

FOREST CITY COURIER

Published Every Thursday in the interest of Forest City and Rutherford County.

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C. E. ALCOCK...Editor and Owner
CLARENCE GRIFFIN...News Editor
MRS. C. E. ALCOCK...Society Editor
ARVAL ALCOCK...Asst. Manager

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1930.

**THE DEMOCRATIC TICKET—
STATE, DISTRICT, COUNTY**

(The following is the State and county Democratic ticket, which will be voted in the November election.)

- United States Congress.**
Senate:—Josiah W. Bailey.
House, (10th District)—Zebulon Weaver.
- State Corporation Comm.**
George P. Pell.
- Solicitor.**
18th Judicial District:—J. Will Pless, Jr., Marion.
- State Senate.**
27th Senatorial District:—Peyton McSwain, Shelby; W. K. McLean, Tryon.
- House Representatives.**
O. R. Coffield.
- Sheriff.**
W. C. Hardin.
- Clerk of Superior Court.**
M. V. Dickerson.
- Register of Deeds.**
W. O. Coar.
- Treasurer.**
Mrs. Minnie F. Blanton.
- County Commissioners.**
J. P. Jones, Geo. H. Blanton, A. W. Deck.
- Board of Education.**
J. T. Harris, W. W. Nanney, J. C. Hames.
- Coroner.**
W. C. Hightower.

RANDOM SHOTS

"Politics make strange bedfellows"—Z. O. Jenkins and S. P. Dunagan for instance.—The "Independent" Rutherfordton Sun.

What do you see strange in that, Mr. Republican editor of the Hamrick organ? Both are staunch Democrats, and why shouldn't they be lined up in the present campaign? The intended slur is in the fact that these two gentlemen were divided in sentiment in the race between Simmons and Bailey. That's the way of all good Democrats, Mr. "Independent", getting together after the primary is over and supporting the winner. The Courier also favored Mr. Simmons, but you will find Mr. Bailey's name heading the Democratic ticket in this newspaper.

The great triumvirate—John Ed Pearce, Fred D. Hamrick and Phillip Norris.

Let's see what we have here: Mr. Pearce was a Republican candidate for the State Senate in Kentucky in 1929.

Mr. Hamrick is the Republican candidate for the State Legislature.

Dr. Norris claims to be a Democrat, says he will not support Mr. Hamrick, but at the same time is making a violent attack upon the chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee.

Ye gods, and this is the set of men who are trying to turn the affairs of Rutherford county over to the Republicans. We predict that their mouthings in the "Independent" Sun will not have much effect upon the voters of the county.

If Mr. Hamrick is sincere in his promises to the voters that his only object in wanting to go to the Legislature is to serve the good people of the county, why did he not come out and ask the suffrage of all the voters on a non-partisan platform? No, indeed, he wants to build up a Republican ring in this county to control future elections for that party. Our Democratic Representative will be on the ground at Raleigh after

the fight is over and the county will still be in the Democratic ranks.

The latest spasm of the "Independent" Rutherfordton Sun is to come out against Sheriff W. C. Hardin. The Kentucky importation will find that he has guessed wrong again, in this instance. Mr. Hardin is one of the outstanding sheriffs of the state, having twice been honored by being elected president of the State Sheriff's Association, a fitting recognition of his ability. Not only is he qualified in temperament, ability and experience, but has the welfare of the county at heart in performing the honorable duties of his exacting position. Add to this his tremendous popularity, and then try to figure a chance of the Imported Republican beating him through attacks in his little two-by-four political sheet.

In his desperate efforts to grab votes on his plea of economy, Mr. Fred Hamrick proposes to abolish the office of County Treasurer, so ably conducted by Mrs. Minnie Blanton, one of God's noblewomen, who has won the admiration of all factions in the efficient handling of the office to which she was elected by the people. Her thousands of friends are indignant that this self-seeking politician should stoop to such lengths to throw out a sop to gain a few votes from those who might be misled by his plea of saving the taxpayers' money. Please tell us, Mr. Hamrick, should you destroy this good woman's job, just how much saving there would be to the taxpayers of the county.

It would not surprise us if the "Independent" Sun did not come this week in opposition to some other good Democratic nominee. Are the voters of Rutherford county going to be influenced by this stranger who comes to the county with a background of Republicanism, and who assumes to dictate who shall be elected to the offices of the county.

Just what could Mr. Hamrick accomplish in the Democratic Legislature, should he be accidentally elected? This rabid partisan would have about as much chance to do things in that Democratic body as the Democrats can in the national body under present Republican control. But don't worry. We are not only going to defeat Mr. Hamrick, but also elect a Democratic majority in the National Congress in November.

Democrats, be on guard. There is a desperate effort being made by the Republican Moses, Mr. Fred D. Hamrick, and his "great" political triumvirate, backed by the "Independent" Sun, to gain a few offices in this Democratic county. If the Democrats will only come out and register and then go to the polls and vote, all will be well. The time to smite the enemy is now. Don't wait until they get a small hold upon the offices in the county, and then try to turn them out. Defeat them now by coming out and voting the straight Democratic ticket.

**"ONE NIGHT AT SUSIE'S"
AT ROMINA NEXT WEEK**

There is probably no greater object of pity than the crook who has been confined in the penitentiary for many years and eventually comes out an old man—too old to start life anew.

Tully Marshall plays such a role in "One Night at Susie's," the First National Vitaphone production which comes to the Romina for a two day run next Monday.

"One Night at Susie's" shows Tully Marshall as such a character, befriended by Helen Ware, who plays the role of Susie, the "fence." Billie Dove and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., play the leading roles in the picture.

New lot of enamelware at Courtney's 10c Store.

Sheet music and the hit of the week records. Stahl's Ten Cent Store

NOTICE—M. C. Phillips will have fish and oysters Friday and Saturday. Fruits, vegetables, candies, cigarettes, cigars, snuff, tobacco, all kinds of canned goods, meal, flour, sugar, coffee, meat, lard, Salmon 10c and 15c per can. Don't forget to visit M. C. Phillips' store on Harrill and Reed streets. 3-2t.

Big line of hosiery, cheaper prices, at Courtney's 10c Store.

**SHALL WE LET THIS MAN
DISRUPT RUTHERFORD DEMOCRACY**

Mr. John Ed Pearce, imported Republican now in editorial charge of the Rutherfordton Sun, has come into our county, it seems from his utterances, with the express purpose of disrupting the Democratic party in this county and securing the election of Mr. Fred D. Hamrick and other Republicans.

Now, let us consider this man, before we listen to his Republican doctrine. He was a Republican candidate for the nomination for State Senator at Pineville, Ky., in 1929, although he is trying to make the people here believe he is running an independent newspaper.

Mr. John Ed Pearce also seems to have had some little trouble while running his newspaper at Pineville, Ky.

Below we publish an editorial from the Pineville, Ky., Sun, of date March 8, 1928:

"PEARCE PLEADS GUILTY

"When John Ed Pearce, erstwhile editor of the Cumberland Courier, published a series of articles assailing the management of The Sun and by innuendo and insinuation sought to convey the impression that this paper had been unfriendly to him we passed up the matter and did not make any reply.

"Later he grew bolder and by insinuation implied that The Sun not only had urged employes of that plant to leave his employment but that the management of this newspaper had engaged one of his employes to damage his machinery before leaving. The facts in this latest charge were presented to the grand jury and an indictment charging Pearce with criminal libel was promptly returned.

"Now comes the ending. Pearce enters a plea of guilty to the charges made and promises to pay a fine of \$50 and costs in the settlement of the criminal action pending against him. He comes out, after seeking to avoid trial by a plea of an unusual illness, and confesses that everything he wrote was "false and malicious" and was printed solely for the purpose of damaging the management of The Sun. There was nothing else to be done and, after all, perhaps he chose the lesser of the two evils for the jury already had been selected and he could not have substantiated one line of the article. * * *

"We regret having to go into this matter at all and were it not for the fact that the two men who have been assailed in the Cumberland Courier have not a mouthpiece with which to answer the scurrilous articles we would have declined to answer any of the ridiculous charges now admitted in open court to be a fabrication and without any basis in fact.

"Those who like to see the newspapers of the country aiding in the molding of public opinion and upholding the right regret to see any newspaper stand discredited in its field, but actions such as those of the Cumberland Courier should serve as a warning to publishers who plunge in without regard to the damage that may result from publication of unwarranted statements. Every newspaper which seeks to live up to the ethics of the profession always is willing to make retraction when shown to be in error. That is the least that they can do and the Cumberland Courier could go a long way toward re-establishing itself in the community by an honest confession of its guilt in its columns as the editor accomplished by admitting his culpability in the courts."

Below we publish a certified copy of the court record in the case:

BELL CIRCUIT COURT,

February Term, March 2, 1928.

Commonwealth of Kentucky, Plaintiff

Vs. Libel

John E. Pearce Defendant

The proceedings heretofore had in this case and the Jury and swearing thereof are now set aside and held for naught and came the defendant into open court and entered plea of guilty and said cause submitted to the court and court fixed his fine at \$50.00 and cost of this action.

It is therefore adjudged by the court that the Commonwealth of Kentucky have and recover of the defendant John E. Pearce the sum of \$50.00 and costs herein expended and if he fails to pay or replevy said fine and cost that he be confined in the County Jail for a period of one day for each two dollars of said fine and cost or until same are fully satisfied.

(Paid)

STATE OF KENTUCKY,
COUNTY OF BELL.

I, R. E. Wilson, Clerk of the Bell Circuit Court in and for the County and State aforesaid, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Judgment entered in case of Commonwealth of Kentucky Plaintiff Vs. John E. Pearce in Criminal Order Book 18 page 532 as the same appears and remains of record in my office aforesaid.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 20th day of October, 1930.

R. E. WILSON,

Clerk Bell Circuit Court.

There you are, Democrats of Rutherford County. Are you going to be politically influenced by this man? We confidently await your verdict at the polls on November 4th.

**REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE ATTACKS
EDITOR OF THE FOREST CITY COURIER**

After having had his little pop-gun smashed into smithereens by the Big Bertha of the Hon. S. P. Dunagan in the recent political debates, the Hon. Fred D. Hamrick retired to his private office in dismay and defeat. While brooding over the disaster that had overtaken him, he rallied sufficiently to generate enough energy to bring out the old paste pot and repair his little pea shooter, which he turned on the editor of The Courier in a speech at Hollis last week.

True to form, his little speech was full of misrepresentation, evasion and vituperation.

Listen to this, ye good Democrats of Rutherford county, his little personal organ at Rutherfordton came out in glaring front page headlines, "Hamrick Roasts C. E. Alcock for Unfair Tactics". My, my, but wouldn't it be just terrible if that sheet had any circulation to speak of, with those glaring headlines going into the homes of Rutherford county. His effort to belittle the editor of The Courier was as futile as would be the wasted energy of a hop toad trying to topple majestic Chimney Rock down the mountain side with his feeble little legs as the propelling power.

Mr. Hamrick has been prating about the "Unfair tactics of

The Courier" and trying to make the Republicans believe this newspaper has been unfair in not printing his speeches during the recent debates. The truth of the matter is, The Courier offered Mr. Hamrick the same proposition as it did Mr. Dunagan—that the paper would print his speeches if he would furnish us with typewritten copies of same. The only copy he ever furnished was a garbled and incomplete synopsis of his tirade made at Henrietta school. We suppose he was incapable of reducing his speeches to the form required, or else withheld his copy in order to have an excuse to howl "Unfair Tactics." Nothing could have been more fair than to have given both debaters the same privilege—which we did.

Mr. Hamrick's statement was untrue when he said:

"C. E. Alcock had come to Forest City and started a paper which had been independent, then its editorial policy had been changed and it was announced that it was Democratic, but now it was nothing but an organ of the 'Courthouse Ring.'" The facts are, the editor did not start The Courier. He purchased the paper for Mr. H. C. Hull, Jan. 1, 1922. From that good day to this, The Courier has been Democratic. In all these years it has worn the collar of no man, or set of men, but has steadily supported the principles of the grand old Democratic party. As for Mr. Hamrick's vote-seeking aspersions of a so-called "Courthouse Ring", we know that the voters of Rutherford county, both Republican and Democratic, know that is only the mouthings of a defeated candidate. Rutherford county has had, and has now, as fine a set of county officers as any county in the state, and there is no "courthouse ring."

Then, after the usual palaver about the County Commissioners, the "courthouse ring," taxes and other things occurring to his massive mind as apt to cast reflection upon the Democrats of the county, Mr. Hamrick again takes up the task of "roasting" the editor of The Courier. But really by way of parenthesis, why shouldn't Mr. Hamrick roast the editor of The Courier, who is a Democrat and anathema to the warped mind of this office-seeking Republican? Go to it, Mr. Hamrick; we enjoy hearing you howl. But, please stick to facts.

Now listen, kindly reader, to this great Demosthenes attacking the poor little editor of The Courier, who, by the way, was not present to defend himself from the great onslaught of this would-be Republican leader:

"Because the Sun saw fit to endorse my candidacy in an editorial, C. E. Alcock comes out in a lengthy editorial attacking the editor of the Sun. Why, I ask?"

Mr. Hamrick evidently read the editorial appearing in The Courier, and as usual evades the question. The Courier did not attack the editor of the Sun, but did question the so-called "independence" of that newspaper after it had unqualifiedly come out in support of a Republican. The Courier is of the same opinion still, that the Sun is not an independent newspaper, but the personal organ of Mr. Hamrick. It can be proven that Editor Pearce was a Republican candidate in Kentucky in 1929.

Then Mr. Hamrick went on to the misleading statement referred to in a foregoing paragraph of this article, wherein he stated that The Courier (under Alcock's editorial management) had changed from an independent paper to a nominal Democratic one, and somehow, under the puerile imaginings of this great orator, became the organ of Mr. Hamrick's imaginary courthouse ring. All of which is untrue, according to statement made above.

Now here comes the most puerile statement of all, the most unjust—the pitiful imagining of an inflamed mind:

"Alcock charges that John Ed Pearce came from Kentucky—is not that where Mr. Alcock came from?"

Here is an exact quotation from The Courier of date of October 9: "Just listen to Bro. John Ed Pearce—BROUGHT in from the wilds of the Kentucky mountains to boost the Republican party in general, and the candidacy of Hon. Fred D. Hamrick in particular." Is there any reference as to Mr. Pearce being a Kentuckian or any insinuating slur should he have been one? Fact is, Mr. Pearce is NOT a Kentuckian. But that is no fault of his. Yes, Mr. Hamrick, the editor of The Courier is a born Kentuckian, of Virginian parentage, a heritage of which any man well might be proud. In that grand old Southern state is where the editor was taught his Democracy, which he has practiced since his first vote for the lamented William Jennings Bryan on through the years down to the present good day. And let us add, Mr. Hamrick, that while through the accident of birth, we were born in Kentucky, in 1922 we came to Forest City and since that day and date have considered ourselves an adopted son of one of the grandest states in the Union—North Carolina.

Now listen to this schoolboy outburst:

"I have been, in the past, connected with and have done newspaper work, and I say in all seriousness that Mr. Alcock, if he should be walking down the street would not recognize news if he met it, and if he did, he is incapable of writing it."

That statement is in perfect accord with the dignity of the man who so far forgot the amenities in his address at Henrietta as to turn in fury on the rostrum and address his honorable opponent as "Dunagan," instead of using the polite prefix of "Mr." We have never yet, and never will, cast any reflection upon the integrity or ability of Mr. Hamrick, but his outburst at Hollis is no surprise to us. Now, let us reason a bit: Isn't it strange that the editor could have come here nine years ago—with a ripe newspaper experience behind him—and bring The Courier on down the past nine years and have built it up to its present standard and influence, without the ability to even write a tiny little news article? We will leave it to the over twenty-five hundred satisfied subscribers of The Courier to pass upon our ability to disseminate the news. We have long known the value of advertising, but really do not believe that many people would pay, year in and year out for nine long years, to read a newspaper which contained no news. That's our answer to your pitiful little attempt to belittle our efforts, Mr. Hamrick.

Now, let's get down to a more serious vein. The above article was not written in malice. No, indeed. We are just laughing at the insipid mouthings of a Republican candidate who aspires to represent this great county in the Legislature.

What we want the voters of Rutherford county to do is to consider the fitness and qualifications of Mr. Hamrick, the reasons he wants to go to Raleigh, and the things he could accomplish should he be elected. Would it not be better not to experiment with this Republican, who could accomplish nothing in a Democratic legislature, and elect the tried and proven Democratic candidate, who would have his former experience and the backing of a Democratic body in his efforts to serve his county?

Mr. Hamrick's only hope of winning is to secure Democratic votes. We are quite sure this will be an unsurmountable obstacle in his path.