

DURHAM RECORDER.
SEMI-WEEKLY.
EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY.
By ZEB P. COUNCIL.
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DURHAM, N. C., Nov. 23, 1908

A CHANGE NEEDED.

The fifth congressional district, with a normal Democratic majority of 5,000, was lost to the Democrats at the recent election by about 400 votes. The loss, in The Landmark's judgement, was due principally to the fierce and bitter fight for the nomination in the Democratic primaries. Notwithstanding this warning, various gentlemen throughout the district are already being mentioned for the Democratic nomination in 1910 and at least one, Col. B. S. Royster, of Granville, has announced his candidacy. Mr. J. C. Buxton, of Winston, was asked whether he would be a candidate and his answer is so sensible that The Landmark invites special attention to it.

"We have not yet recovered," says Mr. Buxton, "from our recent bereavement in the fifth district and it is not very becoming, in my opinion, for Democratic aspirants to open a campaign of pledging voters six months in advance of the time when Mr. Morehead, the successful candidate, will take his seat. I do not know what is going to happen to me in the next two years, and I do not want to pledge friends to me to be redeemed two years hence, regardless of whether I am the proper man to undertake the redemption of this district or not. The truth is we need a change in methods in this district in the manner of securing nominations. I shall never do anything, should I ever become a candidate for the nomination in this district, but announce my candidacy and leave it to the voters of the several counties to decide whose nomination will best serve the interests of the people of the district. I shall never undertake to round up the township voters in my interest, regardless of my fitness for the position."

If the Democratic party is to come in control of affairs in North Carolina Democratic managers and aspirants for places would do well to consider and put into practice what Mr. Buxton says. A change of method is badly needed, not in the fifth district only but in the whole State. The campaign for the Democratic nomination for Governor began last year about a year in advance of the meeting of the convention, and the whole State was set by the ears months before the convention. It has grown into a contest to undertake to fix things to do in advance of the meeting of the convention. Conditions may be changed, but do change and do change them. Give reasons for the time to consider calmly what they want and what is best for them.

In the fifth district, for instance, it was a certain as anything in the future could be that who ever obtained the Democratic nomination would be elected. With this view there was apparently small scruple as to methods Democrats fought each other more violently than they were accustomed to fight Republicans. The result is an object lesson. It means that no matter how large the Democratic majority the people can no longer be depended on to ratify whatever may be done in convention.

It is gratifying to find one man of prominence in the State who has the proper view of the situation and the courage to express the view. All honor to Mr. Buxton. — Statesville Landmark.

MR. BRYAN is censured for what he says to newspaper men and the stand he takes regarding the future of the Democratic party. It is noticeable that he never seeks to be interviewed and that what he says is only what any loyal man might say regarding the party loyalty because he was defeated.

NEXT Thursday is Thanksgiving Day and you will have a special opportunity to help out some charitable work. Of course the opportunity is always with you, but this day is a special occasion with many institutions and you have no reason to say that you have not had sufficient information.

It has always seemed appropriate that Santa Claus should arrive in something like an airship, and now that such a thing is possible, why is it that some fellow has not drawn a picture showing how nice it is for Santa Clause to use this modern way of traveling.

THOSE who criticize men for running for office when there is apparently no chance of winning should look at Mr. Morehead and see what he won because the Republicans had no idea the fifth district would go Republican.

To some extent men are for getting the recent campaign and getting down to business and by the time the legislature meets we will barely remember the matter selected for this position.

SHORT LOCAL ITEMS

Governor-elect Kitchin and Mrs. Kitchin were here one day this week enroute to Raleigh.

Dr. R. T. Vann, of the Baptist Female University, preached at the First Baptist church last Sunday morning.

The Hardware stores of the city have announced that they will close during Thanksgiving day and their patrons can govern themselves accordingly.

The Durham High school football team went over to Warrenton last Saturday and beat the Warrenton High school team in a game of football the score being 18 to 5.

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Phillips, of West Durham, received the sad news of the death of Mr. E. Mr. Cooke, of Swepsonville, last Friday. Mr. Cooke was 65 years of age and leaves a wife and ten children.

Mrs. Stokes Mayes, of West Durham, has taken charge of the Hopkins House and will conduct it in the future. Mrs. Mayes promises a continuation of the good service rendered by the late Miss Hopkins.

Joe Davis, who has been serving thirty days on the county roads for vagrancy, was landed in jail Saturday to await the arrival of officers from Moore county, where it is said that he is wanted for murder.

Joseph Bynum, colored janitor at the postoffice, died last Friday night after a brief illness. He was 54 years of age and leaves a wife and six children. Joe was well and favorably known in Durham as an honest, hard-working negro, and those upon whom he waited will miss him.

Lincoln hospital for colored will observe donation day Thursday and all charitable inclined are requested to send in donations of any kind that may suggest themselves. This institution is doing much for the negroes of Durham and deserves all the support they receive and more.

Miss Allie Blanton and Mr. Erasmus Watkins, of Virginia, came here last Saturday night and were united in marriage at 7:30 o'clock in Hotel Murray, Rev. G. T. Adams, officiating. They returned to their home Sunday. The only purpose they expressed in coming to Durham was to have a surprise wedding.

Subscriptions for The RECORDER.

THE WIDOW and THE WIDOWER
A THANKSGIVING EPISODE
By Caspar Dullon
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DEACON SILAS LAPHAM, widower, had been paying attention to Aunt Sarah Henderson, widow, for two years. Each heard that the other was stubborn, and each was watching and waiting for the other to exhibit the trait. Thanksgiving brought the crisis. The widow invited the deacon to dinner. There was no question about the deacon taking the head of the table, but when the matter of carving came up the widow took knife and fork in hand and said:

"I can do it so much better than you, you know."

"I fail to see how or why," he replied.

"Because I have always carved. It was an eccentricity of mine even when I was a girl. No doubt you can slice ham or pork, but when it comes to carving a turkey—"

"I have carved thousands of them."

the deacon as he got on his overcoat.

The widow ate her Thanksgiving dinner alone, but that turkey was never carved to form a part of it. After the deacon's departure she returned to the carving knife and eventually managed to saw off a piece of the meat, but she had no sooner tasted it than she started for the kitchen to interview the hired girl.

It was three or four days before the mystery was solved, for there was a mystery. The turkey, which had been killed three or four days ahead of time and hung up to freeze, had been cut down and devoured by cats, and to save himself from reproach the hired man had killed a peacock and hung it in its place.

"And so you see I had to saw and jab," explained the widow as the widower was sent for.

"Y-e-s, I see."



"THERE—YOU ARE JABBING AGAIN!"

as you must know," interrupted the deacon, with considerable asperity.

"Don't jab the fork into the bird like that. That's like a hired man jabbing a pitchfork into a heap of hay."

"I was not jabbing. In order to start carving you must get a firm hold of the bird."

"Then take it by a leg."

"Never! How would you look holding the bird with one hand while you jab away with the knife? If you have always carved that way—"

"I have, and it's the only way to carve. There—you are jabbing again! One would think you wore a soldier's bayonetting an enemy."

"Deacon Silas Lapham, you are talking like a child! When I think I need to be told how to carve a turkey I will call on you for advice. I simply get a firm hold with the fork and then—"

"And then jab, jab, jab. A woman has no business with the carving knife and fork when there is a man present. I will carve this turkey."

"I beg your pardon, but you will sit there and see me carve it. Don't forget that I am in my own house and that I am still my own boss."

"You invite me to dinner and then humiliate me, do you?" shouted the deacon as he shoved back his chair.

"Now, don't be a schoolboy," chided the widow as she flourished the knife around. "Having got a firm hold with the fork, I now proceed to cut around the thigh joint—thus"

"But you are sawing instead of cutting."

"No, I'm not."

"Widow Henderson!"

"Deacon Lapham!"

"If I was a swearing man—"

"You'd get off a swear word on this occasion. Yes, you look as if you were swearing to yourself this minute."

"I haven't sworn a single swear, but when a man has to sit here and see a Thanksgiving turkey killed and poked and stabbed and sawed and butchered the Lord would surely forgive him for one or two swear words."

"Deacon Silas Lapham," she replied as she rested from her labors. "I said I could carve a fowl!"

"Then why don't you?"

"I am doing it, and if you would keep quiet for five minutes!"

"And you would also have had to saw and jab."

"Y-e-s."

"And though you went away you didn't miss your turkey."

"No."

"And all things considered—"

"Yes, all things considered!"

The deacon's fur had to be rubbed the right way for a time, but he purred at last, and on this Thanksgiving day he will do the carving and his wife will pass the cranberry sauce.

Our Thankfulest Thanks

By ROBERTUS LOVE.

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OH, we are thankful for manifold blessings.

Thankful for life and for home and for health.

Thankful for turkeys with savory dressings.

Thankful for progress and wisdom and wealth.

Thankful for corn and alfalfa and clover.

Thankful for money and faith in the banks.

Thankful, so thankful, election is over— That is the source of our thankfulest thanks!

One year in four is a leap year, remember This is one of 'em, and many a man Sworn to stay single if this were December.

Now would give thanks to be freed of the ban.

Yet there's a bother that's still more distressing

One year in four—all the rest it our thanks—

Named, election, which keeps us a-guessing.

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12:05 11:50 Ar Lynchburg Lv 5:15 4:15
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