

Interest In News' Contest Spreading Over Both Carolinas

With The Passing of Each Day it Spreads to More Distant Parts of The States--Many Inquiries Keep The Contest Force Busy.

More Nominations Are Needed--Now is The Best Time of All to Enter--Prizes Most Attractive Ever Offered in This Section.

CONTEST DEPARTMENT OPEN EVENINGS. The Contest Department of THE NEWS will be open from 9 a. m. until 9 p. m. These that are interested in the contest are invited to call. Representatives of the Contest Department will be present to give full information to all those that call. The Contest Department can also be reached by Telephone, call No. 115 and ask for the Contest Department.

At the writing of this article, nominations are still coming in from all sides of the contest territory. The Contest Department has been almost swamped with letters asking for full information pertaining to the great \$75,000 contest inaugurated by THE NEWS. From all sections of the state come reports of general interest the public has taken in this big campaign. Six thousand five hundred dollars has been expended by THE NEWS for prizes in this contest; \$2,250 for a First Grand Prize, a White Steamer touring car; \$1,200 for a Second Grand Prize, an Everitt "30" touring car; and \$1,100 for a Buick touring car to be given as a Third Grand Prize. Thirteen hundred dollars for pianos as district prizes; \$400 for furniture as district second prizes; \$200 in gold as district fourth prizes; and \$50 in jewelry credits for district fifth prizes, and these are all to be given away without one cent of cost to the energetic people of the Carolinas. It is not surprising that the fancy of every one in the territory is centered on THE NEWS' prizes, there is not one among the two-hundred that is not worth a little effort to win. This is all that THE NEWS asks in return for these valuable gifts.

Every man or woman, boy or girl, is eligible to enter the contest and has the opportunity of becoming one of the happy winners of an automobile. Enter now, get in at the beginning; select a hustling campaign manager, as any political candidate would do, and get your friends working for you. Do this, hustle a little at yourself and you will be rewarded with one of the twenty-three prizes.

The Field is Open to All. The field is open to all alike under similar circumstances, and no candidate will have any advantage over another except the candidates who enter early and marshal his or her forces to support them. Now is the time to enter and secure advantage over other contestants who hesitate until active voting begins.

Some people have said that shortly before the end of the contest their subscriptions might count more votes than during the early part, but this is not so. There is one rule that THE NEWS wishes to impress forcibly, the contestants who deposit their subscriptions now with the Contest Department, will receive the same total number of votes as the ones who deposit theirs later on in the contest or at any time during the life of the contest. This campaign will be conducted along fair lines and no advantage will be taken at any time.

Votes May Be Secured Anywhere. Remember, a candidate may secure votes anywhere. One is not limited to the district in which they reside. They may secure subscriptions in their district or any other district, or, in fact, anywhere in the United States.

A Good Training. There are a great many pleasant features in a contest of this kind aside from the winning of the prizes. The training one gets is, in a way, entirely different from almost all other lines of endeavor, and this experience of inestimable value to contestants, and often prepares one for some essential line of which he or she had never dreamed. It marks the beginning of a most successful and unusual pursuit.

In today's issue and in all other Sunday issues of The News, unless otherwise specified, will be found a special coupon good for twenty-five extra votes if turned in before the date of expiration printed thereon.

(Continued on Page Ten.)

\$75,000 Necklace Disappears at Dance

Washington, D. C., Feb. 17.—More than a little mystery surrounds the disappearance of a diamond necklace valued at \$75,000 from the neck of a New York guest at a dinner dance given in honor of Miss Helen Taft by Captain Sowerby, naval attaché of the British embassy at Rauschers last night.

Not only are strenuous endeavors being made to find the gems, but equally strenuous denials are being made that they were lost at all. Among the guests at the dinner dance were Mrs. Nichols Longworth, Mrs. Edward McLean, Mrs. Esmond Ovey, Miss Mabel Boardman, Miss Helen Taft, Mrs. Richard Townsend, Mrs. Lawrence Townsend, Mrs. E. R. Thomas, Mrs. Peter O'Leary Gerry, Miss Margaret Draper, Miss Harriet Anderson, niece of the president, Miss Cameron and Mrs. Clarence Moore.

It was not until 1:30 this morning and the dance was drawing to a close, that the necklace is said to have been missed.

THE FINANCIAL MAFIA OF THIS COUNTRY.

Washington, Feb. 17.—Representative Henry of Texas, chairman of the house committee, made a sensational speech in the house today in which he attacked the money power in Wall Street and demanded an immediate inquiry into the "black hand method of the financial Mafia in this country."

He counseled a thorough going investigation, and representatives accepted the Aldrich plan of currency reform.

REFUGEES FROM MEXICO.

Laredo, Texas, Feb. 17.—Refugees from the interior of Mexico, including men, women and children, reached the border today. Many families will remain here until quiet is restored. All say that fear of possibilities rather than any actual happening has induced them to leave their homes in Mexico. The entire western portion of the republic is cut off from telegraphic communication.

The News to Build A Home For Itself On Church And Fourth

Before the advent of another year The News will be occupying a home of its own.

This good news was made public in the shop yesterday, and there was general rejoicing.

Mr. Dowd recently bought, through the Durham-Murphy Land Company, the property owned by Mr. Fred McGinn, corner of Fourth and Church streets, on which is to be erected a handsome home for The News.

The property is 83x122 1/2 feet. This is divided into two lots. Mr. Dowd purchased the corner one—40 feet frontage on Church street and extending back the depth of the lot on Fourth street.

The deed to the property was passed yesterday.

In speaking of the purchase and the building contemplated, Mr. Dowd said: "I have been looking for several years for a suitable, available site for a home for The News, but could not find a place that seemed to me to combine all I desire."

"In the McGinn property, which I have been so fortunate as to secure, I feel that I have gotten just the place I have been looking for. It is in the center of the city, a block Trade street one way, a block from Tryon, the other way; a stone's throw from the postoffice; near the Southern station, within a block of the Interurban passenger station (that is to be) and convenient to all points.

"The building will be conveniently arranged, with plenty of room and light. The business office and editorial department will be on the ground floor. The mechanical department will be in the basement.

"I feel most happy to have secured this valuable, convenient property for The News' home."

Plans have been drawn and work on the new building will begin before the year is very old.

Watch The News Grow.

SPECIAL SUNDAY BALLOT.

Twenty-five votes for M Subject to Rules of The Charlotte News Contest. Must be Received at The News Office by March 1, 1912.

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES ON "GRIDIRON"

Washington, Feb. 17.—Every presidential candidate was a target tonight, and the members of the Gridiron Club were the sharpshooters at the Gridiron banquet at the New Willard hotel.

How the bullets whistled. And every once in a while there came a heavy shell that plowed its way right through the ranks of the would-be nominees.

It was a merry war. Nobody was seriously hurt, and in as much as there was much laughter and no tears, it was the kind of war that President Taft, ardent advocate of peace, heartily enjoyed. A few scattering shots must have reached Oyster Bay, for Roosevelt's name was quite frequently and irreverently mentioned. Even Henry Watterson, in far-off Florida, probably heard the detonations to the burlesque court of honor and wondered who had pulled a gun. And Harmon and Wilson and Champ Clark and all the rest of the presidential bunch were not forgotten.

It was in the very nature of things, with much political excitement in the air, that the skits and comedies and songs and shafts of wit which enlivened the evening should have all centered around the approaching campaign.

The president of the United States headed the list of guests, and the British, German and Russian ambassadors gave by their presence an international dignity to the event. Speaker Clark was there, together with ex-Speaker Cannon, whose attendance at a gridiron function is as certain as death and taxes, cabinet officers, senators and representatives, army and navy officers, distinguished men from every part of the country.

Ding-a-ling! Ding-a-ling! The dinner bell sounded after the guests had spent a pleasant half hour in the large reception room of the New Willard, and then the gathering, numbering over 200, filed into the banquet hall. There was a wonderful floral display, focused in a bower of American beauty roses, that extended from the floor to the lolly ceiling and spread in fragrant profusion over a generous space. In the center of this bower was a huge electric gridiron, the brilliant radiance of which encompassed President Garthe, who handled the dinner with ability, and President Taft, who laughed heartily and added to the enjoyment of the guests with his happy speech.

CONGRESS WILL PROBE INTO ARMY SCANDAL

Washington, Feb. 17.—The house will insert the probe into the Wood-Atkinson-Stimson controversy. All efforts to end the threatened army scandal by the voluntary retirement of General Atkinson and by the "smothering" methods of the war department will fail.

Members of the house insist in knowing what is at the bottom of all this fighting among the administrative officers of the army and they have made it plain that they will not let it drop for the present.

At the war department today it was said that the faction represented by Secretary Stimson and General Leonard Wood, chief of staff, would be prepared to vindicate its course in forcing General Atkinson out of the office of adjutant general of the army. General Wood said that he was ready for investigation that may be made. He would go no further than that.

In the house announcement was made that both General Wood and General Atkinson had been subpoenaed to appear before the committee on expenditures in the war department on Monday. This committee which has full jurisdiction to make an inquiry will determine then whether or not there is enough flame beneath all the smoke to justify an investigation.

Almost at the same time Representative Watkins, of Louisiana, offered a resolution calling upon the war department to submit to the house all the correspondence which has passed between Secretary Stimson and General Atkinson and all the facts bearing upon the controversy. The Louisiana congressman wants to know what it is all about and whether or not the administration in the army is following the proper course in forcing an old and distinguished officer out of active service.

NEGRO SHOT BY AN OFFICER

A negro named Wade Sampson was shot in the city last night by Officer Culbertson, while fleeing from the officers who were trying to capture him. He was charged with stealing. The wound was a flesh wound. A doctor was summoned to attend the man. He is in the toms.

THE WEATHER

Washington, Feb. 17.—Forecast for Sunday and Monday: North Carolina and South Carolina—Unsettled weather Sunday and Monday with probably showers.

Want More Perfect Secret Service

Washington, Feb. 17.—President Taft is considering the amalgamation of the several secret investigating bureaus of the government with the division of the secret service of the treasury department, thus making a department of the secret service, the chief of which would be a cabinet officer. Action on this scheme will be had during the present congress. The plan contemplates the joining of every investigating bureau connected with every office of the government, and the result would be, it is claimed, the most perfect secret service in the world. President Taft is favorable to such action. John E. Wilkie, chief of the division of the secret service of the treasury department, will probably be elevated to the position which the proposed amalgamation would create.

APPOLEXY CAUSED DEATH OF BERRYHILL.

Sapulpa, Okla., Feb. 17.—That apoplexy was the cause of the death of William Berryhill, who the decision rendered by physicians who today completed a post mortem examination of Berryhill's body at the direction of relatives who expressed fear of foul play.

Berryhill whose old bearing property is said to be the richest in America, died suddenly here on Thursday. No further examination of the body will be made.

Bloodshed Characterized Congressional Convention In Tennessee District

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 17.—A special to the Sentinel from Greenville, says: Bloodshed characterized the congressional convention of the first Tennessee district this afternoon soon after the initial proceedings. The district committee controlled by friends of candidate Z. D. Massey, slated Adam S. Bowman, of Washington county, for temporary chairman. When Bowman attempted to take the platform and convene the convention, he was denied recognition. In spite of the precaution to limit the attendance by the issuance of admission tickets, the crowd forced its way into the hall. A general fight ensued, in which Bowman was struck over the head. Chairs were hurled and pistols were drawn. In spite of this, and with blood issuing from wounds in his head, Bowman persistently and vigorously pounded the gavel, demand order. Fights multiplied in the audience and chaos reigned.

R. E. Donnelly, of Mountain City, a supporter of Congressman S. R. Sells, was nominated in the mob for temporary chairman. Donnelly took the platform and a split ensued. Congressman Sells himself finally appeared and through Donnelly's assistance gained the ear of the convention. By this means temporary quiet was restored.

ANOTHER WILSON MAN

"If I could select the man I would name Hon. William Jennings Bryan—the brainiest man in America. But, as he seems not to be suitable, I would name Gov. Woodrow Wilson, the brainiest man (except Hon. W. J. Bryan) in America, and the best one before the public."

Marse Henry, Colonel Harvey, The New York Sun and Wall Street to the contrary, notwithstanding.

The above was received by The News yesterday from a prominent man of Gaston county.

The News is pleased to have so many people send in the ballots. It does not expect all readers of the paper to express themselves—only those who desire to do so—but so far the number has been twice greater than was thought when this "election" was called. Men in all walks of life have voted and others are coming in daily.

Those of the opposite faith to The News have taken advantage of the opportunity and voted strong Taft and Roosevelt seem to be the only two men in the minds of the republicans and, as was stated the past week, if the "split" is in proportion to the balloting in The News' ballot box there is to be a pretty fight between the two factions of the party.

The "polls" will remain open a few days longer and the result published. If you desire to be one among many, clip the ballot in today's paper and mail or hand it in.

DICTAGRAPH TOOK CONVERSATION OF LABOR LEADERS

Indianapolis, Ind., Feb. 17.—The fact that for days the government has had a dictagraph in the office of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' here and has taken reports of conversations of President Frank M. Ryan and others in connection with the dynamite conspiracy became known today.

Government agents this afternoon, after hearing that the iron workers' officials were aware of the dictagraph, entered Ryan's office and took out the instrument which had been attached to the end of a drawer in his desk. Ryan declared he was not aware that his conversations were being overheard.

Assistant District Attorney Clarence Nichols admitted that the instrument had been in Ryan's office for weeks and that it had been placed there by government agents at night.

The wires from the dictagraph were connected with a down-town office, away from the federal building and two stenographers recorded what was said by Ryan and his associates, particularly since the arrests of the men for alleged complicity in the dynamite conspiracy. Today a stenographer reported she had heard a woman's voice over the dictagraph saying, "Well, I guess they are hearing now whatever we say."

This convinced Mr. Nichols that the iron workers were aware of the dictagraph and agents were sent to recover it.

It is said the government has reports of conversations between Ryan, Second Vice-president Herbert S. Hockin and John L. Butler, first vice-president, and their attorneys.

District Attorney Miller said the dictagraph had been in use since last October and that it had worked satisfactorily.

"I must decline to describe the nature of the evidence we secured," said Mr. Miller. "We have complete reports of conferences held between the iron workers officials and their attorneys and others. For the last 10 days we have suspected that they were aware of what was going on for furniture had been moved about in an effort to find the instrument."

Instead of going voluntarily to Indianapolis for trial, it was evidenced at a commissioner's hearing today that Frank C. Webb and Patrick Farrell, accused in the dynamite conspiracy, will fight extradition. They pleaded, not guilty, and obtained adjournment of the hearing until February 24th. Both are now out on bail.

Michael J. Young and Frank J. Higgins, indicted in the dynamite cases today expressed their willingness to go at once to Indianapolis to plead.

"Wets" And "Drys" Battled at Capital

Washington, Feb. 17.—"Wets" and the "drys" battled at the capitol today over the question of prohibiting the shipment of liquor into states where its sale is barred. Mrs. Lillian M. N. Stevens, of Maine, president of the national W. C. T. U., appeared with officers of that organization, while a delegation of German-American men and women led by Representative Bartholdt, of Missouri, opposed the legislation. The hearing was before the senate committee on the judiciary.

Chairman Nelson of the subcommittee conducting the hearing, observed that while he was in London he saw women in front of the bars there drinking whiskey and gin along with the men.

Dropped Dead in Union Station

Charleston, S. C., Feb. 17.—Having just left an infirmary to take a train for Columbia, George T. Coleman, aged about 60, of Danville, Va., traveling salesman for a Cincinnati candy concern, dropped dead of heart failure in the union station here this morning. He was walking from the ticket office to the cars when stricken.

WOMAN ACQUITTED OF MURDER CHARGE.

Gatesville, Texas, Feb. 17.—Mrs. Minnie Lee Straight, of McGregor, Tex., charged with the murder of her husband, T. E. Straight, a newspaper publisher, after having been previously tried and given a life sentence, was today acquitted by a jury in the district court here.

Near One Million Miners In England Are Planning Strike

London, Feb. 17.—The situation in the British coal trade entered the acute stage today when a rush for insurance by the colliery owners sent the rate at Lloyd's against a national strike up to 94 1/2 per cent.

The owners are insuring their residences as well as their mining properties.

Up to tonight more than 800,000 miners had handed in their notices to quit work on February 29 and the remainder, which number about 250,000 will take similar action on Monday.

The government intimated today that it would take the crisis in hand early, next week but what action the authorities contemplate taking is largely a matter of conjecture. The well informed Pall Mall Gazette expressed the opinion that the government's efforts will be directed along lines similar to those pursued in the recent railroad strike and that a royal commission of ten will be appointed to inquire into the minimum wage question on the condition that the men remain at work pending the findings of such a commission.

Sir George Askwith, head of the government board of trade, who has been successful in the past in mediating labor disturbances, took a pessimistic view of the situation today.

It is estimated that a supply of coal sufficient to last only two weeks is now in stock. Attempts will be made to land imported coal but this will be accomplished only with the greatest difficulty. The federation of national transport workers has pledged itself not to handle "black legs" coal and similar action was likewise taken by all other unions whose members are engaged in the handling of imported fuel.

Statisticians figure that the strike will cost the nation upward of \$2,500,000 daily and grow costlier as it progresses. This stupendous sum included the loss of wages to one million men and losses in profits to railroads, coal companies and industrial enterprises which will be compelled to suspend on account of lack of fuel.

DAVIDSON ORATORS TO MEET C. S. TEAM

Special to The News. Rock Hill, S. C., Feb. 17.—It is now decided that the annual debate between a team from Davidson College and the University of South Carolina will be pulled off in Rock Hill. The only thing that now remains is the fixing of the time and this will probably be decided within the next few days.

The debaters for the State University are A. H. Williams, W. C. McLain and F. W. M. Woodrow. C. K. Culp is alternate.

WICKERSHAM LAUGHS AT CONGRESS

St. Louis, Feb. 17.—After Attorney General Wickersham had read the report of the Hardwick committee he laughed heartily and said: "So congress has waked up, has it? Congress is slow as usual."

"I have found out to my own satisfaction seven months ago that there was a sugar trust controlling more than 62 per cent of the industry in this country and filed the government suit. I am glad to know that congress, seven months after I took that action, has really discovered that there is a sugar trust."

MORE CHILDREN SENT OUT OF LAWRENCE.

Lawrence, Mass., Feb. 17.—More than 100 children, the second party sent by striking textile workers' committee out of the state in an endeavor to create sympathy for the strikers' cause, left here today for New York city, where the boys and girls will reside with different families until difficulty here have passed.

SOUTH WILL SHARE IN ANNIVERSARY OF GETTSBURG

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 17.—It is practically certain that all the states of the South will send commissions to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg next year and will provide transportation for their Confederate veterans. This was announced at a meeting of the executive committee of the Pennsylvania commission in this city by Colonel Louis T. Bettler, the field secretary of the commission. Colonel Bettler, with General Irvine C. Walker, of South Carolina, commander of the United Confederate Veterans, traveled through South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Kentucky, Virginia and Maryland and appeared before the legislature before the celebration.

In his report to the commission Colonel Bettler said he found the people in the South more than ready to meet him half way and usually the project of which the commission has charge was received enthusiastically.

As it is the desire of the commission to make observance of the anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg nationwide, this news was pleasing. The result of Colonel Bettler's efforts assures the attention of an army of Southern as well as Northern veterans. While Colonel Bettler and General Walker were not able to reach every Southern state during their tour arrangements have been made to have the question taken up by the legislature of states not reported.

Colonel Bettler will visit during the next few days the governors and legislators of Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, and New Jersey to place before them a report of the work thus far accomplished by the Pennsylvania commission and obtain their cooperation.

My Choice For President

If I Could Select the Man I Would Name

Name _____ Address _____

Cut this out and mail or hand in to The Charlotte News, Charlotte, N. C. Results will be published from day to day and in no case will the name of the voter be given out unless so requested.