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BRIGHTEST DAY OF REPUBLICANISM



SENATOR J. C. PRITCHARD.

Declared Senator Pritchard in His Great Speech at the State Convention, a Sentiment That Evoked Great Enthusiasm.

Nearly 1000 Representative Men Were Present, and no Such Body Ever Previously Assembled in the State—Platform Adopted—Judges Named—Hill Endorsed.

In a Strong Speech Hon. Chas. Price Arraigns the Democratic Party of the State, and Declares They Have No Issue to Present.

Staff Correspondence of the Gazette.
Greensboro, Aug. 28.—The republican state convention met here today, with nearly one thousand delegates. The splendid and orderly assemblage filled the opera house. It was a convention calculated to strike terror to the organized democracy of the state, for it was not only numerous, but it was composed of men of ability and prominence in every branch of professional and business life throughout the state, and men familiar with political affairs for a generation in North Carolina declare the state has never seen the equal of this republican convention in any political gathering.

The convention was well entertained by Greensboro. A fine band of musicians, that came to the city at the head of the Randolph county delegation of a hundred men, played patriotic airs at intervals during the convention.
Greensboro, Aug. 28.—At 12:10 o'clock p. m. Chairman J. C. Pritchard called the republican state convention to order. Robert D. Douglass delivered an address of welcome on behalf of the city of Greensboro. Mr. Douglass welcomed the convention "the greatest city of North Carolina: great in what she is, and in what she promises to be." He spoke of the peculiar fitness of Greensboro as a state convention city, and of her generous spirit of hospitality. The democrats of the city, he said, joined with the republicans in welcoming the republican convention.

He referred briefly to the industrial success of the state, well typified in Greensboro, and to the relation of political action to this industrial development, adding that a man was false to his state as well as himself who turned aside from his belief in men and measures that would promote this progress to follow blindly a course dictated by

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passion and prejudice.
Hon. Zeb Vance replied to the address of welcome. He referred to the cordiality of the invitation that had been extended to the convention by Greensboro and paid a warm tribute to the city. "Knowing the heartfelt desire manifested by the citizens of this city," said he, "irrespective of party, that we should come here and the hearty welcome we have received, I say all hail Greensboro! We are proud that we are with you today."

Senator Pritchard then addressed the convention. The hall was already filled except as to a seat here and there on the floor of the hall, and the gallery was crowded before the senator had proceeded far and remained so during the hour and a half of the delivery of his address. The senator spoke with great force and was listened to attentively. He was frequently applauded.

The first applause in which the whole house joined thunderously was when he referred to Theodore Roosevelt as "the matchless statesman who presides at the white house at this time." A portion of the speech that was followed with intense interest, and significantly so was the senator's discussion of the conduct of the finances of the state, in which he contrasted republican and democratic achievements.

His denunciation of the impeachment proceedings brought forth applause. There was laughter at the democratic claim that Governor Aycock's administration was responsible for the increase in cotton mill building in the state; also when it was mentioned that Aycock in his campaign talked economy and Jeffersonian simplicity and when elected asked for an increased salary and run up the expenses of the executive mansion.

There was liberal applause at the mention of the names of Congressmen Moody and Blackburn. There was a roar of laughter when the senator, alluding to the new offices created by the last legislature and absorbed by members of the same legislature, said that they had advanced the theory that the "laborer has a lien on the job." His remarks in favor of the education of the children of the state were roundly applauded as well as his words on the republican record in the state on the school question.

His remarks on the elimination of the race issue from politics, his statement that Judge Clark was not the proper man to be chief justice, and that Clark's almost unanimous nomination by the democratic convention showed the powerful grasp of the machine on the political affairs of the state were features of the speech that evoked strong demonstrations from the convention.

"This is the brightest day for republicanism in the Old North State. Business men are turning to the party of progress, reason and prudence," was cheered by the entire convention. "If God gives me strength, I propose to canvass North Carolina during this campaign." He alluded to his challenge to

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Locke Craig, "who led in the proceedings to impeach the two judges of the Supreme court."

Senator Pritchard had just finished when J. R. McCreary of Lexington advanced to the platform with a fine bouquet of flowers, a token of sympathy and admiration from the ladies of High Point. In reply to Mr. McCreary's address in presenting the flowers, Senator Pritchard said:

"God bless the women! Without them this world would be a barren wilderness. Please convey to these fair women my sincerest thanks."

A credentials committee was appointed, each congressional district naming a member. The convention then adjourned to 5:30 p. m.
A caucus of all the delegates was called for 3 o'clock to discuss the question of a Supreme court judiciary ticket. Ex-Congressman R. Z. Linney moved that a straight republican ticket be nominated. Mr. Linney spoke at length in support of his motion. Senator Pritchard favored a non-partisan judiciary. He spoke of the unparalleled spirit of independence in the state, and urged the endorsement of Judge Thomas N. Hill of Halifax for chief justice. Congressman Moody introduced the following resolution and spoke in support of it along the same lines as Senator Pritchard:

"Resolved, that whereas the republican party desires the elevation to the bench of the best fitted lawyers of the

SEN. PRITCHARD DISCUSSES ISSUES

Greensboro, Aug. 28.—In his speech before the state convention today Senator Pritchard said:

It is highly gratifying to have the pleasure of addressing the large and intelligent audience which greets me on this occasion. We have at last reached that period in our history as a state when the issues raised in a political campaign ought to be considered from a purely business standpoint. In order that we may act intelligently when we come to cast our votes in November next, it is highly important that each citizen in the state should study the various questions that are presented to us for our consideration and in attempting to reach a correct conclusion as to which political party is entitled

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to our support we should carefully consider the records of the two political parties within the past few years. It is not my purpose to review our political history as a nation, beyond President Harrison's administration, feeling as I do that such an effort on my part would cast but little light upon the present situation and would necessarily be a needless waste of time that could be more profitably employed in another direction.

All will remember the splendid condition of our governmental affairs, as well as the general prosperity which pervaded every section of this country during the administration of President Harrison. Our manufacturing industries were being rapidly developed, and the southern people, during that period, made more real progress than they had made during any period subsequent to the late civil war. Our circulating medium had gradually increased until it had reached the sum of \$25 per capita. In 1892, at a time when the country was in the midst of peace and plenty, the American people for some reason which has never been explained, placed the control of our government in the hands of the democratic party. The election that year resulted in the selection of a democratic president, a democratic house of representatives and a democratic senate. President Harrison's administration had been crowned with success from every standpoint, and when he turned over the government on March 4th, 1893, every department was in first class condition. We had not only been able during his administration to meet every obligation of the government, and on the first day of March, 1893, there was a cash balance in the treasury of \$24,128,087.85, as well as a gold reserve fund of \$100,000,000. Thus it will be seen that Mr. Cleveland assumed control of our affairs under most favorable conditions. His party had control of both branches of congress, the country was at peace, both at home and abroad, his administration inherited no vexed question. You may search both ancient and modern history, and you will not find an instance wherein a political party ever assumed control of the affairs of a government under conditions as favorable in every respect as those that obtained when Mr. Cleveland took the oath of office.

Beginning of "Hard Times"
Those of us who live south of Mason and Dixon's line had been told by the democratic leaders of the south that the one thing necessary to make the happiness of the American people complete and perpetual would be to give their party a president and a good working majority in both branches of congress. You no doubt remember the eloquent appeals that have been made to you in the past by the distinguished democrats who have represented North Carolina in

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congress. It is true they have not sung exactly the same tune during each campaign. Sometimes it was the internal self-government, sometimes it was local revenue laws, sometimes it was free silver, then again it was the tariff, and occasionally it was the "nigger," but the chorus has always been: "The country can never resume its normal condition until the democratic party is placed in power." For some reason or other, as soon as it became known that Mr. Cleveland had been elected president, and that our democratic friends had been entrusted with the control of both branches of congress, matters began to go wrong throughout the country. Those who were investing their capital in manufacturing enterprises called a halt, and those who were in a position to do so began to withdraw the money which they had loaned in various sections of the country, and by the time the democratic congress had developed its un-American policy, evidences of unrest were to be found in every state in the union. Our protective policy had enabled our country to grow and prosper in a marvelous degree after the close of the war, but our democratic friends while out of office and while committed to the policy of opposing everything, had declared in opposition to the protective tariff system, and as soon as the senate and house committees were organized they began a systematic attack upon American industries, which culminated in the adoption of what is known as the Wilson-Gorman tariff bill, the most pernicious piece of legislation of the kind that has ever been enacted into law by the American congress. The result of this piece of legislation is well known to every one who is at all familiar with the events which transpired between March 4, 1893, and the date of President McKinley's inauguration. The Wilson-Gorman bill aimed a deadly blow at almost every industry in which the American people were interested, and especially those industries which the southern people had at that time just begun to develop. As a result of this unwise legislation, together with the mismanagement and incompetency of the democratic party, every branch of human industry was more or less injured, and in some instances completely ruined. The laboring man who had

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