

IT IS A JOKE.

Here and there I note that a political convention is lauding the past history of the party and predicting a glorious future for it, just as if unaware that all parties and the people have departed from their former moorings and that the past party programs are as much out of date as a last year's bird's nest. Thomas Jeffersons, Cleveland, Wilson would not recognize the Roosevelt administration as a Democratic administration. It is not the administration that must conform itself to the former party pattern, but the party that is conforming itself to the pattern of the administration. As a boy we used to argue the question as to whether one would have the same knife if he first broke the blade and had it replaced and then broke the handle and got another. Well, that proposition represents the condition of the Democratic party—and much of the aggregation that follows in the Roosevelt wake is of Republican extraction.

HOW THEY GROW AND HOW THEY BLOOM

It has been less than ten years since the writer was a resident of Clinton. Next door lived a bunch of children, the largest a mere lad. And now I see the picture of tiny Josephine Turner in the Biblical Recorder as the pianist for the Baptist State Sunday School convention to be held at Meredith next week.

One summer a dozen years ago I gave a group of children a start in Latin at the request of their parents. Emerson Dameron was a gawky lad of twelve or thirteen. This morning I note that, after graduation at the State University with honors and the acquisition of law license before he graduated in law at that institution, has gone to Greensboro as a member of the great legal firm headed by Jullus Smith. Only last spring that firm acquired another young friend of ours, Henry Anderson.

The world is rapidly being taken in charge by the children of a few years ago. Some of the chaps use character and talents to accomplish their ends; others use machine guns.

Morehead City is practically assured of its two-million-dollar appropriation for harbor improvement, and already a stir has started among those who hope to get rich by speculation in Morehead City property or by development of truck lines or some other way. It would be a fine thing if some scheme could be devised to hold real estate values at their former

CONGRESS ADJOURNING.

As this is written it appears that the adjournment of Congress is near. The problems of the country during its term have been unprecedented. Without a Roosevelt at the helm, directing the course, and without an extraordinary co-operation with the leader, it is conceivable that the two sessions might have been one interminable wrangle. Errors, many and great, perhaps have been made under the administration's leadership, but it is no injustice to assume that two bodies like the senate and the house without a leader confident in his purpose and without an unusual loyalty to that leader, would have resulted in a confusion that would have proved disastrous. If the brain trust did no more than to furnish a definite program, it earned its wages. Imagine the fatuous course of the average congressman confronted by such problems as America has faced the past year and a half! Anything could have happened before orderly procedure upon a definite program could have been secured.

The loyalty and harmony of this congress have never been exceeded, but that loyalty and that harmony have saved the Congress itself as well as saved the country from immediate disaster.

ADVICE SEEMINGLY TAKEN

The press has been rather unanimous in advising candidates for the legislature not to make pledges as to opposing or favoring the continuation of the sales tax. In Harnett county, that advice was apparently taken. No pronouncement upon it by either the successful candidate for the senate or the one for the house was publicly made. Both are druggists, and the presumption is rather definite that they are personally inclined to the repeal of the sales tax, against its relevy. But those men, under the suggestions of the county press or of their own accord, have been silent upon the matter and the conclusion is natural that they purpose to act in accord with the necessities of the case as the sources of income and demands for funds are revealed before them next winter. They cannot take it for granted, if they are personally opposed to the sales tax, that they have received a mandate from the people of Harnett county to oppose such a tax under any circumstances.

They are being sent to the General Assembly to use their best judgment in the light of development. Anti-sales tax leaders are claiming a victory for their cause. But it is evident that the question received

no attention in scores of counties, and that senators and representatives have been chosen because of a general confidence in their good sense. Pledged attitudes nearly a year before the developments referred to would indicate an error on the part of those who did thus favor their nomination, and personal pledges in the face of silence in public would further justify a conclusion as to their unfitness to represent the people during this critical period.

No counting of noses at this date can determine the fate of the sales tax. Any one who has pledged himself to fight to the last ditch against its relevy may regret such a pledge before next year this time. Every member of the General Assembly should go free to consider impartially the situation as it develops. Men of ability and of character can truly represent their people by adopting such a course. Premature judgment upon the issue should be carefully avoided.

RICH AND UNHAPPY

(Williamson Enterprise)

James B. Duke, the father of Miss Doris Duke, made a vast fortune out of tobacco and electric power. Miss Doris inherited the property, and with it the trouble that fear brings.

She has to have a guard when she travels for fear of kidnapers, and while she sleeps she has fears of extortioners. Altogether, a life of unpleasantness.

There are millions of poor working girls in America who see twice as much pleasure as does Miss Duke.

Certainly, riches are not all of life; in fact, they are not the best things in life. We strive too hard for riches and impoverish the very spirit of our souls seeking money, when we might enrich our lives by doing good deeds as we go along, day by day.

NOT SO DUMB, MAYBE

(Williamston Enterprise)

Our own Josiah William Bailey, United States Senator, has spoken again. This time, as usual, he was against the President.

Mr. Bailey is smart; so smart, in fact, that he is able to find a way to oppose everything the administration suggests.

Mr. Bailey, of course, must figure that North Carolina voters are blind and deaf—yet he may find out that they are not so dumb at some future election.

BARDEN WILL PROVE TRUE REPRESENTATIVE

—OF—

THE PEOPLE OF THE THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

GRAHAM BARDEN is fitted by Character, Ability, and Knowledge of all Sections of the Third District to represent ably and effectually every quarter of it.

Born in Sampson, reared in Pender, and long a resident of New Bern, circumstances have conspired to acquaint him thoroughly with the interests of every section of the district. The same general and intimate acquaintance with the people of all quarters of the district, will make his services in their behalf a pleasure as well as a duty.



A Vote for BARDEN is a Vote for the Watch-Care of Every Interest of Every Citizen of the Old Third

By A FRIEND

PRIMARY, JUNE 30, 1934.