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LUMBERTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY JUNE 1, 1908.

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READ ROBESONIAN BUSINESS BUILDERS.

MR. CRAIG FOR GOVERNOR.

A "Party Worker" Who was for Mr. Kitchin in the Beginning is now for Mr. Craig—Mr. Craig's Splendid Work for the Party—A Self-Made Man—Mr. Kitchin Has Had His Hand in "the Chest" for 12 Years.

In the beginning of the contest for the nomination for Governor, while I had not committed myself to any one, I was inclined to support Mr. Kitchin, because I liked him personally, and was not as well acquainted with the other two candidates. After seeing the kind of campaign Mr. Kitchin is making, and also after fully considering the debt which the Democratic party in the east owed to Mr. Craig, I concluded some time ago to support Mr. Craig for the nomination.

Mr. Kitchin's speech at Lumberton was only a fair sample of the kind of campaign he is making all over the State. He is against everybody who is not for him, and not only is he against everybody who is not for him, but he makes it a point to try to insinuate sinister or corrupt motives to those who espouse the cause of any one of the other candidates. He has recently added to his list of those to be criticised and abused, for not being in favor of his nomination, ex-Governor Aycock and Senator Simmons. I can see no impropriety in ex-Governor Aycock and Senator Simmons stating that they are for Mr. Craig, if they are for him, and that they should state their reasons. No men in North Carolina, who were connected with North Carolina politics at the time, are in better position to say who performed more valiant services in the campaigns of 1898 and 1900. They were certainly the leaders in those great political battles, and when recently attempts have been made to disparage the party service of Mr. Craig, it was nothing but just that ex-Governor Aycock and Senator Simmons should state the facts within their knowledge as to what services Mr. Craig has performed for the Democratic party. This is all they have done.

I have heard it from those who were in college with Mr. Craig, some of whom now live in Robeson county, that he is entirely a self-made man. His father, a poor Baptist preacher, died when Mr. Craig was a small boy, and his mother moved to Chapel Hill and opened a boarding house, for the purpose of making a living, and at the same time sending her son to college. He graduated there with high honors, although he was handicapped, on account of having to help his mother, and at the same time trying to do his college work.

We all know, and can bear out the statements of both ex-Governor Aycock and Senator Simmons, that Mr. Craig has done valiant service for his party since his college days were over. He is now in this campaign without the money, furnished him by public office, or otherwise, with which to carry on his campaign as his competitors are able to carry on theirs, and he has to depend upon the loyalty of his Democratic friends, and to gratitude for his public service, for his support in this campaign. His chief competitor, Mr. Kitchin, upon his own admissions, has been in Congress 12 years, and now only quits voluntarily with the purpose of running for the office of Governor. He has had his hand in the "public chest" for 12 years, according to his own statements, and in salary and in perquisites, he has been able to draw from the "chest" perhaps over \$75,000 in this 12 years.

If there is any gratitude in the hearts of the eastern Democrats, it would seem that the nomination can well be bestowed at this time upon Mr. Craig. Not only has he been a valiant worker in political campaigns, but no man has done more work for the cause of prohibition than he has done. As an evidence of this, his own county, Bumcombe, gave a majority of 3,300 for prohibition, while Mr. Kitchin's county, Person, gave a wet majority of 250.

I trust that the Democrats of Robeson county who were interested in the campaign of 1898 and 1900, will not forget their duty.

"PARTY WORKER" Lumberton, May 28, 1908.

MR. KITCHIN AND FUSION.

Butler Fused With Him in 1896 and Gave Kitchin the Populist Vote Against Mr. Settle—Fusion Would Have Come About Again in 1898 if the Party Had Accepted Kitchin's Earnest and Urgent Counsel—His Nomination Will Give Republicans an Opportunity to Point the Finger of Scorn.

As the campaign waxes warm the people are beginning to take notice of some things that were about to be overlooked—if not forgotten. The Sun has repeatedly referred to the attempt of Mr. Kitchin to fuse the Democratic party with Marion Butler and his coterie of pie-hunters in 1898. Some notice has been given to it by other papers. In reply to a letter by Mr. Charles W. Tillett, of Charlotte, written in the interest of Mr. Kitchin's candidacy, Mr. M. C. Freeman, a farmer of Richmond county, writes an open letter, from which the following extract fits in very nicely here:

"And, Mr. Tillett, you mention the fact that Mr. Kitchin has not been in Mr. Craig's congressional district to make a single speech. I believe that is a fact—and if my memory serves me right I don't think he put himself to much trouble about going up into Mr. Craig's district in 1896 and 1898—and I don't remember to have heard very much about Mr. Kitchin being down in my county or down in the east. The fact of the business is I believe they say he was in the fifth district a-running for Congress and if my memory serves me right I think he has been up in the fifth district in every campaign since, making himself very conspicuous a-running for Congress. But what I want to know is, Did Mr. Kitchin try to fuse with 'Mary Ann' in 1896? It's been charged that he did, and he has not denied it. If he didn't you tell him he ought to deny the charge. If he did, then I say that no Democrat in North Carolina ought to vote for him until he confesses and represents for his sins."

Mr. Freeman tells a part of the story very truthfully; but he does not tell all of it. The truth is that Mr. Butler fused with Kitchin in 1896, and gave him the Populist vote against Mr. Settle, thereby bringing about what is now claimed as a brilliant Democratic victory, but he did not fuse with the other Democratic candidates for Congress in that year, and they were defeated. Just why young Mr. Kitchin was selected by Butler for fusion in 1896 we do not know, but it may have been on account of Captain Buck Kitchin, who was Butler's first lieutenant. Or it may have been because our other candidates, seeing how many negroes Butler and his lieutenants had helped to put in office, refused to fuse with him!

But Mr. Kitchin's fusion record does not end with his election over Settle in 1896. In the year 1898, when the Democratic party met in convention at Raleigh, Butler had had a row with Pritchard, and he came to the Democratic convention with the stink of a thousand negro office holders on him, and proposed to fuse with us on the basis of dividing the offices, etc.—ad nauseum.

That proposition was referred to the committee on resolutions. It can well be bestowed at this time upon Mr. Craig. Not only has he been a valiant worker in political campaigns, but no man has done more work for the cause of prohibition than he has done. As an evidence of this, his own county, Bumcombe, gave a majority of 3,300 for prohibition, while Mr. Kitchin's county, Person, gave a wet majority of 250.

I trust that the Democrats of Robeson county who were interested in the campaign of 1898 and 1900, will not forget their duty.

"PARTY WORKER" Lumberton, May 28, 1908.

It is known that short work would have been made of it, but for Mr. Kitchin. He was earnest, urgent and insistent upon its acceptance. He advanced many arguments why it should be adopted, but the argument which he pressed with greatest force and persistency was that he had been able to beat Settle and be elected to Congress, while our other candidates had lost, with the aid of the populist vote. That his district was about all we had left—if we did not fuse we had no chance of winning in the State and that he would lose his district.

Well, the committee remembered those negroes, Butler and his lieutenants had helped to put in office, and they considered that a victory, with Butler and his lieutenants on top, would be worse than a defeat, and they refused to accept the advice of Mr. Kitchin, and under the lead of Simmons, Aycock, Glenn and Craig—Mr. Kitchin's "big four"—then opened fire on Russell and Butler and their lieutenants, and smote them hip and thigh, and there was weeping and gnashing of teeth.

But Mr. Kitchin says that Simmons and Aycock and Glenn and Craig, and their able and patriotic followers did not do it at all—that they do not deserve the credit and the reward, if any is to be given. The poll-holders, Mr. Kitchin says, did it, and if there is to be any reward it should go to them. This is just what the radicals have been saying, continue to say, never tire of saying. It is what Butler said and is still saying. What they mean to charge is that we did not carry the State in 1898, but stole it! We Democrats have always resented that statement when made by Republicans. Why should we endorse it when insinuated by a Democrat? It is a serious charge. It is not a true charge. Whenever Republicans have made it we have branded it as false. It is now for the first time made by a Democrat, and that Democrat is a candidate for the nomination of his party for Governor!

If we nominate him will we not have to admit the charge? Does the Democratic party want to nominate or elect a man Governor of North Carolina who in effect says the poll-holders and not the voters carried the election in 1898, and adopted the amendment in 1900?

Nominate Mr. Kitchin after this charge, and on a thousand stumps in North Carolina the Republican campaign orators will in the coming campaign, point the finger of scorn at us and say: "You dare not deny it for you nominated for Governor the man who said it, and you stand self-confessed!"

STATE NEWS.

William Joseph Morris, 56 years old, for 35 years a trusted engineer of the Atlantic Coast Line, died Thursday morning at the hospital in Wilmington, where he lived, death resulting from an operation. His wife, mother, 3 sons and one daughter survive.

Julia Howell, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. C. M. Hughes, of Fayetteville, was run over by a runaway horse Wednesday and very badly, though, it is thought, not fatally injured. One of her legs was broken and she received a gash on her head and several bad bruises.

The Cleveland Star says that during an electric storm in Cleveland county on Monday night of last week the house of Mr. T. D. Putman was struck and one of his daughters, who had retired, was hurled out of bed by the force of the bolt, which ran down under the bed, played around on the bed springs and hurled springs, mattress and occupant off the bed into the middle of the floor. The young lady was not injured.

McLEOD VS. COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioners and McLeod File Affidavits in Reply to Application of Board of Audit and Finance to Intervene and Interplead.

The application of the county board of audit and finance to intervene and interplead in the suit of ex-Sheriff Geo. B. McLeod against the county commissioners for a settlement of his tax accounts for the year 1906 will be argued before Judge B. F. Long in Lumberton today. The affidavit of Mr. A. B. Pearsall, chairman of the board of audit and finance, in this matter was published in The Robesonian last Monday. On Friday affidavits were filed by J. W. Carter, chairman of the board of commissioners, and by ex-Sheriff McLeod. These affidavits are too lengthy to be published in full. Mr. Carter's affidavit is in substance as follows:

MR. CARTER'S AFFIDAVIT. Affiant is informed and believes that Col. N. A. McLean, who represented Robeson county in the Senate of 1907, introduced and caused to be passed the act creating the board of audit and finance and therein A. B. Pearsall, Graham McKinnon and J. M. Butler were appointed members of said board, and the act provided that upon the expiration of the terms of office of such members their successors were to be elected by the Legislature. That this board selected Col. McLean as their attorney, although he had been attorney for many of the county officers whose conduct in office was to be investigated, and although he was then counsel for many of the county officers. That when the board began its investigations they were conducted entirely by its counsel, and no person was allowed to be cross examined by his counsel, but that the board of audit and finance ruled that counsel for those examined could only advise their clients as to their constitutional rights to refuse to answer certain questions; that the stenographer was instructed as to what testimony should be taken down and that as a result the testimony taken before the board, upon which its findings were made, was without any regard to the rights of the parties whose conduct was being investigated. That the investigations were held not so much to obtain the truth but to find something upon which to base an attack upon the commissioners and other officials of the county, and that this became known before the conclusion of the investigations and the findings were discounted on that account before they were made known. That the findings of the board were published and filed, but the testimony was not filed with the register of deeds nor a copy furnished to the commissioners, and that the commissioners had to have same copied from the records kept in the office of the counsel for their own expense. That the report of the board is devoted almost entirely to an attack upon the commissioners and ex-Sheriff McLeod, contains many statements not supported by testimony, many statements untrue and misleading, many incorrect conclusions of law; that the commissioners are charged with doing many things which they have not done, with violating many laws which they have not violated; that they are charged with violations of law in doing things which all other boards before them have done with the sanction and approval of Col. McLean, who was formerly counsel for the board of commissioners; that the commissioners are condemned for doing things which no fair-minded set of men would condemn them for doing. That it is well known that the board of audit and finance is entirely under the control of its counsel and that the investigation was conducted entirely according to his views and wishes, with the result that the report does injustice to the commissioners, as set forth in the reply of the commissioners, which reply is referred to for instances of such injustice.

That on February 29 the board of audit and finance filed a report which purported to contain a final statement of the accounts of ex-Sheriff McLeod from March 19, 1906, to December 1, 1907, and that prior to the time of filing this report the commissioners had not endeavored to reach any settlements of the tax accounts of ex-Sheriff McLeod for the year 1906-07 for the reason that they were advised it

was the duty of the board of audit and finance to furnish the figures upon which such settlement could be made. That the board of audit and finance seemed to recognize that it was its duty to furnish these figures, for it employed experts to examine into the accounts, and they had also employed another expert to examine into the accounts of the present sheriff before his settlement was due. That it was provided in act creating the board of audit and finance that it should perform all the duties heretofore performed by the finance committee, which had always furnished these figures. That upon examining the report of the board of audit and finance with a view to making settlement with ex-Sheriff McLeod it was found that errors and mistakes had been made to such an extent that the said report was totally worthless and unreliable as to the correct amounts due by ex-Sheriff McLeod to the county, some of which alleged inaccuracies are pointed out.

The efforts made to get the board of audit and finance to assist in making settlement with ex-Sheriff McLeod and the institution of the suit by ex-Sheriff McLeod, all of which has been fully reported in The Robesonian, are then reviewed. Affiant further says: That it is true that the commissioners have taken no action upon the report of the board of audit and finance because it is full of errors, and that it is not the duty of the commissioners to proceed against any one for money due, but that this is the duty of the board of audit and finance; and that although that board charges that several parties are indebted to the county, it has not brought suit against any of them. That certain attorneys appeared at the time of publishing replies to the charges made against the commissioners and ex-Sheriff McLeod for both of them, but the matters then at issue had nothing to do with the settlement of the tax accounts. That the commissioners have made many efforts to make settlement with ex-Sheriff McLeod and such settlement would have been made had the board of audit and finance performed its duty under the law. That the only purpose of this action is to obtain a judicial determination of the amounts due by ex-Sheriff McLeod. That there is no understanding or agreement in regard to the present suit. That

(Continued on 4th page.)

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

W. H. KINLAW, Attorney-at-Law, Lumberton, N. C. All business promptly transacted. 4-16-tf

Stephen McIntyre, R. C. Lawrence, James D. Proctor, McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor, Attorneys and Counselors at Law, Lumberton, N. C. Practice in State and Federal Courts. Prompt attention given to all business.

LEON T. COOK, ATTORNEY AT LAW, LUMBERTON, N. C. Office in First National Bank Building.

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WADE WISHART, ATTORNEY AT LAW, LUMBERTON, N. C. Prompt attention given to all business. Office over Bank of Lumberton, 8-1

D. P. SHAW, Attorney at Law, Lumberton, N. C. All business entrusted to him promptly attended to. Office in Shaw building.

N. A. McLean, A. W. McLean, McLEAN & McLEAN, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, LUMBERTON, N. C. Offices on 2nd floor of Bank of Lumberton Building, Rooms 1, 2, 3, and 4. Prompt attention given to all business.

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Dr. Thomas C. Johnson, Physician and Surgeon, Lumberton, N. C. Office over McMillan's Drug Store. Calls answered promptly day or night. Home at residence of Prof. J. R. Poole 4-2-tf.

DR. N. A. THOMPSON, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, LUMBERTON, N. C. Office at Hospital, Phone No. 41. Down town office over McMillan's Drug Store. Calls promptly answered night or day, in town or in the country.

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E. G. SIPHER, ELECTRICIAN, Lumberton, N. C. Office in Shaw Building, Phone No. 118. 1-6

DR. R. F. GRAHAM, DENTIST, LUMBERTON, N. C. Office over Bank of Lumberton. Rooms No 7 and 8. 1-20-08

DR. J. C. MCKENZIE, Physician and Surgeon, ORRUM, N. C. 3-9-tf

THE LUMBERTON PRESSING CLUB. A Hospital for Your Clothing. We Clean, Press and Repair. Ladies' Fabrics a specialty. R. T. MUSSELWHITE, Mgr. 1-23-tf

Of Interest to Democrats. The National Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee has begun active operations at its headquarters at Washington, D. C. In addition to its regular work, it is now preparing a campaign hand-book which it hopes to have ready for distribution by July 1—two or three months earlier than heretofore.

The committee is charged with the duty of assisting, in every way possible, the election of a Democratic Congress. We wish the active co-operation of every voter in the United States who believes, with us, that the election of a Democratic Congress would greatly benefit the country. We must rely upon the people to sustain our work by giving information as to local conditions, suggestions for our guidance.

Each individual can at least aid us by making a contribution. Will he not do so and interest others in helping us too? We wish our campaign hand-book distributed as generally as possible, and we will furnish a copy, as soon as published, to every one who contributes to our committee.

Send remittances to me at Washington, D. C. JAMES T. LLOYD, Chairman.

Fourteen or more persons were killed, thousands were rendered homeless, property valued at millions of dollars was swept away and train and wire service was demoralized in the northern and central sections of Texas last week as the result of a record-breaking rise in the Trinity river and other streams following a rainfall unprecedented in severity.

Gov. Glenn, in speaking the day after the election of the great victory for prohibition, said that he thought it the greatest event that has ever taken place in the State.

The Best Pills Ever Sold. "After doctoring 15 years for chronic indigestion, and spending over two hundred dollars, nothing has done me as much good as Dr. King's New Life Pills. I consider them the best pills ever sold," writes E. F. Aycock, of Ingleside, N. C. Sold under guarantee at all drug stores. 25c.