

SHOULD BE REPUBLISHED

Why the State Should Republish the Bragg (Fraud) Commission Report

The Truth About the Carpet-Bag Bonds Should Be Known—The Facts Have Been Perverted by the Democratic Machine—Every Good Citizen Should Demand That the Next Legislature Have the Report Reprinted.

To the People of North Carolina:—In my speech at Raleigh on November 4, 1910, I brought to the attention of the public for the first time the truth about the carpet-bag bonds. I held up before the audience a copy each of the reports of the Bragg and Shipp Fraud Commissions and stated that these reports showed that what has been charged by the Democratic politicians and press as the "wholesale looting of the state" during the darkest hours of its history by the issue and the sale of fraudulent carpet-bag bonds was a thing the facts and truth about which had been suppressed and perverted by the Democratic machine.

I stated that those reports would show that a scheme or schemes were organized during the sessions of the Legislatures of 1868 and 1869 to get charters to build seven or eight railroads, and to get the State to issue its bonds to furnish the money to these railroads, and that the State was to accept the stock or the bonds of the railroads in payment for its bonds. These are what are now known as carpet-bag bonds.

I showed that the presidents of these railroads were, with one exception—possibly two—all leading Democrats. I showed that these railroad companies employed many of the leading lawyers in the State for their attorneys, not only to help them draft the bills and get through the legislation, but also to defend the legislation and the validity of the bonds after they were issued, and I also showed that every one of these prominent Democratic lawyers, with one exception, were leading Democrats. I further showed that many of these lawyers received large fees for their services, and that the bulk of their fees were paid in large blocks of these State bonds, which had been issued for the purpose of building the railroads, and not for the purpose of paying the fees of attorneys or lobbyists.

I showed that the chief arguments used by these railroad presidents and their attorneys to secure the passage of the bills chartering the companies and the laws authorizing the issue of millions and millions of bonds were for the internal improvement and development of the State, which was sorely needed at that time.

I showed that while some members of the Legislature were corruptly influenced to vote for these bonds, that the best element of the Legislature did it from patriotic motives, supposing that the money would be honestly used and the railroads built. I showed that only a very few members of the Legislature reaped any benefit from the "enormous looting of the State," but that the big "graft" went to these leading Democrats and their associates who organized the railroad schemes and who handled the bonds after they were issued by the State. I further showed that it was a Republican Supreme Court that declared these bonds invalid and saved the State from the payment of the same, while the validity of these bonds was being strenuously upheld by many of the leading Democratic lawyers of the State.

The concluding part of my speech on this subject is as follows:

"These are a few of the facts shown by these reports. So we see now that it was this combination of leading Democrats who conceived the plan, drew the bills, put through the legislation, and had the carpet-bag bonds issued. The negroes and the white carpet-baggers from the North, no matter how ignorant or dishonest they may have been, were simply pawns in the hands of these Democratic schemers.

"I have for years been trying to get hold of a copy of this Bragg Commission Report. Some of these Democrats who were connected with this combination to 'loot' the State have used every effort to buy and burn every copy of the report of the investigation into their conduct, and to-day they are trying to charge their sins against the Republican party. How this copy that I hold to-day has escaped their fear and their greed, their desire to wipe out the evidence of the blackest stain on the page of North Carolina history for which they are responsible, is most astonishing, and at the same time is most fortunate in the interest of the truth of history."

In that speech I stated that I had in my possession this the only copy of the Bragg Commission Report that I knew of in existence, and I declared that in the interest of truth I would have it re-published. Upon the advice of a number of friends since that date, I have con-

cluded that it is not my duty as an individual to re-publish this report, but that it is the duty of the State to re-publish this official document in the interest of the truth of history. Every good citizen of the State who believes in truth and fair play should demand that the members of the next Legislature should vote to re-print this report. Nobody who is free from blame can possibly object. Respectfully,  
MARION BUTLER.

POWER COMPANY TO ENTER RALEIGH.

New Company Will Come in to Compete With Other Companies—Buying Right of Way Through Wake

The following from Monday's Durham Sun will be of especial interest to citizens of Raleigh and Wake County: "The purchase of rights of way beyond Durham toward Raleigh by the Southern Power Company has created much speculation as to the intentions of this giant concern which is spreading its network of wires over the piedmont section like a spider spinning it web. "Today, deeds for rights of way for the company in Oak Grove township were filed at the office of the register of deeds of the county. Surveyors are now at work on the route to Raleigh from Durham and rights of way are being secured as rapidly as possible. This can mean but one thing, and that is the company intends to enter Raleigh and compete for business there with the numerous other companies that are now preparing to enter the Capitol City with a supply of electrical energy. Some have thought that the Southern Power Company intends to make connection with some of the power plants that are now being installed in the vicinity of Raleigh. This seems hardly probable, for the reason that, if this had been the intention of the company, the long line from Greensboro to Durham would not have been constructed."

Farmer Commits Suicide.

Benson, Aug. 19.—John D. Byrd, a farmer living two miles south of here, drank carbolic acid to-night as the result of an overcharge of blind tiger liquor and died a few minutes later. Byrd, who is married and has several children, came here this afternoon, tanked up on booze and started for home. On the way he stopped at the home of Preston Norris and asked for the acid, which he had left there, saying he wanted it for sores on the children's hands. After reaching home he drank the acid, called his wife, told her what he had done and asked for a physician to be called, but is reported to have died before he arrived. Byrd was about 30 years old and drank occasionally.

Had No Opinion.

Judge: You are a free-holder? Talesman: Yes, sir; I am. Judge: Married or single? Talesman: Married three years last June. Judge: Have you formed or expressed an opinion? Talesman: Not for three years, your honor.—Success Magazine.

Where Jones Went.

A series of revival services was being held in a Western city, and placards giving notice of the services were posted in conspicuous places. One day the following notice was posted: "Hell; Its Location and Absolute Certainty. Thomas Jones, baritone, soloist will sing, 'Tell Mother I'll Be There.'"

One of Ohio Legislative Bribers Will Tell Whole Story.

Columbus, Ohio, Aug. 22.—Colonel Rodney Diegle, implicated in the Ohio legislative bribery expose, has announced that he would make a complete confession. He will thereby escape a penitentiary sentence.

MR. TAFT WILL TOUR WEST

Will Leave Beverly About September 17 for a Long Tour

Will Break Ground for Panama Canal Exposition at San Francisco—Will Visit Practically All the Western States and Return to Washington About November 1st.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Plans for President Taft's coming trip through the West and to the Pacific Coast practically were completed to-day. The journey will be almost as extensive as that taken by the President on his famous "swing around the circle" in 1909, when he traveled more than 13,000 miles and visited thirty-three States. He will break ground for the Panama Canal Exposition at San Francisco, make several score of addresses and attempt to scale the 14,000 feet of Mount Rainier's precipitous slope.

According to the present arrangement, the President will be gone six weeks. In that time, it is expected that he will make close to two hundred speeches, from platforms, from the rear end of his private car and at other places not on the regular schedule. Republican leaders look upon the trip as the most important politically that the President has mapped out since he entered the White House. He will go through all the States in the West in which they recognize the domination of the progressive Republicans who are counted on to oppose his re-nomination next year.

The President probably will leave Beverly September 17, returning East about November 1. He will go West through Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Nevada to the coast. Most of the big cities in the States, including Des Moines, Kansas City, Omaha, Denver and Salt Lake will be visited, but the plans for the trip contemplate stops at scores of smaller places as well. From California the President will go north to Portland and Seattle. Three days are to be spent in Washington State and the route eastward will allow him to stop in Idaho, Montana, the Dakotas and Minnesota.

Topics for the President's addresses will not be hard to find, the party leaders say.

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Smart Youth.

"Tommy, what did you do with the pennies I gave you for taking your medicine?" "I bought a bun with one of them, ma, and I gave Jimmy the other to drink the medicine for me."—Tit-Bits.

LIFE SAVED AT DEATH'S DOOR.

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