H. Small.
 Hon. E. J. Watson, South Carolina.
 J. H. Southgate.
 Dr. F. P. Venable.
 Dr. Geo. T. Winslow.
- Invited Guests.**
- Washington, D. C.—Hon. Victor H. Metcalfe, Senor Don Quesada de Quesada, and Secretary, Senator F. M. Simmons, Senator Lee S. Overman, Congressman W. W. Kitchin, Congressman John H. Small, Congressman R. N. Page, Congressman Joseph M. Dixon, President Samuel Spencer, Southern Ry., Vice-President W. W. Finley, Southern Ry., M. V. Richards, Southern Ry., C.S. McManus, E. S. Woodall.
 Richmond, Va.—John M. Miller, J. H. Drake.
 Charleston, S. C.—Hon. J. C. Hemphill.
 Columbia, S. C.—Hon. E. J. Watson, A. E. Gonzales.
 Atlanta—L. Creen.
 Chapel Hill—President F. P. Venable.
 Concord—W. R. Odell.
 Charlotte—J. P. Caldwell, Robert E. Follin, George Stephens, C. N. Evans, Wm. Whittam, Jr., Durham—Julian S. Carr, W. A. Erwin, Jas. H. Southgate.
 Raleigh—Governor R. B. Glenn, Joseph G. Brown, Josephus Daniels, R. M. Phillips, Dr. Geo. T. Winston.
 Greensboro—Dr. Egbert W. Smith, Judge James E. Boyd, Hon. E. Spencer Blackburn, G. S. Bradshaw, E. H. Coapman, E. H. Shaw, H. Baker, Col. W. S. Thompson, J. A. Odell, A. M. Scales, Col. Al. Fairbrother, Dr. Chas. D. McIver, R. W. Haywood, E. J. Justice.
 Winston-Salem, N. C.—Col. F. H. Fries, J. C. Buxton, W. T. Brown, R. W. Correll, G. E. Webb, Geo. W. Hinshaw, Henry Dwire.
 Graham, N. C.—L. Banks Holt.
 Havana, Cuba.—Mr. J. L. Edwards.
 Salisbury, N. C.—Hon. John S. Henderson, E. B. C. Hambley.
 Thomasville, N. C.—Capt. W. B. Ryder.
 Randleman, N. C.—Stanhope Bryant.
 Lexington, N. C.—Hon. Z. V. Walser.
 Worthville, N. C.—J. E. Williamson.
 Aberdeen, N. C.—Henry R. Page.
 Pomona, N. C.—John Van Lindley.
 Marion, N. C.—T. F. Wrenn.
 Spray, N. C.—B. Frank Mebane.
 Guilford College, N. C.—President L. L. Hobbs.
 Biscoe, N. C.—Frank Page.
 Haw River, N. C.—A. W. Hayward.

A Notable Occasion.

The banquet at High Point last night was the notable occasion in North Carolina of the New Year— notable because the two which gave princely entertainment to its guests is the best illustration of the industrial progress of the South, and because of the presence of distinguished guests and the practical and sensible utterances around the banquet board.

Twenty-five years ago High Point was a small station on the North Carolina Railroad, a few miles south of Greensboro. It was like fifty other small villages in the State, composed of excellent people who with small capital conducted a growing small local business. There were a few men in the village who had a larger horizon and wished larger things than selling calico and groceries to the thrifty farmers who did their trading at High Point. They began on a small scale to manufacture cheap furniture. They put into every piece they manufactured the best material and best workmanship, with the result that every piece of furniture that was made at High Point gained reputation for excellence. The demand for it grew. Other enterprising men put their money in furniture factories and found larger profits than in other business. The reputation of High Point furniture grew as rapidly as the reputation of Durham tobacco. New factories were built, old factories were enlarged, bright men were sent all over the country to acquaint the people with the good quality of High Point furniture. Its business grew and expanded until today it has come to be known far and near as "the Grand Rapids of the South." More furniture is manufactured in High Point than in any other town or city in the South, and it has a solid reputation that it has built up by putting solid goods into solid furniture and putting enterprise into its scale and manufacture.

High Point had no special advantage over other North Carolina towns in the manufacture of furniture. It had advantage in possessing citizens who had business sagacity and uncommon common sense and industry of the highest order. They mixed brains and industry with moderate capital, and now, in the furniture world, where High Point sits is the head of the table.

The speeches last night were in no sense after dinner talks. They dealt with great questions and were discussed with seriousness and ability by men who lead in making thought. They will help to influence opinion in the right direction and will be productive of larger business growth and broader trade relations.—News & Observer.

Did What Was Expected.

High Point did just what was expected of it in pulling off its banquet to Mr. Metcalfe in great style. That town does not do things in a half-hearted way. It is thorough-going in every thing. In conception and in execution the event of last night was masterly. In bringing together in its midst such a party of prominent men High Point did a service to Guilford county and the State as well as to High Point. We trust that all of the distinguished visitors enjoyed their brief stay in our neighboring town and that they will consider the hospitality extended them by their hosts of last evening as a token of kindly feeling and the most respectful consideration on the part of Greensboro as well as High Point and, indeed, on the part of the county and state.—Telegram.

Groom-to-be and Attendant Here Last Night.

Mr. Dan C. Leonard, employed at the store of Harry-Belk Bros., Greensboro, was here last night in company with Mr. Frank Page enroute to Asheboro. Mr. Page will be united in marriage to-day to Miss Coffin of that place and Mr. Leonard will participate in the marriage.

The Daily Enterprise is making new friends by the score in the way of subscribers. \$3.00 a year.