

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 28, 1900.

NO. 3702

GREAT DAY FOR DEMOCRATS.

Next Governor and Candidates for State Offices Speak in Charlotte.

COURT HOUSE CROWDED.

Mr. Aycock's Great Speech.—Dr. Dixon's Happy Hits.—Fine Addresses of Messrs. Gilmer and McNeill.—Speaking To-Night at City Hall.

This was a great day for Democracy in Mecklenburg county. "Our next Governor" and the honored gentlemen who are to be our State officers were greeted by a large and enthusiastic crowd. They spoke in the new court house, which was as full as it could hold. In the audience were men from every part of the county and from other towns, and a number of the fair sex graced the occasion with their presence.

The room had been prettily decorated by Mrs. T. S. Clarkston, Mrs. Luke Seawell and Miss Julia Alexander, with United States flags and the national colors. A profusion of beautiful flowers adorned the speaker's stand, a large bunch of carnations on the right being "for our next Governor."

Chairman J. D. McCall called the meeting to order and stated the object of the candidates' tour of the State.

In introducing Mr. Bryan Grimes, Mr. Heriot Clarkson said this was the most important campaign in years, a fight of white against black, of good government against bad government. He said the Democratic party had selected eleven men without spot or blemish, and one of them a tillar of the soil, a bread-winner, a scion of a knightly race. "Such is the man, Mr. Bryan Grimes, whom I present to you."

Mr. Grimes said: "I come to you today commissioned by the greatest convention ever held in North Carolina, as candidate for Secretary of State. We are gratified by the representative audience that greets us. I realize the hopes and aspirations of your manhood and the happiness of your womanhood. In the homes of the East, there is not the same happiness. The dark cloud of the black race hangs over them, and the women are anxious even for their own safety. One great question is supreme whether the white people shall govern or the negroes shall misgovern. This country has met three crises. In the first under the lead of the patriots of Mecklenburg, we drove the British minions across the sea. In the second crisis North Carolina made a glorious record. She was first at Bethel and last at Appomattox. In an effort to humiliate us our ungenerous foes placed our former slaves on an equal footing with us." Here he reviewed the history of Reconstruction and carpet-bag rule in this State; spoke of the revolution of 1876 and of the twenty-five years of good government that succeeded. Our people divided on industrial questions and some of the white people united with the Republicans and carried the State. The scenes of 1868 were repeated. In 1898 the people arose in their might and elected a Democratic legislature. There was a demand for some measure that would forever make negro rule impossible in this State. They met this with the constitutional amendment, which will be carried and will forever redeem the State. It will make negro rule impossible; it means that all our little children will be educated. It lifts the yoke of ignorance and ignominy forever from our necks. It forever eliminates the negro as a factor on North Carolina. We say to the negro, 'Thou shalt have justice before the law but thou shalt not rule.'

He who doubts the passage of this amendment forgets the history and heritage of our people. North Carolina again asks her sons to come to her rescue; you will respond to her call. Vance said: "Democracy is immortal; its principles can never die." God sends another man to save you. Joshua of white supremacy. He is with you today and will be your next governor.

I come to you from tide-water Eastern Carolina—a section that suffers from the blight of negro rule. He told of the horrors of negro rule in the East.

Senator Butler says they will drive us out of the State. They may carry us out, but they can never drive us out. There is a higher law to which we can appeal. We ask your help, but not in supplication. If you do aid us we will be thankful, but if not, thank God, we are able and will protect our own."

DR. DIXON'S SPEECH.

Mr. J. A. Bell introduced Dr. B. F. Dixon. In order to fill the office of au-

ditor, he said, a man must have a knowledge of theology, medicine and surgery, and the man the Democrats present possess all these qualifications. In this campaign the occupation of the demagogue will be destroyed.

Dr. Dixon said he wanted to look into the faces of the men who had given him such a majority in the primaries and convention. I just came to look at you and let you look at me. Strange to say even across the mountains we found Democrats—hosts of them. We found there the descendants of the King's Mountain volunteers. They came out then with their long rifles and with joy and gladness to kill Ferguson's men. They are going to answer the call this year and help free us.

I know a Democrat as far as I can see him, and I am glad to see so many here today.

The cry of people that this negro question is stale and old reminds me of Bill Wilson. Bill said to me, "Every day my wife comes and begs me for money, money, money, and sometimes twice a day, till I am pestered to death."

"Why does she keep begging you for more money?" I asked.

"I reckon it's because I don't never give her none," said Bill. This negro question never has been settled, and the constitutional amendment is the only thing that will settle it. We are simply going to take from the negro what will hurt him and hurt us. We are white men and do not propose to follow the black banner. I am the friend of the negro.

When the French Revolution was about to fall, one Stuart arose and said: "Send to Marseilles for six hundred thousand men ready to batter down the walls of Paris. So I want this crowd here to be so enthused over the amendment that there will be hundred thousand men ready to batter many thousands who will march under the white banner to the polls."

GILMER'S ELOQUENCE.

Mr. C. W. Fillett in an eloquent little speech presented Mr. R. D. Gilmer, candidate for Attorney General. The Democrats have found in Mr. Gilmer every inch a lawyer, every inch a man, who will not be a figure-head, who is best loved where best known, who will inspire the Teutonic Legion of Democracy.

Mr. Gilmer said he came with no malice toward any man, with charity for all. It is my purpose to appeal to men along patriotic lines, because the results of this campaign will affect North Carolina for all time to come. We appeal to every white man to perpetuate good government and white rule. He pictured the South before the war as a land of sunshine and song; the coming of red-handed war, and the ashes and desolation that followed the conflict. He reviewed the course of the Legislature on the 13th amendment, the passage of the Reconstruction act, conferring upon the negroes the right to vote and disfranchising thousands of the best and noblest white men of the State. In 1867 out of the 93,000 votes cast, 77,000 were the votes of negroes. The only party that ever disfranchised the white men of North Carolina, was the Republican party. The right of suffrage was conferred upon the negro who rejoiced in his possession only as the savage red man rejoices in his beads. He spoke of the victory of 1876 and the twenty years of peace and prosperity that succeeded, the fusion period and negro rule, and then the rising of the white men of the State and the great victory of 1898. The people of this State are tired of this recurring struggle to preserve good government and white rule. The Legislature of 1899 was charged with the duty of making white supremacy permanent. They also remembered the bravery and virtue of unlettered white men. The amendment proposed will disfranchise no white man in North Carolina but it will eliminate the ignorant and vicious negro vote. Mr. Pritchard himself said one provision of the amendment was to protect the white man. Mr. Thomas Settle said in a letter that the Democrats had written in the constitution a section that would protect every white man and keep out every vicious negro. This is the most important question of the century. The amendment will settle this great question. If we fail to adopt this amendment North Carolina will become the Mecca of all the negro politicians in the South. When that time comes the people of Eastern North Carolina will appeal to the higher law, and what will you say to your God when the streets of the Eastern towns run red with blood?

MENELL TELLS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Mr. Franklin McNeill, candidate for Corporation Commissioner, was the next speaker. He said he would forgive the mistake made in the primaries, if the county did all right in August. He spoke especially of the county government, and the sacrifice the white people of the West made to enable the Eastern counties to fill their offices with white men. From 1875 to 1895, we had good government all over the State. In 1895 this State was again Africanized by a change in the system of county government, that enabled the negroes in the Eastern counties to elect magistrates and county commissioners. The same old story of 1869 followed. Incompetent officials, negro magistrates and commissioners, were elected all through the East. The Legislature of 1897 put the Eastern cities under control of the negro. In Wilmington three good white men were

elected and two negroes, the governor appointed four radicals and thus turned the city government over to the negroes.

The law was as powerless as a leaf. A citizen had to redress his own grievances. I couldn't paint it any worse than it was. With thirty negro policemen on the street, who would redress a violation of the law? You can see well enough where it would lead to. Property was not safe; the houses were guarded at night. After submitting patiently for months the white men determined there were things worse than death, and it must stop. It did stop and it has stopped for good. The Legislature of 1898 passed a law that will prevent this and that law is the constitutional amendment.

Mr. H. B. Varner, candidate for Labor Commissioner, thanked his friends for their support in the primaries and said he hoped they would do as well in the August election.

MR. AYCOCK'S SPLENDID SPEECH.

Chairman McCall reviewed the great convention at Raleigh and presented its nominee—the next governor of North Carolina. He pledged Mecklenburg to the amendment and Aycock. Mr. Aycock has "the heart of Vance and the eloquence of a Prentiss," he said.

"I believe all true North Carolinians may claim to have the heart of Vance," said Mr. Aycock, "best beloved and greatest of them all. I invoke his memory today in behalf of white supremacy. North Carolinians love conservatism and they love the truth. It is an old story but the most impassioned of orators declared that the only light that could make his path clear was the lamp of experience. The amendment is predicated on the past. He spoke of the days of Reconstruction as a "hell born dream." He traced the history of the State from the dark days of carpet bag rule, through the twenty years of prosperous rule under the Democratic party, the division of the white people in 1892, and the fusion victory of 1894. Government can never be better nor wiser than the average of the virtue and intelligence of the party that governs. In a party which is composed of two thirds negroes, there cannot be a high standard of competence and virtue. It is the negro behind the office-holder that makes negro government, and not the office-holder himself. The Republicans come into power with the promise and purpose of giving the State good government. But did they have good government? In Wilmington they had the most intolerable government that ever afflicted a city or disgraced a State."

When the race war began in Wilmington and the white women and children were in danger, was it Goldsboro that received a telegram asking for two hundred men. In thirty minutes there were four hundred of us at the depot with our guns in our hands. I was there myself. And thousands of others were ready to go if they were needed. There isn't a Republican or Populist in Mecklenburg county, who, if that telegram had come to him, would not have gone to the help of his brethren in Wilmington; because blood is thicker than water.

I do not boast of what happened in Wilmington. But I do boast of that manhood of North Carolina that will guard the safety of the womanhood and childhood with their lives if need be. Governor Russell did not even mention in his message the revolution at Wilmington, and thereby tacitly admitted that the happenings were necessary.

I am tired of this biennial warfare. We ought to be able to settle this question once for all, not in malice against the negro, but to preserve peace in North Carolina. This amendment will settle it.

He then discussed the amendment in detail, and especially section five, which provides that the white man who cannot read and write shall not be disfranchised. His tribute to the unlettered white man was superb, and his eloquence drew forth storms of applause.

When Mr. Pritchard cries over the white man, I can't sympathize with him because he is really only crying for the negro all the time.

There isn't a Democrat here who would lose his vote on account of the poll tax. It's the best collection scheme ever devised. We required the tax to be paid in March, so that every man should pay his own poll tax.

The amendment also requires every child under thirteen years of age to read and write before he can vote. This means the education of every child in the State. It means it will give every one of them the power of knowledge, the ability to enter the worlds of science, of literature, to imbibe inspiration from the grand minds of the past, and make their own lives better and nobler. The man who would deny to childhood these rights is a demagogue and an enemy to all mankind.

I do declare to you that I will devote my administration to the advancement of education until every poor child in North Carolina has the knowledge that will make him equal with other children in the race of life. I don't want any man to vote for me who does not believe in that.

The Republicans say they do not like our election law. We didn't make it to please them, and I don't think they were in the caucus when it was framed. They are particularly bitter against that section which requires a voter to be able to prove his age by two credible witnesses. That eliminates the fraudulent negro voter.

The negroes down in my country go

to voting at 18 years of age and vote four years after they are dead. The young ones misrepresent their age and the negroes are so much alike that the older ones impersonate those who are dead and vote twice. The election law will prevent all that.

We are going to settle this negro question this year; to the end that we may turn our minds to higher, better and nobler things—that we may extend our agriculture, develop our resources, build up industry and commerce, and encourage learning and literature.

This year we are going to carry North Carolina for peace, prosperity and good government and it will be a glorious day for the State.

The chroniclers tell us that "in the days of the good kings, the land had rest." We want rest from the billows of the sea to the top of the mountains, to the land, and good government everywhere.

The speeches were frequently applauded, and the large crowd was very enthusiastic.

The Steele Creek band furnished excellent music.

SPEAKING TONIGHT.

Hon. R. D. Gilmer and Hon. Franklin McNeill will speak to the people of Charlotte tonight at 8 o'clock from the steps of the city hall. All are invited to hear them.

MUSICAL TREAT.

The Recital Last Night by Dr. Fisher and Miss Van Wagner.

The organ recital given last night by Dr. Charles R. Fisher, director of music at Elizabeth College, assisted by Miss Van Wagner, vocal teacher, was the perfection of refined, musical art and culture. The church was filled with an appreciative and representative audience. The chancel was a mass of dogwood blossoms and green, which made a pretty floral effect.

The opening number was Rachmaninoff's prelude in C sharp minor, which gave a clever exhibition of the technical skill of the executant. Dvorak's Largo, from the Symphony "From the New World," which followed, was given with exquisite effect, the melody being beautifully pronounced by the solo sops, while the accompaniment was evenly and smoothly sustained. Good pedal work also marked this number. The study from Bossi "Etude Symphonique," showed a marked degree of the proficiency of the master hand—and foot, for the pedalling was wonderfully clean, clear and accurate—that touched the keys.

"O Thou That Testest," from the Messiah, was sung by Miss Van Wagner with smooth, pleasing effect. She has a contralto of excellent tonal quality, but sweet and smooth, lacking fire, but sweet and mellow.

To the meditative mind the Cavatina from Saint-Saens was a beautiful poem, sweet in its simplicity, agreeable in its changing harmonies—calm, cool and quieting in its tuneful theme. From this dolce-far-niente dreaminess the listener was aroused by the dash and sparkle of Widor's Toccata, from the 5th organ Symphony. The repetition of the figure was even and the accentuation clever. In no other selection was the skill of the performer more marked.

Miss Van Wagner's rendition of "My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice"—Saint-Saens—which followed, gave her an opportunity for mezza work, which she did with excellent volume and tone.

Lemmens' inspiration—"The Storm"—was a superb vehicle for a display of technical brilliancy of execution. Dr. Fisher's interpretation of the different effects—The Oppressiveness, Storm Warnings, The Storm, Prayer, Thanksgiving—was thrillingly realistic, and clever. "The Storm," a brilliant pyrotechnical display, was "with hoarse cadences lulled" into a beautiful calm—a "Prayer."

The programme closed with the grand processional march from "The Queen of Sheba," played with inspiring effect.

Dr. Fisher is an artist, theoretically, technically and executively. He is a master of the art and science to which he has devoted his life. He has taught and played in the leading schools of England, and is one of the most cultured gentlemen and musicians that the city has ever known.

CHURCH NEWS.

Rev. A. C. Barron will supply Rev. L. R. Pruetts' place at 4 o'clock in Belmont.

Miss May Oates will sing at the Second church tomorrow.

The board of trustees of the Presbyterian General Assembly met Thursday afternoon in Mr. George E. Wilton's office. The board consists of Dr. E. Nye Hutchison, Rev. Drs. Howerton and Stage, and Messrs. G. E. Wilton, P. M. Brown, George F. Bason, A. G. Brenizer and D. W. Oates. The old officers were re-elected.

DIED IN RICHMOND.

Mr. James A. Rogers, formerly of Charlotte, died in Richmond, Va., yesterday afternoon. The remains will arrive in Charlotte tonight at 9:30 o'clock. The interment will take place tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock in Elmwood. Mr. Rogers was a member of the Jr. O. U. A. M. Members of No. 17, 42 and 90 will meet at their hall tonight at 8 o'clock to arrange for meeting the remains at train tomorrow. Mr. Rogers was an uncle by marriage of Mr. Thomas J. Davis, of this city.

REPUBLICANS MEET.

Complexion of the Republican County Convention Changed from Black to White.

NEGRO HAD NO VOICE TO-DAY.

Resolutions Denouncing the Amendment and the Election Law Passed by the Last Legislature.—Delegates to the State and Congressional Conventions.

Verily a new era is about to dawn! The complexion of the Mecklenburg county Republican convention has changed from black to white! At the assemblage in the old court house today there were only five negroes, and they were "lookers on in Vienna" only. The white Republicans had it all their own way, and this is how, and what they did:

CONVENTION.

The convention convened at noon, Mr. J. W. Mullen in the chair. The first business before the convention was the appointing of a committee on credentials, the following named constituting the committee: J. F. Correll, Peter Helton and S. L. Mullen. The committee retired and after a short conference reported twelve townships represented, with no contests. The report was adopted. Dr. Houston of Davidson, was elected chairman. On coming to the chair, he expressed his appreciation of the "high honor" given him in being chairman of the Republican convention of Mecklenburg county, and after a few additional remarks declared the convention open for business.

A committee of three was appointed by the chairman, on resolutions viz: J. W. Mullen, W. T. Houston and T. W. Hall. This committee submitted the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

RESOLUTIONS.

"We, the Republicans of Mecklenburg county, N. C., in convention assembled in the city of Charlotte, this, the 28th day of April, 1900, do hereby renew our declaration of allegiance to the principles and policies of the Republican party of the United States.

"We heartily endorse and commend the administration of President McKinley as President, conservative, wise and patriotic, both in peace and time of war. Under the guiding hand of our gallant chief executive officer a foreign war has been fought to a successful finish; international controversies and interests have been successfully adjusted; the manufacturing interests of the country properly protected; confidence restored in the honesty of every dollar of the currency of the United States, and we congratulate the country on the return of prosperity throughout the land and point with pride to the open mines, the mills and factories which have taken the place of the free soup houses, so much in evidence under a former administration.

"We endorse the course pursued in the United States Senate by our able and patriotic tribune of the people, Senator Jeter C. Pritchard.

"We denounce the proposed amendment to the constitution of North Carolina as a high handed outrage and the first step of the hungry Democratic politicians to North Carolina toward a centralized government and a government of the aristocracy.

"We denounce the present election law as passed by the last Democratic Legislature as impatronic, unjust and the blackest infamy ever placed upon the statute books of a sovereign State.

"Respectfully submitted,
"J. W. MULLEN,
"T. W. HALL,
"W. T. HOUSTON,
"Committee."

The election of delegates to the State convention was the most important business before the convention, and was taken up next. The following named were elected: J. W. Mullen, W. S. Clanton, J. D. Albright, M. B. Williamson, E. Q. Houston, E. M. Houston, B. N. Hampton. Alternates: Smiley Harrison, C. F. Alexander, John Gambrel, W. T. Houston, Peter Helton, W. V. Hall.

The delegates to the district congressional convention, as elected, are as follows: J. W. Mullen, M. B. Williamson, J. W. Mullen, D. K. Pope, J. M. Goode, J. D. Albright. Alternates: D. F. Davis, S. L. Mullen, E. M. Crowell, R. Brewer, T. W. Hall, W. D. Cowles.

An executive committee of seven was elected as follows: J. W. Mullen, J. F. Correll, M. B. Williamson, J. D. Albright, E. Q. Houston, J. W. Mullen, W. M. Martin. This committee was empowered to put up a county ticket.

Col. W. R. Myers, who was present, was, on motion, elected an honorary delegate to the State and district conventions.

About thirty persons attended the convention, five of whom were negroes. After a half hour's session the convention adjourned.

GOES TO CHARLESTON.

Mr. Parks Asbury, who has been with Steff has secured a position with Steff, has secured a position with the Armour Packing Co. in Charleston, S. C. He leaves in the morning for Charleston. Mr. Asbury is an efficient capable clerk.

OFFICERS UNDER ARREST.

Captain Served on Sheriff Wallace and Deputy Sheriff Johnson; Also Two Clerks at Delinger's Bar.

The city and county is familiar with the facts concerning the escape of J. S. Mayberry, white, charged with "skinning" stamps. Today captives were served on John H. Hoover, white, and Tom Hemphill, col., employes at Delinger & Scates' bar. They are charged with having assisted Mayberry in shifting the whiskey and in "skinning" the stamps. Deputy Marshal Hampton served the captives. Hoover gave the bond required—\$300—with W. H. Hoover and J. H. Emery as sureties. Hemphill could not give bond and went to jail to await trial at the next term of Federal Court. Deputy Hampton also served captives this afternoon on Sheriff Wallace and Deputy Sheriff Johnson for allowing Mayberry to escape. Mayberry was committed to jail in default of \$1,000 bond. Sheriff Wallace, out of the kindness of his heart, granted his request to be allowed to go to Eastfield to get Mr. Bob Wallace to go on his bond, sending him in care of Deputy Johnson. Mayberry escaped by feigning sickness and leaving the table "so vomit" as he said. By his escape the Sheriff and Deputy became responsible for his bond. Each will be required to give a \$1,000 bond for their appearance at the next term of Federal Court.

BAPTIST.

Annual Meeting of Association Yesterday at Arlington Church.

Yesterday representatives from a number of Baptist churches in Mecklenburg and Cabarrus counties met at Arlington Baptist church, fifteen miles from the city, in their fifth Sunday meeting. It is a busy season with the farmers, so not a large audience was present. The sermon was preached by Rev. A. C. Barron. Mr. Allen Tedder, of this city, was made moderator, and Mr. Martin Hinton, of Arlington, secretary.

Dinner was served on the grounds after the sermon. At 2 o'clock the committee on associational school made a report and called for propositions as to its location. A number of the citizens of Arlington are anxious for the school to be located there, and stated their purpose to make a liberal offer. Newell and some other points are contending for the school and the location will be decided on in August. Mr. W. C. Dowd opened the discussion on the query as to "What Shall be Done With an Able-Bodied Church Member Who Will Not Contribute to the Support of the Gospel?" Addresses were made also by Revs. L. R. Pruetts, D. W. Thomasson and A. C. Barron, and Messrs. C. Gresham, M. Hinton and others. The services of the union continue today and Sunday, when it is expected that a large audience will be present. Rev. L. R. Pruetts preaches a missionary sermon tomorrow at 11 a. m., and Mr. Allen Tedder addresses the Sunday school.

MR. DANIELS HERE.

Mr. Josephus Daniels, editor of the Raleigh News & Observer, is one of the many distinguished visitors in the city today. Mr. Daniels "just dropped over" to hear the candidates. He had not had that pleasure before today. Raleigh was not included in the itinerary "because," said Mr. Daniels, "it is the sinners, not the righteous, that need to be called to repentance." Mr. Daniels says everything in the State is going "just like the News & Observer said it would." He thinks Wake's majority will be a thousand. Mr. F. M. Shan-nonhouse rolls up 2,000 for Mecklenburg. Mr. Daniels is always a welcome visitor to Charlotte, and the News office. He has many warm friends in this section.

SOCIAL.

The prize at the meeting of the "Au Pair Club" yesterday afternoon, at Miss Annie Leo Blair's, was won by Miss Louise Jones. It was a beautiful bunch of roses. The principal game of the evening was "The Button Contest." The club meets next week with Miss Sadie Belle Mayer.

DEATH OF A CHILD.

Gertrude, the 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hayes, died this morning at 5 o'clock at their residence, on Graham street, after an illness of a week or ten days, with grip and pneumonia. The funeral will take place tomorrow. The child was unusually sweet and attractive, and her death is a great blow to the parents.

ENTERTAINMENT AT EAST SIDE.

Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock, the teachers of East Side Chapel will give an ice cream party and musical to the Sunday school. All of the children and pupils of the school are invited.

PERSONALS.

Messrs. R. A. Dunn and W. S. Alexander return from Lake Waccamaw tonight.

Miss Sarah Lily Wolfe leaves New York Wednesday for home, stopping for a visit with friends in Virginia.

Messrs. W. L. Jamison and Branch McNeill, of Mooresville, are at Mr. J. L. Jamison's.

Mrs. Lawton, who boards at Mr. N. M. Lawrence's, has returned from a visit in Richmond.