

The Caucasian

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WHICH IS THE WISER COURSE?

The Caucasian has received a letter from a prominent and influential Republican in which he says: 'I write to make a suggestion for your consideration. First, I want to say that I heartily approve of your position that it would be greatly better for the Republican party if the next State convention should not be packed with Federal office holders. The struggle which Federal office holders have made in the past to be delegates and to dominate conventions has had the effect of making the rank and file of the party indifferent, which indifference has often lasted to the election. Representative Republicans who are not Federal office holders should be encouraged to go to the primaries and to go as delegates to all conventions, and the Federal office holders ought themselves to help bring about such a condition in the interest of party growth. But what I specially wanted to say is this: The next election in our State is what is known as an off-year, and no party, as a rule, polls as large a vote on such years as on Presidential years. Now, if the rank and file of the party should respond to your suggestion and send strong, progressive Republicans to take charge of the next conventions and elect a State organization whose efforts would be solely directed to building up the party, and the best men were nominated, and a vigorous campaign was run, still would not the chances be that the party vote would still be smaller than it was last year? We would have not only the handicap of an off-year to contend against, but if the patronage machine was de-throned they would, of course, do all they could to discredit the new leadership of the party, and of course they would fall off generally, and especially if we should elect no Congressmen, which might result no matter how wise and vigorous a campaign was run. This being so, would it not be well to let the old crowd run things for the next campaign and take the responsibility for the falling off of the vote? This may not sound very patriotic, but is not it often wise and right to use diplomacy? I am not writing this for publication, but I want you to consider it, and would be glad to have your views either in an editorial or by letter.'

The Caucasian does not agree to the last suggestion made in the letter above, for several reasons. First, admitting that the vote is naturally lighter with all parties in an off-year, would not the vote be much lighter under the leadership of the present patronage machine than it would be under the leadership of men who not only want to win, but who have the character and capacity to strengthen and build up the party? If this is true, this view of the situation alone should settle the question as to what is best.

In the second place, we think that it will be generally admitted that if the management of the party if left in its present hands, that an effort will be made by the machine to try to defeat some, if not all, of our present Congressmen for re-nomination, and that they will not be properly supported if they should be nominated, and that therefore they would be almost certain to face defeat. On the other hand, if the party organization is put into strong hands, then a condition would be created that would mean the re-election of our present Congressmen, and possibly the election of other Congressmen, or at least the only chance that we would have to accomplish such a result would be by a change in leadership.

In the third place, if the Republican party is to carry the State at the next Presidential election and elect a Republican Governor, and give the electoral vote to a Republican President, it will not do to wait until then to begin to organize. The work must begin in this campaign to make victory possible then. If the party is left in charge of the present patronage machine, not only will our present Congressmen be in danger, but we will find the machine nominating for Congress in the other districts postmasters or some tool of the machine who understands that he is not expected to try to win, but is simply running for a Federal job. This was done by the machine in the last campaign, and it will be done again. They do not want a strong man to run for Congress, because, first, there is some danger of his being elected, and, next he would be sure to strengthen the party even if he was not elected, and the machine does not want the party bigger, for it is already now so big that their control is threatened. Besides, they do not want a man who has made a good race for Congress and increased the

vote to protest at some of their machine appointments. They want willing tools as candidates for Congress so that they will not be in their way or so that the machine could use their endorsements if they should need it.

This is why a postmaster was nominated in the last campaign in the Raleigh District, and why a postmaster was nominated in the Second District, and why an ex-postmaster was nominated in the First District, and so on. The same blighting and treacherous policy has extended everywhere. The pursuance of this policy was shown when a man like Hancock was made chairman of the congressional committee in the Third district, who succeeded in reducing the Republican vote in his county, while gains were being made everywhere else except where the machine could prevent it.

The fear expressed that if the patronage machine fellows were unhorsed they would knife the ticket, is a fear well grounded, except that its importance is over-estimated. If the present machine leaders were deposed and the party was organized for a progressive fight, immediately every office holder in the State would understand that he was no longer expected simply to go as a delegate to the conventions to re-elect the machine and then go home and do nothing, but, on the other hand, he would understand that the only way he could continue to hold his position would be by showing his loyalty to his party and producing progressive results in his county and district.

The Federal office holder ought to be an element of strength to the Republican party instead of an element of weakness, and with the party properly organized they would at once become a most important and potent element of strength. Not only would better men be appointed under a new organization in many places, but even the present office holders would at once exert themselves for progress and growth. Besides, if the present patronage machine leaders should be deposed, they would at once find themselves absolutely without any following. Their knifing of the ticket would be reduced to a very few disgruntled individuals. On the other hand, there are at least ten thousand men in the State who have never voted the Republican ticket, who will do so the very minute that they see that the party makes victory and not distribution of patronage its chief end. A hundred such new political recruits would be gained for every kicking, sulking and knifing machine fellow.

We submit these reasons to the candid view of every Republican who wants to see his party grow and have confidence in the result if such a course shall be followed. If, however there are any who hold a different view, and have any reason to support the same, The Caucasian will be glad to hear from them, and will open its columns to them.

WHO WILL BE THE LUCKY BOY?

The Caucasian will give some energetic young farmer in this State a free trip to Washington, D. C. Whom shall it be? Elsewhere on this page will be found an article stating that four young farmers from Southern States have just been to Washington to receive diplomas from the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture for special proficiency in agriculture. Each of these boys planted one acre of corn and cultivated it under instruction from the Department of Agriculture. We are sorry to note that no one offered a free trip to Washington this year to any young farmer in North Carolina making the best yield of corn on an acre, but The Caucasian is determined that such will not be the case next year, for we are going to give a free trip to Washington to the young farmer in this State who shows the best yield of corn on an acre. This will enable the winner to go to Washington and receive the diploma in person from the Secretary of Agriculture, and we might mention, incidentally, that it will be a nice trip besides.

With scarcity of labor the farmer must now study intensive instead of extensive farming. It does not take any longer to plow an acre of good corn than it does to plow an acre of sorry corn. It is the object of the Department to teach the young farmers how to produce the most with the least labor and expense.

Now, we want a large number of young farmer boys to enter this contest, and if every boy who desires to enter will send his name to The Caucasian we will be glad to forward it to the Department of Agriculture and each and every one will be furnished with instructions that will aid in the contest.

The dealers in near-beer complain that they can't afford to pay \$1,000 a year tax and compete with the blind tigers who are not forced to pay any taxes at all. And their complaint sounds reasonable.

DEMOCRATIC ECONOMY A MYTH.

The following news story appeared in Friday's News and Observer:

'Members of the board of directors of the State prison returned home yesterday after their regular monthly meeting. The Board restored the salaries of the superintendent and clerk to what they were before the present administration took charge. The present board reduced the salary of the superintendent from \$3,000 to \$2,500, and that of the clerk from \$2,000 to \$1,500. It has been found that the former salaries were not too large, and that the amounts to which they had been reduced were not adequate. The superintendent, Capt. J. J. Laughinghouse, is a capable farmer and an efficient executive, and the clerk, Mr. T. W. Fenner, has had large experience in offices of responsibility. The action of the board will be generally approved.'

It will be remembered that at the first meeting of the new board of directors it was announced with a great flare of trumpets that they had reduced the salaries of the superintendent and clerk, and that economy would be practiced all along the line under the new administration. After much favorable comment had been made by the press of the State over the action of the board in practicing economy, they meet again and restore the former salaries as they had discovered it was not too much.

How many farmers are there in North Carolina who are making \$3,000 a year above operating expenses, and how many clerks are there in North Carolina, not on the government pay roll, who are making \$2,000 a year?

We shall be glad to publish a list of their names.

DEMOCRATIC ECONOMY IS A MYTH.

LURTON, CLEVELAND, PARKER, ET AL.

But if Judge Lurton is a Democrat how did he manage to get to be a Federal Judge in the first place?—Durham Herald.

For the information, as well as for the edification of the Herald, we will say that Judge Lurton was appointed a Federal judge by Grover Cleveland. At that time Judge Lurton was a Democrat, and if he has ever changed his political opinions the fact has not been made known to the public. However, we notice that since his appointment to the Supreme Court bench by President Taft, that some of the Democratic papers fear that the judge hasn't his Democracy on straight.

Just after the appointment by President Taft the News & Observer said that the "interests" (meaning the trusts) were pleased with the appointment, and if he has ever changed his political opinions the fact has not been made known to the public. However, we notice that since his appointment to the Supreme Court bench by President Taft, that some of the Democratic papers fear that the judge hasn't his Democracy on straight.

Does the News & Observer mean that Judge Parker, whom the News & Observer begged the people to support for President four years ago, is an agent and spokesman for the trusts?

STILL PULLING FOR 10,000.

The end of the year is almost here and we are still pulling for those ten thousand subscribers. Some of the friends of the paper have exerted themselves and have sent in nice lists of new subscribers, while some others have not sent in any. However, it isn't too late. You will meet a great number of your friends during the holidays—and don't forget to ask them to subscribe for The Caucasian. If they can't subscribe for a year possibly they can for six months. If every friend of the paper will do a little missionary work for us during the holidays, we may have some good news to tell our readers in our first issue in January. Now, all together for ten thousand subscribers for The Caucasian by the first of January.

NO PAPER NEXT WEEK.

It has been our custom for many years to suspend for one issue during the Christmas holidays, so that our office force and printers may have a few days for recreation and pleasure. Following this custom we will not issue a paper next week, but The Caucasian will visit you again in the first week in January, and then regularly each week during the year.

We wish each and every one of our readers a very merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

A special from Charlotte Monday stated that the Dukes had planned to build a score or more of big cotton mills in the Piedmont section of this State. The Caucasian gave this news to the public last summer, but the other papers of the State did not take us seriously at the time. We knew that such a project was under contemplation, whether the mills ever materialize or not. But, we think, and hope, they will.

SPEAKING OF PIE—

Senator Money, of Louisiana, is properly named. He gets good pay as a Senator, and reports from Washington are that several members of the Money family have been provided with good paying positions. It is amazing to what extremes men will go to get themselves and their relatives up to the pie counter.—Greensboro Telegram.

And Senator Money isn't a Republican, either.

If you want the Business Manager of The Caucasian to have a happy and prosperous New Year send him a renewal of your subscription. He says that the sweetest words in the English language are: "Enclosed please find check."

The State Farmers' Union, in session at Greensboro last week, adopted strong resolutions favoring good roads. That is another step taken by the farmers in the right direction. They are greatly benefited by good roads, and so are the business men, and they should join hands with the farmers for good roads throughout the State.

"If the sugar trust can prove that it has not been stealing, it should be able to get some of us for libel.—Durham Herald.

If they prove their innocence, why not indict some of their witnesses for perjury?

Some weeks ago it was announced that Mr. Bryan was in favor of making prohibition a National issue in the next campaign. A few weeks later, however, he says he wants those States that want prohibition have already voted for prohibition to have prohibition. The next statement will probably announce that Colonel Bryan will not fight prohibition in those States that have already voted for it.

New York bakers sent President Taft an immense pie Thanksgiving which was lost in transit. If the bakers would put certain Democratic politicians on the trail they would locate it in short order.

BOY FARMERS GET DIPLOMAS.

Secretary Wilson Presents Awards of Merit to Four.

Diplomas of merit, Wednesday, were presented by Secretary Wilson in his office at the Department of Agriculture at Washington City to four boys less than eighteen years of age for special proficiency in agriculture. The youths thus distinguished are Bascomb Usher, of South Carolina; De Witt Lundy, of Mississippi; Elmer Halter, of Arkansas; and Ralph Bellwood, of Virginia.

The recipients of the awards are among the 12,500 participants in the boys' demonstration work in the South. Each planted one acre of corn and cultivated it under instructions from the Department of Agriculture. Dr. S. A. Knapp, who has charge of the farm demonstration work in the South, offered a trip to Washington to the boy in Mississippi who should obtain the best results.

The State Bankers' Association of Arkansas offered a similar reward in that State. Citizens of Virginia and South Carolina duplicated the offers in those States.

All Southern States are making arrangements to send the prize-winners to Washington next year.

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IN THE PHILIPPINES.

(Continued from Page 1.)

one day we would still be short to the extent of eighteen hundred thousand tons every year. Do you see even a remote cause for fear on that score? If you have ever read much about the Philippines you probably have wondered why some writers speak of the "Moro Country," or the Moro people. The word Moro is used to distinguish the Mohammedan Filipinos from the others. The Mohammedans occupy the large island of Mindanao and a few small islands near by. In order to meet this difficulty, a mere religious matter, the United States virtually gives the country two forms of government. Civil government prevails in the northern islands and military government in the southern islands. In time this will not be unnecessary for the people will gradually learn that a form of civil government is better than the best military rule.

The Moors air a tough lot, and hit may yet be necessary to shoot a lot of civilization into them. A favorite article of food with the Moros is fried grasshoppers. Of course that isn't any worse than terrapin or mushrooms, a favorite dish among the "upper ten" in the United States. Some of the Moros dress in fancy style for holiday occasions. But they usually wear nothing but a breechcloth in warm weather when at work on their little farms. The men carry ugly looking knives at all times and they do not fail to use them at times. But they air fond of guns and pistols and he bin known to kill travelers to get them.

There air many snakes on these islands, includin' the boa constrictor. I'm told that a snake of this variety which wuz thirty-six feet long wuz killed near our military camps some time ago. I am glad that I didn't meet hit in the road. When snakes grow to be more than twenty feet long they can't be friends or mine.

In locatin' camps for the American soldiers, special attention hez bin given to gettin' healthy locations, for some naborhoods air not fit for Americans to live at. Camp Keithly seems to be K. O. This camp is located on the mountains 2,300 feet above sea level. To the north you can look far over the ocean. To the south is a mountain lake twenty miles long. A full regiment of soldiers is stationed here awl the time. Near this fort, in sight or hit, lives hostile Filipinos who would give much trouble if they dared. On the other side of the lake mentioned is Camp Vikars, located nearly as high above sea-level as is Camp Keithly. In this region you can see monkeys climbing trees an' jumpin' around lively.

Near Camp Vikars I met Datu Piang, a friendly Moro, who has much influence. He is a royal bum awl rite an' rides in a boat rowed by forty oarsmen, havin' a boy on either side of him to hold an umbrella so that the sun may not tan his complexion. Datu Piang is part Chinese an' should not hev a place or royalty among the Filipinos. But he is smart in a way an' they allowed him to promote himself. The American authorities air pursuin' the same policy.

At Jolo, the chief seaport of the Sulu, the moros air not allowed to come into or remain in the city overnight. The city is walled. The Moros enter freely durin' the day, but air required to leave their weapons outside.

The Filipinos would enjoy independence, that is, local self-government. They air far from bein' satisfied. But hit is certain that the United States will control the country as long as hit owns hit. Any other plan would be foolish, a serious mistake or the part of the United States, and hit would end in the destruction of the Philippines for they would put in the balance of time fitn' each other. Awl they need iz just treatment. As the old ones die off and the recent past iz forgotten, az hit will be by the generation now growin' up, the people will soon become reconciled. The Filipinos air hot-headed, proud. Such a people air slow to surrender. As a leader Aguinaldo proved that. And yet, after he reached the end of the race, when he could go no further, he settled down and iz now a civic citizen, that is, a peaceable citizen, for he wuz a gude one awl the time. Hiz influence will hev a gude effect upon the better class of his countrymen for they know and believe that he fought to the last ditch and fought long after he wuz in the last ditch. The anti-imperialists who raised such a row in the United States a few years ago were but political agitators who were hardly loyal to their own flag and they ought to be known better; but for them the Filipinos might hev bin pacified at a much

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