

# THE DANBURY REPORTER.

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## MR. BICKETT A CANDIDATE.

### Wants to Go to the Legislature On a Unique Platform or Programme.

In a card occupying three columns in the last issue of the *Louisburg Times*, Mr. T. W. Bickett, of Franklin county, announces his candidacy for the Legislature. At the outset Mr. Bickett says:

It has been persistently contended by some of the papers in the State that the people should demand of every candidate, "Why do you want to go to the Legislature?" The position is well taken; the question is an eminently fair one. If in these times of peace and prosperity, when all the great questions of human rights and liberties have been settled; when the race question, if not dead, is taking a long, sweet sleep; when the leaders of the enemy have worn themselves to a frazzle whipping each other—if under these conditions a man "sound of wind and limb" really wants to go to the Legislature, then he should be subjected to a rigid cross-examination and required to state the reason why. Such a want, unexplained, looks suspicious; it creates a presumption against a man, which, if he can rebut, it becomes his duty to his country and his family to do it.

In answer to the question why he wants to go to the Legislature, Mr. Bickett says the only reason he entertains the idea for a single moment is because it has been made to appear to him that "the people really and sincerely" want him to go. In consideration of this urgent demand of the people, and that alone, he is willing to make the sacrifice. In explanation of what he will stand for if elected to the Legislature, Mr. Bickett says:

I will put my views in the shape of a programme instead of a platform. Platforms have lost their power. Partly from abuse, partly from disuse, their glory has departed. In most cases a platform is a euphonious correlation of platitudes and insipidities. An observant lexicographer would probably define a platform in its political sense to be a contrivance used by politicians to walk into office on, as one uses the gangplank in boarding a ship. On account of these things, a platform is more or less in disfavor and disrepute. There, I will write my programme.

Mr. Bickett directs attention to the spelling of the word programme. He uses the two m's and he wants the accent on the gramme. He says he could not be induced to sign on a program, with the last syllable pronounced grum. This warns the Landmark's heart toward Mr. Bickett. If we had time to gain citizenship we would go to Franklin county just to see for him. Glory to Mr. Bickett and the old-fashioned programme and annihilation to the program crowd! Again Mr. Bickett says:

It will be seen that my programme contemplates that everything possible shall be done for the insane. Well, if during my term I find wandering around the legislative halls one of those unfortunate whose malady assumes the form of a hallucination that he is the people, I promise to be very kind to him. I will have the sergeant-at-arms instructed to keep a careful eye on him and see that no one does him any violence by reason of his infirmity. In our

poverty, we are not able to provide proper places for the care and detention of these people; in fact, in most countries it has been the custom to permit this peculiar type of neurotic to run at large. They are supposed to have descended from Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Namathite, to whom on a certain memorable occasion "the most patient man" is reputed to have said, "No doubt but that ye are the people and wisdom will die with you." Therefore, both on account of infirmities and of their long descent, they are entitled to the charitable forbearance of the public.

And here is Mr. Bickett's programme:

#### First Day:

1. Organization.
2. Reception of Governor's message.
3. Passage of act to restore to the dogs of Franklin county their ancient immunity from taxation. Taxation without representation is unjust.

#### Night Session:

1. Consideration and passage of revenue and machinery acts—same as 1905, with any slight modifications which shall meet with favor.
2. Passage of insurance law in line with recommendation of the Governor and insurance department.

#### Second Day, Morning Session:

1. Appropriations, same as 1905, with as much addition for care of insane as possible.
2. Refer all bills relating to freight and passenger rates to the corporation commission with directions to make a thorough investigation of the facts and then fix the lowest rate possible consistent with justice to the railroads and the continued growth and development of the State.

#### Night session:

1. Election of United States Senator.

#### Third Day:

1. Extra appropriation to public schools of the sum of \$68,424.95.
2. Passage of resolution that, notwithstanding the charges and counter charges hurled at one another by men of place and prominence, the General Assembly of 1907 reaffirms its faith in the goodness of God and men, and in the final perseverance of Democratic principles.

3. Photograph of General Assembly.

4. Adjournment, sine die.

The proposition to take the tax off dogs in Franklin county or anywhere would weaken the Landmark's support of Mr. Bickett if the remainder of his programme wasn't so good. It will be noted, however, that he proposes to remove the tax from dogs in Franklin county only. It is possible that he is doing this out of consideration for the feelings of the voters, and that he would not object to but would probably aid in placing a tax on dogs in other portions of the State. For this reason we overlook this apparent defect in the programme and pass on.

Discussing his proposition to refer all railroad rate bills to the corporation commission, Mr. Bickett says the commission is maintained at an annual expense of \$12,000 to \$15,000 to do this work and he can see no reason why the Legislature should undertake to do what the commission is paid to do. On this point Mr. Bickett says:

The question is not whether one is in favor of lower rates or

higher rates; on that question the line-up is perfectly natural. Those who ride are on one side and those who haul on the other. It is simply the old antagonistic relation of buyer and seller. That a railroad wants to get as much as possible does not necessarily make it an outlaw; that a citizen wants to pay as little as possible does not necessarily make him a patriot. Neither disposition could be fairly classified among the cardinal virtues; they do not even possess the merit of novelty, but are as old as sin in the world, and as universal. There is no doubt that Adam, immediately after the fall, wanted to buy plunder from the inhabitants of the "Land of Nod" at rock bottom prices, and the race has ever lent a willing and zealous obedience to the command to "spoil the Egyptians." In this quarrel between buyer and seller, the State does not take sides; it is the guardian of all alike, and has created a high tribunal whose sworn duty it is to ascertain every pertinent fact and then to do equal and exact justice both to the people and to the railroads.

In explaining why he proposes to finish the business in three days and go home, Mr. Bickett says he does not think the Legislature should meet oftener than once in four years unless there is some crying necessity, and in such the Governor could call an extra session. The last session cost the State \$72,031.90. Mr. Bickett says if his programme is carried out the next session will cost just \$3,606.95, making a net saving of \$68,424.95, which is the exact amount he proposes to give the public school—that is, he will give the schools extra the amount saved.

Glory to Mr. Bickett and his programme! If some man like Mr. Bickett will get out in every county in the State with a similar programme, the fellows who want to go to Raleigh and spend sixty days drawing \$4 a day and drinking dispensary liquor will never know what struck 'em.

## DANBURY.

Danbury, June 6.—Danbury is on a boom—baseball and fishing. Ask Walter Petree if he knows which aisle he is going down.

Mr. N. O. Petree is grandpa these days.

Evangelist Joe Coleman passed through the city the other day.

Mr. R. H. R. Blair says he hopes all of the frost is over, as he has set his potato patch all he cares to for one season.

John Bennett says he can't get any more "warnuts" at his house. If Jack Heath is not sick warnuts won't make him sick.

Sheriff Petree went to Winston last week as a witness in the Kobre murder trial.

## FISHERMAN.

### Strawberry Ice.

Make a syrup by boiling four cupsful of water and one and two third cupsful of sugar, twenty minutes. Mash the strawberries and squeeze through a double thickness of cheese-cloth; there should be two cupsful of strawberry juice. Add to syrup with a tablespoonful of lemon juice; strain, and freeze, using three parts of finely crushed ice to one part of rock salt.—Fannie Merritt Farmer in Woman's Home Companion for June.

If you are not a regular reader of the Danbury Reporter you are not keeping up with affairs in Stokes county.

## LETTER FROM DOG-KILLER.

### His Final Letter On the Question of Whether Or Not a Negro Has a Soul.

Mr. Editor:

If you will allow me space in your paper I will now write my final letter on the negro question: You know that I promised to show from a psychological standpoint that the negro has a soul. And in my last letter we differentiated or pointed out the distinctive features between the subjective mind or soul, and the mortal mind. We stated in that letter that the more nearly the functions of the objective or brain mind are suspended or brought into a state of quiescence, the more marked and prominent are the manifestations of the soul powers. It is sometimes the case that the objective or brain mind is so poorly developed in certain individuals as to render them almost idiots and incapable of inductive reasoning. Yet some of their soul powers are so wonderfully developed as to enable them to grasp or understand many of the fixed laws of nature. This is remarkably so in the case of musical and mathematical prodigies. And we now cite a few cases as evidence of the truthfulness of this proposition, and to point out some of the wonderful powers of the soul. First, I will name the case of Zerah Colburn, who was born at Cabot (a town lying at the head of the Onion river, in Vermont), on the 1st of Sept., 1904. This child knew nothing of the common rules of arithmetic, or even of the use and power of the Arabic numerals. Yet before he was six years old, he began to show wonderful powers of calculation. The discovery was made by accident. His father, who had not given him any other instruction than such as was to be obtained at a small school, which did not include either writing or ciphering, was much surprised one day to hear him repeating the products of several numbers. Struck with amazement at the circumstance he proposed a variety of arithmetical questions to him all of which the child solved with remarkable facility and correctness. Before he was eight years old, at a meeting of his friends, the child undertook and completely succeeded in raising the number and progressively up to the sixteenth power, and in naming the result, viz., 281,474,976,710,656! he was right in every figure. He was then tried as to other numbers consisting of one figure, all of which he raised (by actual multiplication and not by memory) as high as the tenth power, with so much facility and dispatch that the person appointed to take down the results was obliged to enjoin him not to be so rapid.

He was asked the square root of 106,929, and before the number could be written down, he immediately answered, 327. He was then requested to name the cube root of 268,336,125; and with equal facility and promptness he replied, 645. One of the party requested him to name the factors which produced the number 247,483; this he immediately did by mentioning the numbers 941 and 263. He was then asked to give the factors of 36,083, but he immediately replied that it had none—which infact was the case, as 36,083 is a prime number. Other numbers were indiscriminately proposed to him, and he always succeeded in giving the correct factors, except in the case of prime numbers, which he discovered almost as soon as proposed. One of the gentlemen present asked him how many minutes there were in forty-eight years; and before the

question could be written down he replied, 25,228,800; and instantly added that the number of seconds in the same period was 1,513,728,000. Various questions of the like kind were put to him, and to all of them he answered with equal facility and promptitude so as to astonish every one present. And when the child was asked how he was able to do these things, he persistently declared that he did not know how the answers came into his mind.

The case named above is one in which the soul manifested some of its powers—powers transcendentally greater and beyond the grasp of the mortal mind, only as they are lifted up into that mind's consciousness from the wellsprings of immutable and eternal truth deep down in the soul or subconscious mind. And the reader must admit that these powers belong to the soul, and not to the mortal or brain mind, only as they are handed up to the mortal mind from the rich stores of the soul.

The immortal Hudson commented on these things says:

"A few years ago a gentleman traveled through this country, teaching arithmetic. He was known as the 'lightning calculator.'" His powers were indeed marvelous. He could add a column of as many numbers as could be written on a sheet of legal cap by casting an instantaneous glance upon the page; but he succeeded no better as a teacher than thousands of others who could not add a column of numbers without reading every figure by the usual laborious, objective process. He could give no explanation of his powers other than that he possessed extraordinary quickness of vision. But any one who is sufficiently acquainted with the elements of optical laws to be aware that in the light of a flash of lightning a drop of falling rain appears to be suspended and motionless in the air, knows that objective vision is not capable of such rapid transition as to enable one to see at a glance each particular figure in a column of a hundred numbers. When to this is added the labor of calculating the relation and aggregate values of the numbers, the calculation is inevitable that such powers are not given to our objective senses, but must be inherent in the human soul, and beyond the range of objective explanation or comprehension." Then says Dr. Hudson: "Musical prodigies furnish further illustrations of the principle involved."

So now, my dear reader, I come to the last or culminating point in my proof that the negro has a soul. I have shown in the preceding cases that, the soul has powers transcendentally greater than any belonging to the mortal mind. And now I am going to show that the negro is possessed of these soul powers, in common with the white man. And I cite a case in proof of my proposition. The case is that of the negro idiot, known as "Blind Tom." I suppose that nearly everybody has heard of "Blind Tom." He was not only blind by birth, but was but little above the brute creation in point of objective intelligence or capacity to receive objective instruction. Yet his musical capacity was prodigious. Almost in his infancy it was discovered that he could reproduce on the piano any piece of music that he had ever heard. A piece of music however long or difficult, once heard, seemed to be fixed indelibly in his memory, and usually could be reproduced with a surprising degree of accuracy. His capacity for improvisation was

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## Briefs Adrift.

Mr. J. P. Smith, of Germantown Route 1, was here Thursday.

Mr. L. B. Simmons, of Hartman, was a Danbury visitor Monday.

Mr. W. H. Flinchum, of Piedmont, visited Danbury Saturday.

Mr. J. J. Priddy and little son, Nathaniel, of Danbury Route 1, were here Thursday.

Messrs. J. H. Fagg, of Dellar, and A. D. Dodd, of Dodd, attended the speaking here Monday.

Ex-County Commissioner Joseph Martin, of Dellar, was among those who were in Danbury Monday.

It is learned that the foot-washing at Flatshoal Baptist church last Sunday was attended by an immense crowd.

Mr. W. A. Petree, of King Route 1, spent Friday night at the home of his brother, Mr. N. O. Petree.

Mr. H. D. Mabe, of Kinston, a former employe in the Reporter office, spent a day or two here the past week.

Mr. J. W. Young, of Dillard, was here Thursday after his daughter, Miss Cora, who had been in school here for some time.

Miss Maggie Petree, of Germantown, spent Thursday and Friday here with her cousin, Miss Sadie Petree, returning home Saturday.

The friends of Editor McMichael, of the Madison Herald, are urging him to make the contest for the State Senate from Rockingham.

Misses Martha Smith and Mary Shuff, who have been attending school here some time, returned to their respective homes the past week.

The Reporter was glad to see its friend, Mr. B. F. Pulliam, of Pink, on our streets Monday. Mr. Pulliam has been confined with sickness for sometime.

Misses Margaret and Sadie May Dalton, of Winston, and Annie Kate Jones, of Walnut Cove, spent several days here the past week the guests of Drs. W. V. and W. L. McCanness. They were accompanied by Master Rufus Dalton.

Hill Top and Pink Grove played an interesting game of baseball Saturday. The score was 2 to 1 in favor of Pink Grove and when the game closed Pink Grove had another time at the bat. Hill Top and Pinnacle expect to play on Slate ground Saturday.

Sam Kobre, William Plean and J. E. Whitbeck, indicted for the murder of Henry Kobre, at Winston, was acquitted in the Superior Court there Thursday morning without argument to the jury and upon instruction of Judge Peebles. The evidence against the men was not sufficient to convict.

Among those in attendance at the meeting of the Farmers' Protective Association Monday were Messrs. J. W. Pulliam, J. W. Spainhower, J. S. D. Pulliam, A. Tilley, J. W. Johnson, O. L. Pulliam, P. H. Martin, H. C. Lackey, P. H. Young, David Stewart, W. V. Shelton, Alex Southern and others.

## LICENSED TO PRACTICE.

Those Who Passed State Medical Board in Charlotte.

Of the 132 applicants for license to practice medicine before the State Board of Medical Examiners in Charlotte the past week, 47 failed to make the necessary average of 80 per cent. to pass. Six of the number were colored.