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TAFT VS. CANNON FIGHT IS NOW ON

Boom is Shaking the Band Wagon

SOME HOT LETTERS

Major H. L. Grant, One of the Cannon boomers, writes a letter which brings warm response from W. G. Bramham, a Taft Band Wagon Passenger.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Durham, N. C., Feb. 20.—The fight between those of the Republican ranks who favor Taft for the Presidency and those who favor Cannon is now on in earnest in this State. There is a determined effort being made by the friends of Mr. Cannon to capture the State Convention for him and throw Mr. Taft overboard. It looks now, from all that can be learned here, that the fight will be a warm one.

So far have the friends of Mr. Cannon gone that headquarters have been opened in Greensboro and letters are being sent over the State, these to prominent Republican leaders, with a view of capturing the convention for Mr. Cannon. Those who favor the present Speaker of the House are not only fighting the national administration, but are up in arms against the State Republican organization.

One of those who are fighting to launch the boom for Mr. Cannon is Major H. L. Grant and Circuit Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina. He has sent out to the leaders of the Republican party throughout the State a circular letter in which he hands out a solar plexus to the national administration and the State Republican organization. Among those receiving this letter sent out by Major Grant, was Mr. W. G. Bramham, in this city. The letter was dated yesterday, came to hand today and a warm reply was soon on its way back to Raleigh.

Mr. Bramham, who is secretary of the local county organization, is known as an ardent party man and supporter of the present national administration. He is also unqualifiedly for Mr. Taft. He has led the party in this county in the rights, and in all of the fights for the last few years he has been the leading spirit which has kept the fight going and push forward the interests of his party in this county.

But the most interesting part of the entire story is the letter sent by Major Grant and the characteristic reply sent him by Mr. Bramham. These letters show that there is a bad split and wide difference of opinions among some of the leaders of the party.

Grant's Fight Administration.

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19, 1908.

"My Dear Sir:—There is now going on in this State a revolution in sentiment and a vigorous campaign to secure delegates to the State Convention in favor of Hon. Joseph G. Cannon as a candidate for President of the United States. An office has been opened in Greensboro and headquarters established with a friend of Speaker Cannon from New York in charge. I was at Greensboro last night in consultation with him, and there learned that the eighth district will be solid and a majority in the fifth district and in Guilford county (Adams' home) will be their unanimous choice. The movement is gathering strength every day and it seems to me that this will be the most direct way to rebuke the two bosses, I am willing to admit I have some sentiment with the candidacy of Mr. Cannon. Seventy years ago his father started a school at New Garden, which is not far from Greensboro. This has been, and is, a great educational institution from whose classrooms have gone the equal of any of our citizenship, if not the best. For the first time in my knowledge an opportunity presents itself to honor in this high position a native of North Carolina. I would like to see the Republicans of this State rally around his standard and honor one who is pre-eminently qualified and who has the full and unqualified confidence of the whole country. If we can demonstrate to the administration that the self-constituted guardians of our political rights cannot deliver the delegation solid for Mr. Taft, even with the promise of controlling the Federal patronage in North Carolina, this will be a revelation long hoped for. Even if we feel friendly towards Mr. Taft, in common decency and respect for our intelligence, we ought to resent the egotism of presumption of these two men to speak for eighty thousand Republicans in North Carolina. They have even published to the world who will be the four delegates at large in the State of North Carolina six months before the date for the meeting of the State Convention. Up to that time these Caesars felt that they should be great! I am in favor of coming out and by resolutions endorsing the candidacy of Mr. Cannon. When this cannot be done send good men not instructed. Endorse President Roosevelt's administration if you think desirable, but resent the recognized efforts of any

man to deal with the President or his representatives and pledge the delegation from their State to the National Convention. Will you not consider this in the light of good politics and freedom from bossism for us in North Carolina? Of course, the officeholders will look to their boss for instructions, but shall we let them longer dominate the mass of the Republican voters in North Carolina? Please write me what you think of this and the prospects of carrying out this policy in your county.

A Warm Reply.

Mr. Bramham, who never flutes two horses at one time, did not mince words in his reply. He is for Taft and against the policy that is suggested by Major Grant and this afternoon the following letter was sent in reply to the one above quoted: Durham, N. C., Feb. 20, 1908.

Hon. H. L. Grant, Clerk United States Court, Raleigh, N. C.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of February 19th to hand and I have given it most careful consideration of its contents. My policy has always been, in politics, as well as all the walks of life, to deal fair and above board, letting both my friends and my enemies know where they can find me. Financially and politically, it has not always proven a good method, but it does away with taking of any tonic to aid my sleep.

At the outset I want to say I have no patience with the fight made on the State organization or the present national administration. I am always in the fight when the chairman of the State is at stake to the end that a good man may be named. If my man is defeated, I bow in humble submission and immediately hitch my mule to the wagon and help pull for Republican unity and Republican success. This is my idea of Republican loyalty as well as Republican success.

I think the present State organization has been used for the upbuilding of the Republican party in this State, and for its ultimate success. It has met with many stumbling blocks and he said to the discredit of the local party, and especially to those from whom ingratitude should be least expected, it has been repeatedly help in disrepute by those who have been partaken of its bounties.

As to the present national administration, I say without fear of present historians, or future historians, denial, it has been the greatest administrative disaster since the beginning of our nation and he who attempts to attach discredit to it argues his own ignorance.

That you may know exactly where I stand I wish to say I am for William H. Taft, first, last and all the time for President. I endorse without reservation the present national administration and the present State administration.

These personal views are not given you in confidence, as I speak them as you desire.

Yours truly, WILLIAM G. BRAMHAM.

LEMON FOR TAFT

Guilford Republican Executive Committee Endorses Cannon

By ANDREW JOYNER.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Greensboro, N. C., Feb. 20.—The Republican county executive committee in session here this afternoon fixed March seventh as date for county convention. By a vote of ten to five resolutions endorsing Cannon for President were adopted.

Significance to this action comes from the fact that State Chairman Adams, supposedly for Taft, lives here, while Adams' friends explain that Cannon was born in this county.

SOUTHBOUND RAILWAY.

Stockholders and Directors Hold Annual Meeting—Old Officers Re-Elected.

(Special to News and Observer.)

Winston-Salem, N. C., Feb. 20.—The stockholders and directors of the Southbound Railway Company held their annual meeting here today.

Various matters relating to the operation of the present financial situation were discussed. Reports made by the officers showed that everything possible is being done to keep the organization intact, and to push the work as rapidly as conditions would permit. It was agreed that construction work cannot be resumed until the present financial clouds disappear. The men behind the enterprise have faith in it, and are confident that the Southbound will be built, and that construction forces will be placed all along the line just as soon as normal conditions are realized in the financial world. The officers were re-elected they being as follows: President, H. E. Fries; vice-president, W. T. Brown; secretary and treasurer, W. F. Shaffner. The towns along the proposed line of the Southbound were represented at the meeting today. Mr. S. H. Hearn, of Albemarle; Capt. Frank Robins, and Mr. George Montcastle, of Lexington, were those present.

It is her winning ways that often enable a woman to get the better of a man in the matrimonial game.

LATTIMER IS DEAD

Senator from South Carolina Dies in Washington

Was Known as One of the Most Earnest and Conscientious Committee Workers in Congress—Had Appendicitis and Complications.

(By the Associated Press.) Washington, D. C., Feb. 20.—Senator Asbury C. Lattimer, of South Carolina, died at Providence Hospital at 9:15 a. m. today of peritonitis. He had been at the hospital since Sunday last, when he underwent an operation for appendicitis. It was then discovered that he was suffering with a far more serious ailment. The bowels had become twisted and his condition was found to be such that surgeons held out little hope for his recovery. He rallied, however, and his progress was satisfactory until 7 o'clock last night, when steadily he began to grow worse. At midnight it appeared that recovery was impossible. The members of the Senator's family were with him when he died, having been informed that there was little hope that he would survive the night. Colonel Ramsdell, sergeant-at-arms of the Senate, at once made arrangements for the removal of the body to the Lattimer home at Belton, S. C.

Under the Ruling the Stock in the Illinois Central Owned by the Union Pacific and the Railroad Securities Co. Can Be Voted at Annual Meeting.

(By the Associated Press.)

Chicago, Ills., Feb. 20.—Judge Ball, of the Superior Court, today dissolved the injunction against last October by Stuyvesant Fish, by virtue of which the Harriman interests were restrained from voting 281,241 shares of the capital stock of the Illinois Central Railroad at the annual meeting of the company. The theory on which counsel for Mr. Fish based their arguments in support of the injunction was that it was contrary to the laws and public policy of the State of Illinois to allow foreign corporations to vote the stock of domestic corporations—a theory which was denied by the court.

Under the ruling of the court the stock which is held by the Union Pacific Railroad Company and by the Railroad Security Company, of New Jersey, can be voted at the annual meeting of the Illinois Central which site held in this city on March 2.

There is no appeal from the decision handed down today by Judge Ball, but it is considered probable that Mr. Fish will take further legal steps to regain possession of the Illinois Central. Judge E. E. Farrar, of New Orleans, who has acted as leading counsel for Mr. Fish throughout the controversy, said today after the rendering of the decision, that the case will now be tried on its merits.

None of the principals in the case were in court, both Mr. Fish and Mr. Harriman being in New York. President Harrahan, of the Illinois Central, came in while the decision was being read. When the conclusion had been reached, he said:

"My head is too full of that decision to allow me to say anything, but to say that I am highly pleased, and more than highly pleased, is putting it mildly." Judge Ball, who is of a somewhat frail physique, turned over to his son, the task of reading his decision which contained almost 10,000 words.

The court declared that Mr. Fish had not been able to prove any of his contentions that the domination of the Illinois Central by Mr. Harriman would be to its detriment, and had also failed to show that the interests of stockholders would be injured thereby.

The Union Pacific and the Illinois Central, he said, were not competing, but are connecting lines and the one could be of a commercial rival of the other in such a sense as to fall within the scope of legal decisions against the alliances between competing railroads. The two roads, the court declared, were not so situated as to make it possible that they could combine to monopolize traffic in any section of the country.

The court further declared that if the name of Mr. Harriman was not a name to conjure with, many of the allegations made in the case would not be considered seriously. He was compelled to act, he said, or fast as legend and not fears, "or supposed prophesies."

Death of Mr. Herbert L. Green. Wilkesboro, N. C., Feb. 20.—Mr. Herbert L. Green died at his home here last Wednesday after two years of suffering from a hopeless malady of the brain.

Mr. Green was educated at the State University, studied law under Col. Folk and was admitted to the practice of law in 1887. He eminently succeeded in his profession and at the time he was stricken by the malady he stood in the class of the most prominent lawyers of this section. He was a man of splendid native ability and possessed sterling and attractive personal qualities.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED CHILDREN

Public Schools of Jacksonville Adjourn to Hear the "Clansman."

(Special to News and Observer.) Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 20.—The "Clansman" entertainment at the Duval Theatre, on this, its farewell tour, was the very successful children's matinee. The public schools were adjourned at 1 o'clock and fifteen hundred boys and girls applauded the play, occupying the entire orchestra and balcony.

The board of education voted resolution of thanks to Manager George H. Brennan, for the arrangements made for the convenience and entertainment of the children.

THE WEATHER.

Fair Friday; Saturday fair, warmer, light to fresh northwest to north winds; cloudy variable.

The Weather Yesterday. Maximum temperature 49 degrees; minimum temperature 33 degrees; total precipitation for 24 hours ending 8 p. m., 0 inches.

THE RAILROAD KING WINS OUT

Injunction Against Harriman People Dissolved

FISH THEORY DENIED

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K. O. P. ORPHANAGE

Movement Gets Encouragement at Durham

Address of Dr. C. Alphonso Smith—Death of Mrs. Tilley—Inventory of Jones and Frasier Business—Can't Fight Discrimination.

(Special to News and Observer.) Durham, N. C., Feb. 20.—The movement looking to the establishment of an orphanage by the Knights of Pythias at some point in the State is receiving encouragement here. A site has been offered on which to locate the orphanage, this by the East Durham Lodge of Pythians. This lodge decided that the orphanage was the proper thing and to show that it believed in this work offered to give to the grand lodge such land as was needed for the erection of the buildings, play grounds for the children and for gardening work. At an early date the other two lodges here, Durham Lodge No. 31, and the West Durham Lodge will take up the matter and will probably join in the proposition made by the East Durham Pythians in an effort to get the orphanage for this city.

But it has not been fully decided, as yet, what is to be done about the matter and will not be decided until the Grand Lodge meets in Raleigh in June. At the last meeting of the Grand Lodge the matter was fully discussed and a committee was appointed to look into the entire matter and formulate a report for the next meeting. This committee is composed of Mr. George L. Hackney, of Asheville, chairman; Messrs. Thomas D. Meares, Wilmington; Earl McCooland, Charlotte; J. D. Pridden, Durham, and Mr. Bell, Concord. This committee has been working on the proposition and there will be a meeting in April, this meeting to be held in Charlotte in all probability, at which time the matter will be gone over and the report prepared for the Grand Lodge.

In order to get the sentiment of the great mass of Pythians throughout the State the committee recently sent to each of the subordinate lodges a list of questions to be answered, these questions being of a nature to get "how badly" the orphanage was wanted, as Committeeman Pridden expressed it. The questions asked has caused the lodge to get to work and has resulted in the offer of a site being made by the East Durham people.

This matter first came up there were those who argued that the orphanage was not needed and that there were but very few orphans in the State. The committee in its investigation finds that there are a large number of orphan Pythians in the State, probably close to one hundred. The question of a Pythian orphanage will be a live and interesting one when the Grand Lodge meets.

"Bible in Literature." There was a delighted audience at the First Presbyterian church last night when Dr. C. Alphonso Smith, of the University, delivered an address on "The Bible in Literature."

The church edifice was filled and the lecture was learned and eloquent. There was an elaborate musical programme. The lecture of Dr. Smith was in keeping with a custom that has been in vogue in this church for some time. Each Wednesday evening is the time for the brotherhood meeting, and on each fourth Wednesday evening the brotherhood has some one from the outside to deliver an address. Dr. Smith returned to Chapel Hill this morning.

Death of Aged Lady. Mrs. Mary M. Tilley, wife of George W. Tilley, who lived in the northern part of the county, died yesterday and the funeral and burial was this afternoon. She was 68 years of age and had been ill for some weeks, her death being expected. She left five children, two sons and three daughters: J. L. and S. G. Tilley are the sons and Mrs. N. E. Couch, Mrs. A. L. Holloway and Mrs. John L. Scott, the daughters. Mrs. Couch and Mrs. Holloway live in this city and the others in the county. The burial was at Mt. Lebanon church this afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Taking Inventory. Mr. W. G. Bramham, the new receiver for the Jones & Frasier business, is now taking inventory. He was appointed as receiver by Judge Purnell on application of creditors who asked that the business be placed in the bankruptcy court. The firm failed in November and Mr. W. J. Griswold was named as trustee. Then came the application of creditors asking for the bankruptcy proceedings.

The firm has been insolvent, but simply closed in order to protect its creditors. The stock of goods inventoried about \$30,000 and the indebtedness was shown to be \$13,437.73. The creditors, however, were mostly small ones and the amounts within the jurisdiction of magistrates courts. Out of fifty-five creditors there were forty-one who could have secured judgment in the magistrate's courts. In order to protect the larger creditors equally with the smaller ones the trustee was appointed.

Willful But Unable. In the fight against the freight rate discrimination being made on the Norfolk and Western Railroad, the city aldermen were asked by the business men's committee to assist and if possible to appropriate money with which to push the fight. This matter came up at the last meeting of the board and was referred to the Mayor and city attorney, Mr. R. O. Everett, as to the legal side of the question.

FAKE WAY BILLS

IN EVIDENCE

Inter-State Commerce Commission Probes Rebating

BY CHESAPEAKE & OHIO

Way Bills Produced Covering a Car of Grain Shipped From Richmond But Purported to Have Been Shipped From Orange at Through Rate South.

(By the Associated Press.) Richmond, Va., Feb. 20.—An investigation of railway rebate charges was resumed before Commissioner Lane, of the Interstate Commerce Commission, today, the case of the Chesapeake and Ohio being still under consideration. Much testimony was introduced corroborative of that introduced yesterday.

The principal witness was O. D. James, auditor of freight receipts of the Chesapeake and Ohio. He identified papers shown him by Special Counsel John H. Marble as records from his office. They covered a car actually in Richmond but purported to cover a car of grain routed through from Orange to a southern city at the through rate. Several of these batches of documentary evidence were produced and identified and showed that in making out of false way bills, many of the false numbers used on cars forwarded covered cars laden with iron castings, cases of medicine and other odds and ends of merchandise.

Mr. James stated that he was familiar with the handwriting of A. D. Gilbert and E. D. Hotchkiss and identified their "O. R." initials on several of the way bills and expense bills put in his records yesterday as the Jones exhibits. He failed to recognize the initials signed "E. D. H." as the signature of E. D. Hotchkiss. The Commissioner said: "Do you say that is not the signature of E. D. Hotchkiss?"

Witness: "It certainly is not his personal signature. It looks like Mr. Hotchkiss' writing."

The Commissioner: "Can you produce half a dozen examples of Hotchkiss' signature?"

"Yes, sir."

"Very well, then; please do so." It developed at this point that there were three different handwritings of one of the alleged false way-bills evidence.

H. L. King, freight agent of the Atlantic Coast Line, and H. H. Philney, Richmond agent of the Seaboard Air Line, testified that roads accepted the way-bills of the other roads without question and in this confidence had been destroyed.

BASEBALL MASS-MEETING.

To Start the League Off in Good Shape at Chapel Hill.

(Special to News and Observer.) Chapel Hill, N. C., Feb. 20.—The initial mass-meeting of this season was held in Gerrard Hall Tuesday night from seven to eight-thirty. The purpose of the meeting as expressed by President J. J. Parker was to start the baseball season off in good shape and show the team that the student body was behind it from the outset.

Several speeches were made by different members of the faculty and student body, and the coach and captain, all of whom expressed themselves as highly pleased at the prospects for a good team, and a prosperous season.

Coach Stockdale, who made his first appearance before the student body here, said that in his opinion the outlook was very promising. He called to the men in a plain business-like way, and made a very good impression on his hearers.

On the whole the meeting was a great success, and will no doubt be reductive of much good in that tendency is to arouse interest and enthusiasm in both players and student body from the very beginning.

Thus far seventy-five candidates have presented themselves, and gone to work in dead earnest to make the team. This speaks well for the spirit of the players, and shows conclusively that a live interest is being felt in the team.

Funeral of Mr. Benj. D. Black.

Fayetteville, N. C., Feb. 20.—The funeral of Mr. Benj. D. Black, who died Tuesday afternoon, was held yesterday afternoon at four o'clock from the residence on Person street. He was 58 years of age.

Killed a Caribou.

(Moore County News.) Last Friday John Goetz ran down and killed a wild caribou that was known ones pronounced a catamount. It was a powerful and vicious brute, and whipped several span dogs before it was killed. It measured three feet across the shoulders in length. It was killed in Goetz' meadow field.