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THE CURTAIN IS ABOUT TO RISE

The Lull Before the Political Storm—Uneasiness Among Democrats for the Solid South and Among Republicans for Former Staunch-Ribbed G. O. P. States.

By WILLIAM P. HELM, Jr.
Washington, August 2.—The curtain is about to rise on the election campaign drama, the fur about to fly. Two amiable, good-natured gentlemen, either of whom would grace the White House, now smile at each other across a continent. Soon they will be at grips. The smiles will fade, the mid-summer gentleness will toughen and grow rough, the verbal swings will pack a punch, and the mixing will begin.

Such is the prelude to the 1928 campaign. The flight is to be for blood, though both the gentlemanly fighters would disclaim such intention now. Presently they will be saying things, in the heat and turmoil, that they would not say today. For when two such men fight, they hit hard. And whether the prize be lady fair, or fame, or fortune or sovereignty over a nation, the game is one of survival; and the fight grows bitter near the end.

Last week and this, the stage hand work. Hoover, the first star to step on the stage, will speak his opening lines on August 11. He will formally accept the nomination then. In doing so he will face a throng of 90,000 at Palo Alto, his California home. His voice will carry, on the wings of radio, across the continent and the seas. He will announce his attitude then on the questions of the hour and the problems of the State.

As this is written, Hoover is putting the finishing touches on his speech. It probably will be given into the hands of the press some time this week, possibly before this article is put in type. That is done to enable the newspapers to have it in ample time to set. They will hold it until a flash over the wires releases it. Thus hundreds of editors, possibly thousands, will know well in advance—but in confidence—what the Republican standard bearer will say.

Alfred E. Smith will follow a similar course at Albany eleven days later, on August 22. The date was fixed after a series of interviews with the radio kings. They have virtually named day and hour so that the speech may have the widest possible audience. The airways will be cleared and 96 stations will hook up—a record number—to carry the voice of the Democratic nominee to millions of listeners.

That is good business for the nominees and good business for the radio makers.

Nobody is giving away something of value for nothing these days. Least of all are the Lords of the Air. They should make a handsome net profit out of the hook-up. In the meantime, the furniture is being arranged on the political stage. To begin, both sides have announced that they would accept any money, without limit, that supporters want to give. The Republicans have generously agreed to give handsome receipts for all donations. Undoubtedly the Democrats will try to go them one better, possibly engraving their receipts. This campaign is going to cost, in a national way, not less than \$6,000,000; and what with a human inclination to adhere to money in the bank, and what with drives for this, that and the other worthy thing already in full swing, it's going to be no easy task to finance the hair pulling.

During the past week, the Democrats seem to have had the edge on their opponents insofar as outward harmony is concerned. Senator Moses and Dr. Work, on the Republican side, clawed at each other in New York. The doctor came back to Washington and the Senator went to New York as manager over the important Eastern territory from Maine to North Carolina. After the scrap, harmony prevailed. During the scrap, there were some peppy encounters. Those two good warriors, the doctor and the senator, apparently don't like each other a little bit, but have agreed to work in harmony for the common weal.

Last week saw a continuance of the oddities referred to in previous articles. Pennsylvania Republicans in Philadelphia got a chill from reports that the Keystone State is swinging Smithward because of the nominee's prohibition views, and the Democratic leaders in Texas conjured up the ghost of a Republican victory in the Lone Star State, because of their internal differences over Al Smith. From Wisconsin came word that Al Smith would sweep the State if the election there were held tomorrow. From Ohio, word that the state will have to be thoroughly covered, and at great expense, if it is to be kept in the Republican column.

Equally disquieting to the Democrats was the news from the South. North Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Alabama, for the time being, would seem to be developing strong Hoover sentiment which the dries are fostering mightily. This correspondent will make a trip soon to the Southern battlefield. Reports reaching him from usually reliable sources indicate that the solid south may be broken this year and that Hoover may make inroads in the territory south of the Mason and Dixon line. It is said that there may be as many as six Southern states that will go Republican. Usually this sort of talk

Young Chathamite Is Proved Not Guilty

Robert Osborne Remains Calm Throughout Hearing at Sanford; Proved An Excellent Character.

(Sanford Journal)
Deliberating over an hour during which time four ballots were taken, a Lee county jury Saturday afternoon rendered a verdict of "not guilty" in the case against Robert Osborne, Gulf, charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of W. W. Devereaux on the night of February 1, when the man struck in front of his store, located on the highway between Sanford and Gulf just inside the Lee county line.

When the jury retired with the evidence the count stood 3 to 3 in favor of acquittal according to members of that body. Following further deliberation the count dwindled to a unanimous vote for a verdict of not guilty. The jury remained in their quarters one hour and fifteen minutes before a verdict was reached.

Excellent Character
Osborne proved an excellent character by some of the leading citizens of this section. When he took witness stand he stuck to his original testimony despite the strong cross examination of Solicitor Williams of the prosecution. He told how the man attempted to wave him down and as he neared him, running at a rate of speed within the law, the man jumped at his car which struck him with the left front fender. Osborne admitted that he did not stop but continued to the home of Dr. Palmer in Gulf with whom he immediately returned to the scene to give aid.

Devereaux was quickly brought to a Sanford hospital but his injuries proved fatal the following morning at 6 o'clock. A coroner's jury following a thorough investigation attached no blame to Osborne as a result of an unavoidable accident. A grand jury body later investigated the matter and returned a true bill of indictment against Osborne charging him with manslaughter and also with hitting and running another criminal offense. To the latter charge Osborne submitted but the cases were tried jointly and he was cleared by all. He was represented by Attorneys Gavin and Teague, B. H. Crumpler and A. A. F. Seawell of Sanford. Attorney Seawell assisted Solicitor Williams with the prosecution.

Predictions True
Innumerable citizens voiced themselves to the effect that Osborne would be exonerated long before the trial got underway and their predictions rang true. It was generally considered an unavoidable affair by those persons who were familiar with the circumstances in the case. Being familiar with the circumstance under which Osborne continued on his way for aid when he struck the man, it was generally believed this charge also would be erased by the jury. Over a hundred witnesses took the stand during the trial. Which aroused considerable interest throughout this territory where Osborne is well and favorably known.

MR. PAUL PERRY PASSES

Mr. Paul Perry, a native of Chatham and a brother of Messrs. W. R. and D. N. Perry, died last Friday night at his home in Sanford and was buried Sunday in Buffalo church yard near that town.

Mr. Perry was about 60 years of age. He had been employed for about 30 years by the Makepeace Sash and Blind Company, of Sanford, and was a most important factor in the success of that company. He married Miss Bettie Peoples of this county, and to the union there survive three daughters and five sons, all about grown. His brothers from this county, also brother Frank and sister, Annie, of Winston-Salem, attended the funeral, as did many other relatives. The funeral services were conducted in the Sanford Methodist church, of which he had been a member for many years.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the board of town commissioners of Pittsboro will meet on Monday, August 6, at 8:00 p. m., at the Chatham Oil and Fertilizer Company's office for the purpose of adopting a town budget for the ensuing year. Any citizen who wishes to do so may attend and will be heard at said meeting. This July 30, 1928.
E. R. HINTON, Town Clerk.

is just so much hokey. This year, there might be something to it.

The candidates themselves were resting for the fray. Hoover, at home in California, did what Hughes failed to do there 12 years ago. He made peace with Hiram Johnson. They buried the hammer at Palo Alto. For years they were bitter opponents, but recently the feeling has been dying down. Now they are friends again, and rumon hath it that the Damon-Pythias combination of 'old may be rivalled by the Herbert-Hiram combination of 1928.

John Raskob left General Motors cold last week, quitting two good jobs to manage the one at hand, that of electing Smith.

And so it goes. It is the eve of the battle, the hush before the storm.

Receive Master Farm Homemaker Recognition.



MRS. W. T. WHITSETT
WHITSETT, N. C.



MRS. A. R. POYNER
MOVOCK, N. C.



MRS. W. B. LAMB
GARLAND, N. C.



MRS. W. D. GRAHAM
MT. ULLA, N. C.



MRS. J. E. CORRIHER, JR.
CHINA GROVE

THESE ARE THE FIRST FIVE NORTH CAROLINA WOMEN TO RECEIVE THE MASTER FARM HOMEMAKER RECOGNITION AWARDED BY THE FARMERS' WIFE NATIONAL FARM WOMEN'S MAGAZINE, WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE EXTENSION SERVICE OF NORTH CAROLINA STATE COLLEGE.

Anti-Smith Meeting

Rev. Mr. Rainey, of Durham, the Speaker Saturday Afternoon—The Republicans are Ousted.

That there is considerable anti-Smith sentiment in the county is certain, but one would never arrive at that conclusion from a look-in on the anti-Smith meetings, so far held here. About all the organization lacks being ready for traveling is a motor, radius rods, steering gear, a body, wheels and axles. It borrowed a pretty good horn from Durham Saturday, Rev. Mr. Rainey, a young Baptist minister of real sense and a good speaker.

But the first thing the speaker did was to upset the former organization, disfranchising the Republican members and causing the Republican officers to retire, on the ground that they had been elected as "temporary" officers of the club. As there were less than ten members who had joined at the former meeting and these were mostly Republicans, when the Republicans were shunted out of the organization and it was declared that only Democrats who would support the State and county tickets, while opposing Smith, were eligible for membership. Rev. W. T. Hurst seemed to be the only actual member from the former meeting present, though Mr. R. C. Ross, who has been a Democrat up to the last few months, claimed to be eligible, though he has already participated in the Republican precinct and county conventions and has expressed a purpose to vote the entire Republican ticket.

But a reorganization was attempted without a membership, those who expected to vote against Smith being called upon to stand. There were nine or ten who stood, but four of them, including Mr. Ross, were Republicans. And on this showing, Mr. Hurst was chosen president, and Mr. V. R. Johnson, who was not present on this occasion nor the former one, was chosen secretary.

Mr. Rainey brought with him a copy of the resolutions adopted by the Durham anti-Smith club and this was offered for adoption as the foundation of this club, but as nobody had joined and was a full-fledged member under the essentials contained in the resolutions, except Mr. Hurst, the presiding officer, no motion could be secured readily for its adoption. At this stage Rev. G. R. Underwood got the floor and expressed the opinion that all anti-Smith folk, whatever their former party allegiance, should be allowed to join, and thus it came about that the motion made by the acting secretary, Mr. P. T. Farrell, whose name had not been enrolled at the former meeting, was never voted upon, but by suggestion of the president, a committee headed by Mr. Underwood was appointed to write a set of resolutions for the club.

And the meeting adjourned with only one member actually enrolled, if we have kept the count right and unless their has been an enrollment when the body was not in session. However, the Record is perfectly willing to publish the full bona-fide list of members.

There were as many as sixty people present at one time, but the far larger percentage of them were Smith Democrats, Republicans, and children. The actual Democrats tak-

DATE FOR CHATHAM FAIR OCTOBER 16-19

A note from manager Carl Gilliland states that the date for the Chatham County Fair has been fixed for the four days beginning with October 16. The premium list will be ready for distribution by August 15. Superintendents of the various departments will soon be announced. The directors are planning to have a second floor put in the Industrial building to be used for school exhibits and ladies' apartment.

MRS. LAURA PICKET'S FUNERAL IS HELD IN CHATHAM COUNTY

Liberty, July 21.—Funeral services for Mrs. Laura Adeline Pickett, 79, wife of Alfred Pickett, who died Wednesday afternoon at the home of her son, Wiley Jennings, Siler City were conducted from Rocky River Friends church in Chatham County Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Services were conducted by Rev. D. T. Row, pastor of the Liberty M. E. church.

The deceased was a member of the Staley Methodist Episcopal church and was a woman of pleasant disposition and strong character. Death came after a lingering illness. She is survived by two sons, D. W. Jennings, Siler City; W. J. Jennings, Gibsonville; one daughter, Mrs. Mary Moore, Saxapahaw; 15 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren.

BROWN'S CHAPEL NEWS

Mrs. Peral Lindsey, one of our S. S. teachers, spent last week with friends in Greensboro.

Mr. Willis Dark and family of Florida are here on a months vacation, getting around among relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith of Raleigh are spending a few days with relatives.

Mr. R. G. Cheek and family spent the week-end with Mrs. Cheek's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Mann.

On Friday before the second Sunday in August is set for cleaning off the cemetery. We hope all will turn out the date set and help do a good job.

ing part in the meeting, as we recall them, were Mr. Hurst, P. T. Farrell, H. B. Jones and son, Mr. and Mrs. Underwood. There may have been another or two, but the writer does not now recall them. But the actual anti-Smith sentiment is not represented by the organization and, it may be predicted, never will be. There are plenty of anti-Smith people in the county, but they do not belong to this "Chatham County Anti-Smith Club," and are not likely to belong to it.

In this connection, reference may be made to a correction of the number present at the former meeting as reported in the Greensboro News and corrected by R. R. C. Ross. Mr. Ross stated that there were fifty to seventy five in attendance at that meeting, but as we attended both and actually counted those present Saturday and know that the showing was at least twice as great as on the former occasion, we are sure that there were not in the court room at the former meeting any 50 or 75. The vote in a test case, was eleven, but six of these were Smith men, kindly helping the feeble child get a start.

If Lawful, It Is Wrong—Two Cases

Clark's comment in The Greensboro News.

Recently they put out the word from Durham that the clerk of the court of that county had collected interest on funds of which he was the custodian and had retained the interest for his own use. In other words, that trust funds had been put out at interest and the clerk had collected the earnings for his own. He had made the money of others, entrusted to his care, work for him. Didn't look good. But the clerk explains that the funds mentioned were "floating funds," payable on call, and he had the ruling of lawyers and judges that such funds are not interest-bearing. That is, the claimants have no claim to interest on funds payable on call. Evidently, then, they are not expected to be put at interest, but kept on hand to be paid on demand. But it is presumed that the clerk figures that if he can put the funds at interest, having sufficient amount on hand to meet the calls and make something on the side, no harm is done. May not be illegal, but the practice should not be permitted. No public official should be allowed to work side lines with public property for private gain. Unethical at least and dangerous—very dangerous for a public official to feel that he can use public property for his own advantage, even if he does fully account for it in the end. Tends to abuse and the violation of a trust.

Two churches are advertised for sale in a North Carolina town for non-payment of street assessments. As church property is free from taxes probably the courts will be asked to say whether assessing costs of street improvement against church property isn't the same as taxes. Technically it is probably the same. And yet the feeling is that the congregation should pay for that street improvement without raising the point. If refusal is sustained the cost is shifted to all taxpayers, who are in a sense taxed for the improvement of church property. May be legal but it doesn't look so good. It is a sort of habit of the church people in urban places to demand concessions from municipalities in the cost of lights, water, etc., and to feel that it is due because of the service the church renders. That is to say, some church people will, if permitted, reach into the public purposes—for the use of their church. They ought to be ashamed of themselves when they do, but some of them will demand it as if it belonged to the Lord.

MAIL TRUCK BURNED WITH PART OF MAIL

Mr. Grady, carrier on the Durham-Pittsboro-Siler City star route, had the misfortune to lose his mail truck by fire Monday morning and with the truck went part of the mail, though Mr. Grady managed to save what is believed to be all the first-class mail and the daily papers. He really doesn't know what was burned.

The fire started while the truck was being supplied with gasoline at a Durham filling station, and burned up immediately.

It was right new truck and the loss is considerable, a large part of the remuneration for carrying the mail a whole year, but it is hoped that Mr. Grady had insurance on it.

THE ACTUAL OATH TAKEN BY THE K. C.

Altogether Different from the Diabolical Alleged Oath Slanderously Circulated.

The Record holds no brief for the Catholics or Knights of Columbus, but when unfair and untruthful assaults are made upon the Democratic candidate for the Presidency because of his connection with those two organizations it does become the business of the Record, or any fair-minded citizen, to disprove such charges. Slander of anybody is a sin, and if we knew Hoover were being wilfully slandered we should gladly help disprove the charge.

For nearly a score of years an oath alleged to be that required of members of the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic organization has been circulated. On a certain occasion the thing was read in the Congress of the United States, and thereby secured a place in the Congressional Record. Though the Knights of Columbus submitted their records to a committee appointed by the Grand Lodge of Masons of California, who could find no trace of any such damnable oath, unscrupulous assailants of the Knights of Columbus have taken advantage of the public record made of the alleged oath in the Congressional Record, and have been accustomed to give similitude of verity to it by stating that it is copied from the Congressional Record. Of course, that record is no more assurance of its truthfulness than is the stenographer's report of the sworn testimony of a witness in court right here in Pittsboro. The court records here, doubtless, contain as monstrous lies as the imagination can produce, but under the scheme used by the unfair assailants of the Knights of Columbus, one might copy those records and credit them to the Chatham court records and make it appear that this is proof of the charges contained, and if care were taken in the method of presenting them the injured party would have no recourse in law, though the lie may have been utterly disproved by reliable testimony and the accused acquitted by the jury. Court records are public property, as are the records of Congress.

Now, any fair-minded reader can readily see that a man who would take advantage of another and thus broadcast slander against him is an infamous scoundrel. But that is what has been done for years with respect to that alleged oath of the Knights of Columbus. Though the evidence that the oath is false should be convincing to any fair-minded man, jackals in sheep's clothing are till this very day publishing that oath and circulating it among people who have no means of disproving it, and the more readily accept it because it is said to be "copied from the Congressional Record." But if being printed in the Congressional Record is proof of a thing's truthfulness, the report of the Masonic Committee is also true, for it is copied in the Congressional Record too.

In fact, we understand that there are thousands of them being sent into Chatham county this summer and circulated as the veritable oath of the Knights. Accordingly, below we are giving a copy of what the investigating committee mentioned above did find to be the oath taken by Knights of Columbus, and before any honest man in Chatham county further extends the slander of the false oath, he should convince himself that he has not been humbugged. To circulate the alleged oath with the only reliable evidence existing against it, deliberately to share in the slander. Here is the oath found to be the actual one by the committee of investigation. Read it and compare it with the false oath and judge how diabolical must be the man who wrote it and those who knowingly circulate it.

The Actual K. C. Oath

"I swear to support the constitution of the United States. I pledge myself, as a Catholic citizen and Knight of Columbus, to enlighten myself fully upon my duties as a citizen and to conscientiously perform such duties entirely in the interest of my country and regardless of all personal consequences. I pledge myself to do all in my power to preserve the integrity and purity of the ballot, and to promote reverence and respect for law and order. I promise to practice my religion openly and consistently, but without ostentation, and to so conduct myself in public affairs, and in the exercise of public virtues as to reflect nothing but credit upon our holy church, to the end that she may flourish and our country prosper to the greater honor and glory of God."

BYNUM ITEMS

The following interesting items from Bynum seem to have been omitted from the Record last week:

Mr. G. E. Moore, of this place, has been in New York for quite a while on business.

Our new school building is beginning to "show up." We are in hope that it will soon be completed.

HThere will be an all day service at Mt. Gilead Baptist church next Sunday, July 29th.

Mrs. Ernest Williams is visiting her kinpeople in High Point this week.