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WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3, 1910.

Parties leaving town should not fail to let the News follow them daily with the news of Washington fresh and crisp. It will prove a valuable companion, reading to you like a letter from home.

All articles sent to The News for publication must be signed by the writer, otherwise they will not be published.

WHY IS IT?

There are men in Beaufort county who have worked and voted for our present county officers, respectively, for from five to about fifteen years, and during all this time these workers and voters have been "Good Democrats" and "Fine Fellows."

Now they want to work and vote for other good Democrats, and those whom they have served and supported all these years, look upon and treat them as political enemies. WHY IS IT?

There are over three thousand Democrats in Beaufort county, proclaimed by our present County Officers, during their campaigns, to be the highest types of intelligent Anglo-Saxon manhood.

Now the Officers, and those who support them, practically declare that out of all these three thousand men can be found to fill the offices except those who now fill them. WHY IS IT?

And as year after year the same set of men continue to monopolize the honors and offices, less than two thousand out of three thousand go to the polls, and no more go to the polls, and our party is losing ground. WHY IS IT?

The advocates of some of our officers claim that if they should be defeated for the nomination, and our county be deprived of their campaign oratory, the party will be utterly lost.

And yet, during our campaign, while we have had the benefit of this campaign oratory, the party has been rapidly losing ground. WHY IS IT?

Some of those who advocate retaining the present County Officers, lay great stress upon the fact that we cannot hope to hold the party together if we deprive it of the services of our present Officers, by nominating other good Democrats.

This means that if these gentlemen should fail of renomination, notwithstanding the fact that they have been honored by the party for a number of years, they would forget what the Democrats of the county have done for them, and as soon as they are separated from a profitable office, they would desert the party and for nothing. WHY IS IT?

Each of our present County Officers claim to favor economy in the administration of our county affairs and in the spending of our public monies.

And yet, when a large majority of the voters and taxpayers are in favor of fair salaries instead of fat fees for County Officers, these gentlemen are as silent as the grave. WHY IS IT?

During our campaigns the great cry of the campaign orator is, "Public office is a public trust," and the admission is made that those who hold the office are "The servants of the people."

And yet, when Democrats ask of these servants to render an account of the trust reposed in them and be frank enough with the people who employ them to tell these people who employ them how much they receive for their services out of the money of the taxpayers, these Officers are as silent as a whole cemetery. WHY IS IT?

During the campaign Democratic orators declare that the Democratic doctrine is "Equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

And yet, when life-long Democrats who have served in the ranks, feel an ambition to exercise the rights of citizens and become candidates for office, those already in office claim that this special privilege belongs to them. WHY IS IT?

Those who now hold the offices claim that they have performed their duties faithfully and efficiently, and contend, that by reason of their repeated renominations and long terms of office-holding, they are serving the people better, and more satisfactorily than others can, and that long or life terms in office are for the best interests of harmony in the Democratic party, and the best policy for keeping up interest in the party.

And yet, from one end of the county to the other there is a restlessness, an indifference, a desire for some change, a lack of interest and a feeling of discontent. WHY IS IT?

Pittsburg is to have a public house for the negroes owned by negro residents, and thus the municipal socialists keep on hatching new schemes.—Detroit Journal.

OPPORTUNITY—THE PEOPLE

TWO TERMS VERSUS LIFE TENURE—SALARIES VERSUS FEES.

Friday night in the City of Washington and behavior and on Saturday in the remaining voting places the primaries are to be held for the County of Beaufort—at which time and place the people are to say whom they desire to occupy the respective county offices for the ensuing two years. They are to decide whether they are in favor of two terms or terms without limit; they, too, will be called upon to cast ballots for the said officeholders working under the fee or salary system. What an important primary this is to be—the most important and vital Beaufort county citizens have ever faced. With no desire to indulge in billingsgate or abuse upon those who favor issues the Daily News does not favor but with a desire to do the right thing at all times, this paper desires to sound a warning to the voters of this county. In doing so it has no aim to grind—the personal interest of no candidate or candidate to advance, but does so simply in the interest of the people; for, after all, the people are the sovereigns and should have the say-so in things political, for they are the ones to lose or win in the outcome.

The Daily News unqualifiedly and without reserve believes that long tenure of office in Beaufort county has caused more dissension among Democrats than any other. The Daily News believes that every official holder office under the people should do so at a certain stipulated salary. A private individual owes his employment to this system, and why in the name of common justice, should not a public official be fed out of the same spoon? What is cause for the goose is certainly payable for the gander. If one is sweet, both are; if one is bitter, then the other is also.

Ever since these all-important questions began to be agitated among the people this paper has kept hands off—mum has been the word, for the simple reason it preferred the good people of the county to use its columns to speak. They have and performed their function well and creditably. The pulse of the voters has been felt and the editor of the Daily News reaches the conclusion that a large majority of the voters in Beaufort county favor two-term officeholders and salaries instead of fees. They favor this change because they have sense enough to know it is right and proper.

The mere fact that the present officeholders have absolutely refused to give to the public some idea of the amount they receive annually from their office, should be argument enough to convince the doubting Thomases that we are paying too much for their services.

If the present incumbents were frank with their constituency and wanted to "vote fair" they would come out from under cover and give to the people of Beaufort county a statement as to the emoluments of their office. Why should they refuse to do so. If they apprehend danger, the precipice is already reached for defeat stares them in the face, due in a large measure to their silence and seeming indifference. The people put them in office, they are the servants of the people, yet when the time comes for them to show up, they stick out their lips, close their mouths and remain silent. You just find out the best way you can. Is this Democracy? Is such a course commendable? The Daily News says No— emphatically No! and calls on the good citizenship of this county to repudiate such conduct at the primary Friday night. If they do not then the fault lies at their door.

If their fees are large and lucrative they should have the manhood to say so; if they are small then come out and confess the corn. No one blames them for making as much as possible, but for the sake of reason and justice don't slip away in the corner, act stubborn and refuse a simple request of those who put them there.

"Two terms and salaries" should be the slogan of the people at the forthcoming primaries, and the Daily News believes it will.

Another thing. Should folk be given office for life? Should they get mad and paw up the earth in anger because some other good Democrat wants to get their persimmon? Just as good fish swim in the sea today as ever were caught, the contrary opinion of the present officeholders notwithstanding.

Why has the Democratic party been losing votes in this county for the past ten years? Why have the G. O. Ps. been slowly but surely gaining ground? This query needs no answering—the recent results in the county fully answer without comment. Away with the fallacy because a good man in office there are no others; explode forever the talk we should keep the present men in office because they have filled their respective offices well. Such talk is a stigma on the intelligence of the good people of Beaufort county. No man ever did anything in his life, no matter how well, but what another could be found to perform the function just as well. History so records.

Ye men of Beaufort county, who believe that the people should know what their servants, the officeholders receive; ye men of the Democratic faith who think two terms ample, attend the primary and set your seal of disapproval on the present system and say to the world you are in favor of a change. The Daily News trusts in your manhood to do so.

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"All you," replied her husband, "are knocking each other"—Catholics, Methodists and Quakers.