

**Mayor Crow's Platform.**

On the day preceding the vote by which he was nominated for mayor of Monroe last Tuesday, Mr. J. J. Crow issued the following signed circular addressed to the voters of the city of Monroe:

I have been urged by many people to run for mayor. I am running on the following platform:

1st. To make the city government self-sustaining.

2nd. To cut out all needless expenses and all needless jobs.

3rd. To give the people of North Monroe the same consideration we do the balance of the city.

4th. To see to it that no city bonds are sold below their actual value.

5th. To inspect the books of the city regularly and see that no money is paid out, no orders or vouchers signed that are not duly authorized at a regular meeting of all the aldermen.

6th. To buy nothing and rent nothing from any alderman or from the mayor.

7th. To try to improve the condition of the graded school by requiring better teaching and better discipline.

8th. To encourage in every way all the fire companies in their efforts to save property or life.

9th. To reorganize the police department into a harmonious working unit.

10th. To have a watchful oversight over the city's welfare, finances, etc., and if anything goes against the good of the whole people to call a halt.

If the good people of Monroe see fit to elect me, I will look after the city's interest the best I can, and will try to be faithful to every trust.

The Journal desires to commend Mr. Crow for two things. The first is that he has taken the people into his confidence and told them what he stands for and what he hopes to do. He has issued a platform and his administration should be judged accordingly. If the people know what an administration stands for and what it has promised to accomplish, they can keep their eyes open and see how well it is being done, and after they have elected a man on his own published platform, it is their duty to stand by him and give aid and encouragement in the carrying out of the same. The second point that Mr. Crow is to be commended for is that he has assumed that the head of the ticket should be the head and leader of the administration and be responsible for what is done or left undone. If the mayor of a town is not the head and front of the government of the town, he had as well not be mayor. It may be said that the mayor has no legislative function and cannot do anything except what the aldermen wish. That is true, but it is not an answer to the argument that the mayor should be the head and leader of his administration. If he can't legislate he can stand for his policies and if the aldermen will not carry them out he can go to the people and tell them just why he can't carry them out and who is responsible for the failure. And should there arise any disagreement between the aldermen and the mayor, he can show the people and they can act accordingly.

The Journal has always contended that a mere swapping of men was no remedy for whatever difficulties stood in the way of the administration of the town government. As a leading business man said some days ago, about everybody in town who would accept an aldermanic position has served at one time or another on the board and all no doubt did the best they could. But now, with the exception of Mr. Lee, we have a new set entirely. We have no doubt that these gentlemen will do the best they can as the others have done. But to be fair, we hope nothing better from them than

we have had from the others all these years unless they decide to act somewhat along the lines suggested in the platform of Mr. Crow, that is to have a responsible head who will give it time and attention enough to reach practical and well studied out results. Unless this is done, two years from now we will have the same desire for a change just for change's sake. Mr. Crow has assumed voluntarily the leadership. His card warrants the belief that he has undertaken the job with a knowledge of its difficulties and responsibilities. Let the people give commendation and encouragement to him and let us see what can be accomplished.

Of the planks in the above platform numbers three, four and eight are self evident and should need no argument nor is there room for disagreement. Numbers five and ten are practically the same, and they are all important. As has been said, they assume that Mr. Crow will be alert, not only to see that nothing goes wrong, but that he will take the initiative to see that things go right. He will have a "watchful oversight" of the city's public welfare. That is all embracing and means that Mr. Crow will have his hands upon every detail of the town's business and will run it, and should not mean that things should be left to jog along just so long as nothing terrible happens. It should mean that the administration will have a definite, positive plan of making the right things happen, and if they happen wrong it will point out frankly why such was the case and invite the people to its confidence, and ask them to assist in righting it.

Sections one and two follow the ones just spoken of. If the "watchful oversight" is exerted there can be no doubt that these other sections will come right.

Section six is merely the law on the statute books and should encounter no difficulty.

Section seven relates to a matter that the administration is not charged with. That is the duty of the school directors. Whatever the administration may feel to be needing attention at the school should be pointed out to the school trustees. If they fail to remedy any just grievance then the people will know whom to blame. Put that up to the school board.

Section nine is vital. The town wants the laws enforced impartially. The way to have an harmonious police force is to give the chief of police supreme authority in his department and to hold him responsible for the enforcement or the non-enforcement of the laws. But you can't hold him responsible unless he is given that complete authority. The police ought to work entirely under his authority.

In conclusion, it is scarcely necessary to say that this article is written, not in criticism of any past, present or future official whatever, but in the hope merely that it may help to point the way to the good results that we all desire. Mr. Crow has taken the job. Let us all help him to make good.

**Reactionaries Seek To Control Both Parties.**

D. K. L., in The Public (Louis F. Post's paper).

Some metropolitan newspapers do not require that their editors shall possess even ordinary intelligence. If they did, several men now engaged in befogging knowledge by writing editorials would be earning an honest living at manual labor. Nowhere is there displayed such gross ignorance of public sentiment as on the editorial pages of those New York newspapers which wear the greatest air of profound wisdom.

The foregoing paragraph is written with the New York Sun particularly in mind. It applies with equal force, however, to several other great journals of the most provincial city on the continent. Published as they are within the zone of crooked finance, and drawing both inspiration and sustenance from big business, these newspapers are apparently unaware of the existence of any voters outside the area of their own city, or of any public sentiment worth taking into account except that dictated by Wall Street.

The best illustration of this utter provincialism is furnished by the present political attitude of those newspapers. They are laboring to bring about a condition whereby the progressives of both old parties shall be prevented from casting a progressive ballot in the presidential election next year. They seem to believe that such a condition can be created. They assume that the reactionaries will be able to control the Republican party, and to bring about President Taft's renomination. Therefore their energies are being directed toward the capture of the Democratic party by the plunder-bund for which they speak.

Their object, of course, is to nominate on the Democratic ticket a man like Judson Harmon, or some other candidate as satisfactory as President Taft to the forces of reaction. They believe, or seem to believe, that the progressive Democrats and the progressive Republicans, as in days of old, can be induced to align themselves on one side or the other in a sham battle between these twin candidates of special privilege and vested wrong.

It is already apparent that, barring some political cataclysm, reactionaries will control the Republican party, and that President Taft will be renominated. Whatever the progressive leaders may do—whether they bolt or yield a nominal allegiance to the party nominee—the progressive rank and file will not vote for Mr. Taft.

These progressive Republicans can be attracted to the Democratic ticket if there is virtue enough left in the Democratic party to attract them. Much depends, of course, on the developments in the new Democratic Congress; but even more will depend upon the action which the Democratic party takes in its national convention, namely, the character of its nominees and the declarations of its platform.

If the schemes now incubating in the financial centers of the country can be worked out, no effort will be made by the Democratic party to attract the independent and progressive vote. The plan is to nominate a reactionary in each party, and firm in the delusion that the voters can be bamboozled forever, to let the election take care of itself.

In the light of what has happened in the past few years to awaken public sentiment and to enlighten public intelligence, is it possible that such a scheme can succeed—even at the next election?

**Grandma's Existence.**

Grandma (impatiently)—Dorothy, I do wish you would be quiet a little while.

Dorothy—Now, grandma, don't scold. If it wasn't for me you wouldn't be a grandma at all.

**He Was Dense.**

Philadelphia Record.  
-Blobs—When she wasn't looking I kissed her.

Slobbs—What did she do?  
Blobs—Refused to look at me for the rest of the evening.

**A Family Affair.**

"Father, have you been much up in airships?"  
"No, never. Why do you ask?"

"I heard mother tell auntie you were once quite a high-flyer."

**Queer Human Nature.**

Boston Transcript.  
"Man's a funny proposition!"  
"What now?"

"When he reads a medical book he fancies he has every disease described, but let him read the work of a moralist and all the faults pointed out he sees not in himself, but in his neighbor."

**An Angel-Man.**

A witty young lady says: "If you want to find out a man's real disposition, take him when he is wet and hungry. If he is amiable then, dry him off and fill him up and you have an angel."

**Attractive Inducements  
ON SALE AT BELK'S  
DEPARTMENT STORE**

Our Ready-to-Wear Department is rapidly growing into one of the main features of this store and is being constantly added to with desirable attractions.

**Ladies, Misses and Children's Wash Dresses.**



Priced so low that you can hardly resist buying them on first sight. They are made of Standard grade Gingham, absolutely fast colors, neatly trimmed with Embroideries and Val Lace and Insertion.

Children's Dresses from.....48c to \$1.48  
Ladies Dresses from.....98c to \$4.98

One special lot of Ladies Brown Linen Dresses, a regular \$5.00 retailer, handsomely trimmed with red piping and buttons, going for.....\$3.98

Also a very choice lot of Sheer White Lawn and Batiste Dresses that are beauties, priced \$1.98 to.....\$3.75

**Another New Lot of Deep Embroideries and Flouncings.**

Just arrived. Don't fail to see them. They will go in a hurry. 27 inches wide in new and neat designs with bands to correspond. You will agree with us that the price is right when you see them for.....39 and 45c yard

**New Neckwear Novelties.**

Ladies Neckwear to meet every fancy in the latest Fads and Fashions—Jabots, Dutch Collars, Sailor Collars, Linen Collars, Spring Maids, and the Dutch Marquessette Fichu, the real novelty of the season in Ladies Neckwear.

Watch Window Display for Above Specials.

**W. H. BELK & BRO.**

Headquarters for Your Money's Worth.

**Another Car Load  
Coming Thursday,  
May the 4th, 1911.**

**In this car there will be mostly horses and brood mares and a few mules. Come to our stables Thursday and look thru them. We are sure you will find something to satisfy you if you need a horse, mare or mule.**

**LIVERY.**

**We are going to use part of these horses for our livery. We are better prepared than ever to suit the traveling public. Try one of our teams. We will make the rig right and the price right.**

**THE SIKES CO.**

MONROE.

NORTH CAROLINA.

**FRESH**

**BEANS,  
STRAWBERRIES,  
CUCUMBERS,  
AND  
EVERYTHING  
ELSE  
GOOD  
TO  
EAT.**

**M. WALLER**