

FUSION CONFERENCE

Leaders Planning to Unite Against Honest Government.

THEIR SCHEME MAY NOT SUCCEED

When The White Men of the State Register Their Opinions in the Coming Election.

Special Raleigh Correspondence.

The Republican and State Populist chairmen were in conference here last night. The veil of secrecy was cast over the proceedings, but enough leaked out to show that the situation was far from gratifying. With them some of the machine men of both parties, Revenue Collector Duncan, Marshall Dockery, etc., of the Republicans, Treasurer Worth, Auditor Ayer, etc., of the Populists.

A Republican said there was no sign of activity in his party anywhere in the East, so far as he could discern. He declared he did not know what would be done as to a ticket; that at Washington these things were regulated; that Senator Pritchard would really name the ticket.

Another Republican said he would guess that a Winston-Salem man of prominence would be put out as the sound money and protective tariff candidate of the opponents of the Democratic party.

A Populist who attended the conference said the Republicans would agree to anything the Populists wanted; that they were asking no questions; that they need the Populists and must have them.

The fusionists decide to put on their "black list" State Superintendent Melane because he favors the franchise amendment. The Republican machine men are all especially incensed against him.

Chairman Simmons, speaking about the blacklisting of Republican leaders who favor the amendment, said that if that party takes the attitude of fighting Republicans who favor the amendment it will array itself against a large majority of its leaders and best organizers in Eastern North Carolina, men who have always voted the Republican ticket. Chairman Simmons remarked that Republican leaders taking this view of favoring the amendment are to be found in county after county in the East.

Republican State Chairman Holton has issued his fifth campaign circular, a four-page affair, in which he dwells on what he terms Democratic pledges not to take up the franchise matter. He knows perfectly well that the Democrats said they would do precisely what they are doing, that is, leave the question to be decided at the polls. The local event of the week here was the trial of Thomas Jones, the negro exhorter who murdered six members of a negro family. The old, old plea of insanity was the only defense.

Judge Dorsey Battle, of the Eastern district criminal circuit, died yesterday. The governor immediately tendered the place to Charles A. Cook, of Warren. The latter has not accepted and intimates much doubt as to acceptance. It is stated on Republican authority that the legislature which elected can fill the vacancy in June, so Cook would have only two months to serve.

The work of laying the foundation for the Vance statue in the capital square is in progress. In ten days the statue will be in place, but on July 4 will the statue be placed upon it. The board of agriculture is sending out through the State veterinarian cloth signs in great numbers setting forth the law that "no cattle infected with ticks shall be allowed upon the public roads in any stock law or no fence territory or be received in any enclosure or stockyard therein."

The White Man is Capable of Self-Government.

Centuries of experience have qualified the Saxon race for self-government and the government of others. Through years of toil and trial, they reached the former; then through years of toil, and strife and war, they reached the latter. The negro can not reverse the order of these things. He must tread the same paths. The goldpates are plain. First he must learn to govern self; then he may hope to learn to govern others.

WHY THE WHITE MAN IS SUPERIOR.

The white man, whether educated or uneducated, knows as the average negro voter does not know that race and color in office and power will not hide his crimes or protect him in violations of the law. Negroes as a rule expect their race and even their party to protect them when arraigned before the courts. They mistake liberty for license and hence give their evil propensities full sway. "License they mean when they cry Liberty." This is one of the principal evidences of white superiority. Men may subscribe to the declaration that "all men are created equal" and yet not submit that it is with the meaning of either the Declaration of Independence or the national constitution, that a weaker, less intelligent race shall administer their affairs, for at the promulgation of the constitution the negroes lived here as slaves and were just as fit for suffrage then as they were thirty years ago.

THE EVIL INFLUENCE OF NEGRO SUFFRAGE ON THE REPUBLICAN PARTY. The Republican party so far as

North Carolina is concerned is divided into two distinct and separate parts: West and East and Black belts. The average Western North Carolina Republican, and in this respect I am sorry to say Senator Pritchard seems but little better informed than the average, but silly and incompletely comprehends the situation in Eastern North Carolina where the negroes, ignorant and insolent, are entirely in control of all Republican conventions and where every effort to better the condition of affairs is counteracted by the opposition of some black-hearted white man with corrupt practices who sees in added intelligence and reputable work a diminution of his own unscrupulously acquired power. Although the Republican party has an excellent plan of organization it is scarcely ever followed on account of the ignorance and corruption of the negro politicians who being numerically stronger preside over white men, call them to order at will and occasionally consent for them to be elected delegates to a State Republican convention. The white Republican, if honest, is entirely at their mercy and under their control; if corrupt he must purchase their votes and influence. This is not an overdrawn picture.

FALSEHOODS NAILED.

Who Are Entitled to Vote Under The Amendment.

Wilmington Messenger.

An examination of the 4th and 5th sections of the franchise amendment will satisfy any one of ordinary sense that two things are clear, are apparent. First, all who read and write may vote under the 4th section. Second that all whites who cannot read and write may vote under 5th section. And why? Because it distinctly sets forth that "no male person, who was on January 1, 1867, or any time prior thereto, entitled to vote under the laws of any State in the United States wherein he then resided, and no lineal descendant of any such person, shall be denied the right to register and vote at any election in the State by reason of his failure to possess the educational qualification prescribed in section 4 of this article: Provided he shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this article prior to December 1, 1908." And that means simply that all the whites can vote under that section for the plain reason that there is not a single white man in all the state whose father or grandfather could not vote in the year indicated, 1867. There can be no possible disfranchisement of the whites under that section, and all the liars in the state cannot make any other thing appear however much they may lie.

HOW OFFICE AFFECTS A NEGRO.

The negro originates nothing; he merely imitates, and like most imitators he does not distinguish between true metal and the false and spurious. So in the administration of an office he loses sight of the responsibility and considers only what he thinks is the added dignity and importance to himself among his fellows. This causes him to be impertinent and insolent to the white people. In fact he is an entirely different individual as all the people who have seen him in office know.

SOME OF THE BENEFITS.

To urge the adoption of the amendment is not an attack upon the principle of majority rule. I believe in majority rule, but for the good of all the people and the successful management of the affairs of State that rule must be the rule of an intelligent majority. And to secure such rule forever what more potent than the incentive to all men to secure an education for their children furnished by the ratification of the amendment. Knowing that after 1908 every man whether white or black, not on the permanent roll must conform to the provisions of the article there is a neat stimulus to all the children of the State to learn to read and write at all hazards when they become of age in the government of the affairs of the State and country.

THE NEGRO VOTE THE CURSE OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

It is no secret that the negro vote is the curse of the Republican party in the South, the open disgrace of all State conventions of the party and its purchasable quality a source of shame even to the great national conventions. Not alone, however, at the negro should the blame be directed, but also at his white leader, who in corrupting him or taking advantage of his corruption is more criminal because more intelligent.

WHITE MEN CAN'T STAY IN IT.

I will give one example which I do not doubt may be paralleled in a majority of the counties of North Carolina east of Raleigh. In this county (Pitt) in the eighties there were several hundred white Republicans. There can not be twenty-five counted now.

A DISMAL PROSPECT.

If it is not blotted out I firmly believe before very many years have passed away the memory of the South's white Republican party will be only a dream, a hideous dream in which black specters hold ceaseless orgies above the grave of men once prominent in the councils of their States and country.

WHAT WILL THE END BE?

One of the postoffices in this county is kept by a middle age white man, a merchant and a substantial citizen. A short while before the last election a negro boy, son of one of the negro school teachers, walked into the postoffice, and called out: "John, is there any mail for us?" The merchant asked the boy to repeat his request, thinking possibly he did not hear correctly, but the boy went off without his mail, and soon returned with his mother, by surveillance a school teacher. She was very angry and demanded of the postmaster what her boy had done. Upon his giving her a statement of the matter she replied: "Is that all? That is all right! I teach all my children not to 'Mister' the Joneses, the Browns and all these white people around here, but to call them by name." This was told me by the postmaster himself. To test this matter of the constantly increasing insolence and disrespect towards the white people I have frequently in the last year called the attention of friends to the fact that in driving along the roads not one negro in a hundred met would speak first. They wait for the white person to speak first or they do not speak at all. I can give other instances in my own experience and from my own observation, but only mention these two to call the attention of the better class of negroes to the fact that the whole tendency of events is towards a wider and wider separation of the races. It does not take a prophet to foresee that a continuation of this state of affairs will end in a clash between the two races. And it is their duty, and just as incumbent upon the negroes as upon the whites to endeavor to prevent this clash. As to who will be the greatest sufferers and who will be the survivors, the good judgment of the negro ought to teach him. The Bible speaks of the folly of sowing the wind; The harvest is reaped in the whirlwinds.

ONE OF THE BENEFITS.

One of the greatest results of the adoption of the constitutional amendment will be to incite more interest in education. The white people—the rising generation—will make more sacrifices and greater efforts to acquire knowledge. It does not affect the present generation of white men, except to cause them to be more anxious or to strive harder to secure more school advantages for their children. This will, necessarily, make a more intelligent and better people in North Carolina in the coming years.—Kinross Free Press.

Incomprehensible Woman.

Frederick—Flavilla, you pledged yourself to be faithful forever; and yet you say you have not grieved over our broken engagement. Flavilla—Of course not; my heart is as true as steel—but when I set my mind to it I can be just as shallow and fickle as anybody.—Life.

VIEWS OF A NORTHERN MAN.

He Expresses His Sentiments in a forcible Manner.

(Hastler.)

"White" Republicans continue to fall in line for the amendment. Another class from which little support was expected is beginning to add interest to the situation. We refer to our Northern friends who have resided long enough in the South to find out what negro suffrage means. A special from Franklin, N. C., of March 14, says: "Mr. Henry Stewart, a gentleman of Northern birth, a Republican in politics, came to this county several years ago and purchased land at Highlands. He owns property and is deeply interested in the negro and education. Since his coming to the South, Mr. Stewart has made a point to study the negro question, and in a communication which appears to-day in the Franklin Press, Mr. Stewart writes an able and strong article in favor of the pending constitutional amendment."

To the Editor: "This subject is worthy of the deepest consideration. There never has occurred in history anything like the fact upon which this amendment is based. The occurrence only has ever happened like the sudden enfranchisement of some millions of slaves, semi-barbarians, and entirely ignorant of the duties and responsibilities which attach to the position of a free intelligent citizen. And that one occurrence was the sudden liberation from slavery of the Hebrew race; the total numbers of which when they were permitted to depart from Egypt amounted to only six hundred thousand souls.

In our case, on the contrary, six millions of people, ignorant and unfit for civilized citizenship, were suddenly precipitated into society, politically and to a degree socially, with an educated refined people. This we may well be sure was done as a punishment upon the South by a victorious overbearing North, desirous of humiliating, and destroying, in a measure, the self-respect and dignity of their defeated opponents. Of this I am personally cognizant from my then position as an editorial correspondent of a Northern political paper.

White Labor Supercedes Colored.

Wilmington, N. C., March 24. Mr. T. S. Wright, Sheriff, Rockingham, N. C.: Dear Sir: I have just received your letter, saying that a prominent Populist was circulating a report in your county that forty or fifty white men employed at the Congress here were discharged and negroes put in their places; that the white men got mad and threatened trouble; and that I addressed the negroes, and told them to stick to their jobs, and I would protect them against the wrath of the whites etc., and thereupon you say "as this report is not calculated to do the Democracy any good we will thank you to let us know."

HOW IT WORKS IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

The last issue of the Sampsin Democrat contains a letter written by Dr. F. A. Faison, of Bennettsville, S. C., which contains facts that ought to have weight with North Carolina voters in the August election. As there is similarity between the South Carolina and North Carolina amendments as to the practical result, Dr. Faison's account of its workings in the Palmetto State may be said to be said to be cast so it will work in North Carolina. "The political situation here is deplorable. We all go to the polls, cast our votes for the best man, and here is no sweeping or comprehensive made at conventions. So on election day everything is quiet, but ominous, and satisfactory. I feel dejected, crestfallen in the coming election in my native State, and I want to say to those of my friends who left the Democratic party, that if they could live in a State where there is suffrage, qualifications they would be delighted at the change of condition.

DRUMMERS' REPENTANCE.

They were a seedy lot, even their jokes were threadbare. The returning Knights of the Road happened on Bryan's train, after a four months' trip away from home at one-half their former salaries, doing the work of ten men each, to enable the trusts to pay large dividends and thus maintain prosperity. They were smoking "Stogies" in the enforced absence of choice Partagas, and sitting in the smoker through the deprivation of Palace car perquisites, every one thought deeply. At last, breaking through the oppressive silence: "Say, Blobs, it strikes me that thousands of us who worked for McKinley and honest money in 1896, are working ourselves out of a job."

POOR MEN NOT DISFRANCHISED.

No man who does not contribute to the support of a government should have a voice in its administration, and that part of the amendment which requires a man to pay his poll tax as a franchise, is not only just, what is wanted but is what has long been needed. We take no stock in the talk that it will disfranchise a poor but worthy man, for we do believe there is a man in North Carolina subject to poll tax who can pay it if he would.—Durham Herald.

PRODUCER CONSUMED

HOW WALL STREET LIVES ON LABOR OF THE WEST.

The Capitalist of the East is Always Anxious to Know About the Western Crops—This Class Reaps the Real Harvest.

The western visitor in New York, Philadelphia, Washington or Boston is always asked the question "How are crops out west?" He generally regards this question as a mere observation, calculated to make talk something like that on the weather. But he little realizes the importance to the people of the East of the crop condition of the West, writes ex-Congressman Hinrichsen in the Illinois Democratic Press Bulletin. A few years ago when asked this question by a Washington capitalist, I answered him and then politely asked the condition of the crops in the East. He seemed surprised and said: "We have no crops." This started a train of thought in my mind. I had begun to wonder what they did in the East. I found that they had money and thrift, and that we, of the West, furnished the wherewithal upon which they fed. How is it, then, that in the course of years, their stock of money grows greater, while ours grows less, and yet they get our wheat, our corn, our pork and our beef, in fact, everything we raise except what is absolutely necessary for our own subsistence? Their money makes money for them. The debts we owe them makes the interest charged large enough to overbalance the farm production.

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THE SALT TRUST.

An insignificant thing is salt, but it is a staple and therefore fair game for the trusts to monopolize. Here it is set forth in the Evanville Courier: "The National Salt Company is a \$12,000,000 New Jersey corporation formed in 1899. By ownership and lease of factories, and by purchase of product, it now controls about 90 per cent of our product of salt. It and the smaller combinations, which it has absorbed, have, since 1896, nearly doubled the price of common salt to many consumers in this country. It has 'dead rented' and closed many of its plants and is now being prosecuted in Ohio, because it has, for monopoly purposes, bought and closed three or four furnaces at Pomeroy, Ohio.

DRIVEN TO DESPERATION.

The trusts and monopolies have a way of getting around high prices that the poor cannot touch. They simply give a poorer article at a higher price and continue their work of benevolence. This time wool aggravates the trusts and they avoid the high price of it in the following manner, according to the Springfield Republican: "The high price of wool is driving manufacturers to the use of rags and shoddy and cotton in the manufacture of cloth to an exceptional degree, so the trade papers say, and this, of course, what would be expected. Prices in the rag market are accordingly quite as strong and buoyant as in the wool market. As the general purchasing power of the people has not increased to such an extent as the prices of wool and rags and shoddy, the result of it all will be that the masses must wear more adulterated woolen clothing than usual and pay a higher price for the same. We hope, however, that this will not increase the liability of the people to colds and grip and pneumonia, in accordance with a theory advanced by the late David A. Wells."

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