

BATCH OF POLITICAL RUMORS.

Sunday's Greensboro News carried the following interesting political gossip sent out from Washington by Parker Anderson:

There have been many candidates mentioned for the various State positions which will be filled at the 1916 election, but perhaps the one that will cause the greatest surprise will be that of Josiah William Bailey, of Raleigh, for attorney general of the State to succeed T. W. Bickett, who will make the race for governor unless all signs fail.

That Bailey will be a candidate for attorney general has been whispered around Washington for the last sixty days. Confirmation of his intentions were contained in a statement made by a leading North Carolina Democrat who visited the nation's capital a few days ago when he declared that he knew positively that Mr. Bailey would make the race to succeed Mr. Bickett.

Mr. Bailey is a lawyer of ability, and according to his friends, he does not want to come to Congress; certainly not in the 1916 election. He would be better satisfied, it is said, if he were given the nomination and election as head of the state department of justice. In this capacity Mr. Bailey would be kept in close touch with the State's political affairs and at the same time he would be performing a duty to his liking.

When Mr. Bailey makes a formal announcement of his candidacy, he will doubtless resign as collector of internal revenue for the eastern district, a position he now holds. He could not make satisfactory progress as a candidate for one job while holding another, it is contended, and furthermore, he would be charged with too much "political activity" should he remain on the federal pay roll during his campaign for election.

A point might be strained, however, in order that Mr. Bailey might try his hand for the nomination before resigning his good place for an uncertainty.

Should Mr. Bailey resign to make the race for attorney general there would be many candidates in the field to succeed him, even though the rocky man would not be assured of a short time in office. Should the Republicans win the presidency in 1916, there is hardly any doubt but that they would pursue the same tactics that was followed by the Democrats and remove all federal officeholders without regard to the time their term would expire. District Attorney Holton, Marshall Dockery and Attorney Sewell were removed from office before their commissions expired. Heban nature being about the same throughout the world, it is not thought that the Republicans would make an exception to their Democratic brethren in North Carolina to such an extent as to allow them to remain on the pay roll any longer than they could agree upon a man to fill the job.

Even this early in the game some names have been mentioned by Democrats as a possible successor to Bailey. Joe F. Taylor, now clerk to the finance committee of the Senate, has been named as the possible successor to Mr. Bailey. Taylor was slated for either the collectorship or the marshanship for eastern North Carolina soon after President Wilson was elected. Conditions over which he had no control made it impossible for Taylor to land either place, therefore he was given a good berth at Washington. It may so happen that he may yet sign his name on government paper as collector of internal revenue.

Of course there is going to be many

candidates in the gubernatorial race. Robert N. Page is growing rapidly, according to well informed business men who have been here during the past two weeks. Page has made no effort so far as is known, to get in the race for the job now held by Governor Craig, but many of his friends are going to the front for him without first ascertaining whether he will be a candidate. The same is true of Gen. Julian S. Carr, of Durham; Col. W. H. Osborne, of Greensboro, and A. W. McLean, of Lumberton. The one cry seems to be "we need a business man to run the State's affairs." Any of the three above mentioned gentlemen would fill the bill, it is believed.

It is apparent that E. G. Sherrill, of Greensboro, who now holds a job in the House of Representatives, will oppose Labor Commissioner M. L. Shipman for re-election.

Mr. Sherrill has had considerable experience in North Carolina politics. He was a staunch Kitchin man but made a fair fight. So far as is known he did not offend Senator Simmons in any way. Besides this the Greensboro man is popular with the labor people of the State. For a number of years he served as an employee of the Southern Railway first a telegrapher, then as station agent and alter as train dispatch at Greensboro. He has a wide acquaintance and will make things interesting.

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DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP.

The size and rapid growth of the United States has added immeasurably to the complications that the government has faced and must face. None of the advocates of democracy from the time of Plato to the fathers of the American Republic contemplated that the principles of democracy should be applied to a nation of ninety millions of people, scattered over half a continent and grouped in cities containing up to four or five million inhabitants.

In the past—that is, previous to the nineteenth century—it was held that a democratic form of government could succeed only in a small community. Montaigne, a noted philosopher, writing about the year 1715, said: "It is natural for a republic to have only a small territory, otherwise it cannot long exist. In an extensive republic there are men of large fortunes, and consequently, of less moderation. The public good is sacrificed to a thousand private views; it is subordinate to exception, and depends on accidents." This could not have been better written if it had been done last week instead of two hundred years ago.

In large democracies the individual becomes lost in the mass. Feeling that his duties are of no consequence, he relinquishes them altogether. Government, except in a restricted sense, passes out of his hands. If it becomes a failure, more or less, he blames others for it.

The success of good government in every community, large or small, in its last analysis depends upon individual effort. If public duties are neglected by large numbers, or passed over to others, the state or the community is likely to suffer. Wherever this individual neglect has crept in the results have been the same. Listen to Demosthenes. Speaking to the Athenians of their duties as citizens he said:

"If you get rid, all you, of the spirit of evasion; if each man will show himself ready to act whenever duty calls him and he can possibly

render service to the state; if you are willing to depend upon no one but yourselves, and will give up, each of you, hoping that he can remain idle while his neighbor does everything for him, then, I say, you will come to your own; if God will, you can recover once again the position which your past indolence has thrown away."

This simple counsel of Demosthenes though given twenty-three hundred years ago, cannot be improved on today. It applies to the American of today no less than to the Athenians of the day it was spoken. Get rid of the spirit of evasion in public duties. Don't wait for the other fellow to go forward and take the steps necessary for the welfare of the community. Insist yourself that honesty and efficiency and decency are as important in public as in private life. If we would go forward—intellectually, morally, materially—we must get rid of the spirit of evasion. Waiting for the other fellow to do it never built a city or corrected an abuse.

It has just been revealed that Medill McCormick has resigned from the Progressive National Committee two months ago. There was really no occasion for secrecy about it. Coming back "to the house of his fathers" was so sensible and honorable that there was no reason why all the world should not be told about it promptly.

IT CAN'T BE DONE.
St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

How did the world get started, son? Why, some one said, "It can't be done!"

That settled it. The troglodyte came out of darkness into light.

"It can't be done!" somebody said. And lo! the green fields gave us bread.

With that taunt ringing in his ears, man has gone upward through years.

You should have seen the mill wheels run. When someone said, "It can't be done!"

"It can't be done!" they said before a sail put out to sea from shore.

Since world's remote and dismal dawn, These magic words have spurred us on.

It drove Columbus where the sun went redly down, "It can't be done!"

"It can't be done!" the weaklings said. "The Wrights flew overhead."

"It can't be done!" was what they cried. When Fulton offered them a ride.

They said it, and Marconi sent His message through the firmament.

That is the way it happened, son, Praise God for this, "It can't be done!"

There may be lots of fun in being president of Mexico but it does not last long.

The crowd that gets licked will finally have to assume credit for bringing on the war.

It will be noticed from the proceeding of the legislature that some of the counties seems to be a little short on justices of the peace.

If the authorities will be on the alert the owners of those horses confiscated by the revenue men may not be able to steal them out of the stables.

"ALL FOR MARY ANN."

The Wall Street Journal, with the sound sense and good judgment which are always to be found in its editorial columns, under the heading of "All for Mary Ann," says:

"A professor of political economy, a valued and constant reader of this newspaper, in a communication not for publication, tells an illustrative anecdote which is hereby commended, in the public interest:

"An American lady called upon Ambassador Herrick in Paris last August and gave him a piece of her mind. She said, 'Now look here; this war must stop before the first of September, because Mary Ann has simply got to go to school.'

"In our international relations with peoples as great as ourselves, who are spending their last dollar and their last life in a cause they believe vital, are we not constituting ourselves the champions of Mary Ann? No nation in the world is more interested than ourselves in the inviolability of treaties. Yet, in the indefensible outrage upon Belgium we had nothing to say. We preserved that kind of neutrality shown by the citizen who declines to give even his moral support to the police in a manifest breach of the peace. But the delaying of cargoes, under the right of search, apparently touches us more nearly.

"Surely, we are not properly represented before the nations when we are made to appear to carry our soul in our breeches pockets? Nothing would suit the Germans better than to make bad blood between this country and Great Britain. But Great Britain in exercising the right of search, is acting not for herself alone, but for France, Russia, Belgium and Japan. She can afford to take no chances on the transfer of the Dardanelles. Our State Department, admitted as much by declining to insure that vessel.

"Just another story, to make the pettiness of our grievance quite clear. Lincoln was pestered with deputations demanding the righting of trivial personal damages, at any public sacrifices, when every effort of his mind and body was directed to preserving the Union. He told these deputations the story of the pilot steering his vessel desperately through the rapids and the snags, who was imperatively requested by a little boy to stop the ship because he had dropped his apple overboard.

"When the meat packers protest delay of cargoes, it should be remarkable advance in railroad rates in the same spirit. The ludatory critic who said they utilized everything in the hog except the squeal did them less than justice."

Three employes to every five lawmakers makes it look like the solons have to have considerable waiting on. The man who will invent an air-tight stopper for family jars is sure of a monument.

bered that they have taken a reasonable

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The leaders in the Legislature evidently understand each other even if trades have not been made.

If the Legislature is in doubt there is one way to find out what the people think of the proposed primary.

Take the newspapers away from him and the average man would not know that there is a war in Europe.

It seems that they think they have found a way to beat Gatling for the Raleigh postoffice.

AN INTERESTING PROBLEM.
"The folks at our hotel are greatly interested in a problem."
"What is it?"
"An irresistible blonde has just met an immovable bachelor.—Judge."

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Advertisement for Standard Oil Company lamps, featuring an illustration of a man and a woman sitting at a table with a lamp. The text describes the benefits of Rayo lamps and provides contact information for Standard Oil Company in various cities.

It is all right for the State to regulate the bigger railroads, but it is a fact that some of the smaller ones are not in position to impose upon anybody.

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