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INTEREST IN JOHN PARKER'S CAMPAIGN IS FAST DYING OUT

HIS "THUNDER" AGAINST REVALUATION LOSES NOISE

New Plan Has Proved Its Worth, and Tax Attacks Are Dropping on Rocky Ground.

Raleigh, October 3.—The republican campaign in the state, which started out in such a lusty manner, is petering out, partly due to general lack of interest by republicans, but largely because the public has become convinced that the campaign thunder emanating from John Parker is wholly harmless, though the noise may be irritating to sensitive democrats in some sections which have not been reached by democratic speakers.

The republicans started out their campaign with attacks on the revaluation act. The majority of republican members, in the extra session of the legislature, voted against the completion of the task they had helped start in order to make the attack of their candidate consistent. But the revaluation act, as a means of equalizing the taxes in North Carolina, is panning out so well that this attack is falling largely on rocky ground. The only persons to whom an attack on the revaluation act would appeal being to that class, in the past, that has not paid its proportionate share of taxes. Those who have paid taxes on their properties in proportion to the taxes paid by neighbors will not have to pay more taxes under the revaluation act. The fellow who has been getting out of taxes in the past is the one the tax reform will hit. And it is to this class of tax-dodgers that the republican attack on the measure is making its strongest appeal.

Little Difference in Taxes.

Besides, with the completed statutes of the revaluation act on the books and the tax values in the process of making, there is growing evidence that there is going to be a mighty little difference in the taxes this year and last year. This was just about what the tax commission and the legislature, together with the Bickett administration, had promised. It was difficult to get some to believe this, but now the commissioners in every county are computing the taxes and the facts are before the people in such a way that it is impossible to fool them any longer.

In addition to this, the special session of the legislature made some concessions to those who did not like all phases of the revaluation act. Some of these concessions did not appeal to those experts and students of taxation who had examined the North Carolina law. But the changes are not essential to the law or material, so they were made. One of the changes was that suggested by the farmers' union, which wanted the listing date changed back to the old time in May rather than in January. While this allows certain personal property to escape taxation, the change was made in order to keep the farmer from having to pay taxes on food and feed which would be consumed in the May listing time.

Provides for "Inflated" Values

The suggestion that some of the property was listed at inflated values also was taken care of, so that it will be possible for the man who believes the value of his property has decreased to go before the county commissioners and, by showing them that the property has decreased in value, get that value lowered. But there is increasing evidence that the seventy-five per cent of the property owners of the state who listed their own property at the values the tax commission in the counties accepted knew what they were doing. The sales made since the revaluation act went into effect have been checked up in many counties and show that the property brought about the same price as it was put down for taxation.

So there is little of the attack on the revaluation act to stand on. And, on top of all this, comes the fact that a large number of other states are sending commissions to North Carolina to study the new tax laws, with a view of modeling laws exactly along the lines mapped out in North Carolina. The national tax association has looked into the new law and has declared it almost a perfect system, provided the income tax amendment is adopted and that source of revenue for state purposes developed.

Consequently, the republicans have been forced to fall back on the old cry that the state democratic administration has been extravagant, conveniently overlooking the fact, of course, that the per capita cost of government in North Carolina is less than that of any other state in the union save one—South Carolina. They just as conveniently forget, too, that, during the four years of the Bickett administration, the tax on real property for state purposes has been reduced from twenty-two cents to exactly nothing on the hundred dollars of valuation.

"We are one of the richest states in the union. We pay millions and millions of dollars of income taxes to the United States treasury every year," republican spell-binders are telling the folks every day. Then they dramatically ask: "Why is it we don't have the best roads and the best schools of any state in the union?" Missing that the older folk will have forgotten, and the younger

voters will not have heard, of the conditions which the democrats feel heir to after the fusion administration twenty years ago.

As a matter of fact, it has taken this score of years to get a new start after that one experience of republican administration of state affairs. It takes a long time to build up a good school system, but few states have made more progress in this work than has North Carolina during the last few years. It is true that the Russel Sage foundation report, quoted by some republican speakers in showing where North Carolina stands in educational work, does not rank the state very high. But the republican orators fail to tell their audiences that the situations from which these relative figures were compiled were gathered before North Carolina, under Dr. E. C. Brooks, added its millions to the school fund of the state.

Road System Going Ahead.

Road building is slow business, but North Carolina is now making progress as rapidly as possible, considering the scarcity of material and labor. Another four years of democratic administration will show tremendous strides in the road work and will enable the highway commission to connect up the more important links with the general state system.

The serious split in the ranks of the republicans in the east will be felt in the general election, for there is likely to come nothing to bring Colonel "Ike" Meekins and Clarence R. Pough together during the next thirty days. Colonel Meekins has gone back to the east, where he will look after the charges made against him by the Morehead lieutenant in his testimony before the senate investigation committee.

Nor will suffrage bring sufficient additional votes to enable the republicans to make a showing this year, for the majority of the republican women live in the country and they are the most indifferent of all about going to the polls. In the urban sections, there are many more democratic women than republicans and it is from these sections that the democratic women's majority will be piled up.

ONLY ELEVEN MARSHVILLE WOMEN HAVE REGISTERED

Her Fellow-Townswomen Are Going to Help the Democratic Ticket, However.

Marshville, Oct 4.—We have registered!

We found it very simple really, but exciting never the less.

The registrar (is that what we should call him?) was established, with his impressive look, in an office which had formerly been occupied by a dentist. Having spent several painful hours in that office on previous occasions we had a reminiscent week-kneed feeling as we approached the door, till we heard reassuring voices—feminine voices—and laughter, coming from within.

Evidently it wasn't so bad after all. We boldly entered the door. Were we not about to become a citizen?

There was nothing more terrible to greet us than a kind looking gentleman in spectacles who was seated behind a table whereon reposed the book, along with several other things.

Three ladies were already in the process of registering, one a mother whose sons have been voting for several years, and as he registered by her side stood her two attractive granddaughters.

Presently it was our turn. "Place your hand upon the Bible," said the kind gentleman. We did so.

"Do you swear to ———— So help you God?" he inquired, looking at us over the spectacles?

We solemnly affirmed that we did, wondering the while if we had sworn to vault the really building or learn the Sanskrit alphabet backwards. This is no reflection on the way the kind gentleman administered the oath. He did it beautifully. It was only that we were so impressed by the importance of what we were doing that we were a bit dazed, so to speak. In fact it reminded us strongly of going through the marriage service in that you couldn't prove by us what we promised the preacher on that occasion, but we had faith enough in him to believe it was all right, whatever it was, so we had no hesitancy in giving him our word on it.

So we knew this was all right, whatever it was, and we knew we were strong for it, so we readily agreed to it—and thus we became a citizen.

Upon inquiry it developed that only eleven women had registered at Marshville up to 6 o'clock Saturday afternoon. A bad beginning makes a good ending though, and we are optimistic enough to believe that by next Saturday night the majority, if not all, of Marshville women will have registered. Saturday is a busy day for housekeepers, and this thing being so new they doubtless forgot it. But they will do their duty, and it is a duty. We are into it now, wisely or not, and it is up to us. If the democratic party wins in this election the southern women, the Union county women must vote. So come in, the water's fine!

Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Crooks and the latter's small son James Crooks of Concord are visiting Mrs. John Long.

Mrs. Frank Williams and James Harrell and Mrs. H. C. Ashcraft were the guests Thursday of Mrs. B. C. Ashcraft in Monroe.—Mrs. J. S. Harrell.

MOBILE COTTON BUYER AND CAPTAIN ATE CANNED SNAKE

CHARLOTTE MAN RELATES MANY TALES OF THE TRIBE

How a Mountaineer Fleeced \$50 Out of a Mecklenburg Citizen; and Discussion of Snake Habits.

"M" of Charlotte, N. C., contributed the following article on snakes to a recent issue of the Charlotte Observer:

A lady and gentleman who occupied a cottage this summer at Mayview, Blowing Rock, related a singular experience. They took frequent tramps through the mountains and, on one of such walks, they ran across a large mother rattlesnake, accompanied by a number of small young ones. At the approach of danger, the mother made a noise and, opening her mouth, every little one disappeared into the open mouth and down the body. Now, the pertinent question is, where do such reptiles carry and how transport their helpless young? How do they feed and sustain them, and was the old snake, in this instance, adopting the ordinary caution for such occasions, thereby safeguarding her family according to nature's instinct and law?

In this connection, I will relate a somewhat similar event that took place with a surveying party a few seasons ago on Little Rease mountain in Iron township, Lincoln county: They killed a large rattler, with 22 young ones, but, in this case, there was no opportunity to draw a parallel, for the young ones were both too large and numerous to have taken refuge in the body of their mother.

How do snakes propagate their young? By giving birth, as animals, or through the laying and hatching of eggs?

When a boy, I found in a swamp a soft white egg, and, on breaking the skin or covering, found it full of tiny barely formed snakes. In my surprise and fear, I threw the find away and never counted the young in that one egg. I suppose there were a dozen.

When snakes lay eggs, do they hatch them, as hens do, or do they rely upon the sun to do that function? The average snake is too long and slim for nesting and covering like a duck or chicken. They were never built by nature for brood mothers. Will some naturalist enlighten us on that subject. I have never the temerity or curiosity to make a detailed and personal investigation, being much of the same disposition as the old farmer, when shown a rattler in captivity at a side show. He took up a rock and smashed the thing's head, and when the horrified owner exclaimed that the snake cost him \$50, the calm reply was, "I generally kills them wherever I finds them."

An Irishman said a snake "was as tall when it laid down" as when it stood up. It had neither hind fore legs nor fore hind legs, and when he saw one he ran like lightning. That is the basic reason why so little is known of its habits and mode of life.

A few weeks ago some croppers on the old Brevard homestead in Lincoln county killed two 10-year old rattlers while mating. Their ages are determined by the number of rattles. Is there any appointed season of the year when rattlers begin to mate and prepare for the propagation of their young? They generally go in pairs, but these were mating.

It is a generally accepted belief that snakes are in a state of stupor and suspended animation, when in hibernation and concealment for the winter, but these developments would seem to indicate the bodies of such hibernates grow steadily as did the young within them. Do naturalists know the period of gestation for snakes?

While pursuing this theme, I might as well give you the benefit of observations and exhaust my limited knowledge, so as to draw the fire from doubters and unbelievers. The late H. B. Short once related having witnessed, in the swamps of Lake Waccamaw a fierce fight and death grapple between a king snake and an enormous rattler. The battle lasted fully an hour. In the course of the fight the rattler struck the king two vicious blows, and each time, when stricken, the snake becoming frantic, glided swiftly into the marshes and, returning chewing and swallowing some green herb, and antidote to poison, renewed the attack, and after evading and tiring the rattler, it quickly wrapped itself tightly around its body and crushed the life out of its venomous antagonist.

During the last fair at the grounds near Dilworth, the owner of a rattler was bitten on both wrists as he held the snake. He threw the rattler from him and jumping into a street car, was driven to a bar room and, after drinking a bottle of whisky, he was taken to the old Presbyterian hospital and doctors summoned. He was sick and swollen for three or four days, and then went away on his fake journey. The whisky was no doubt instrumental in saving him, but the fact that the snake was held and thrown the full circus kept him from becoming a dead man.

Years ago, and the older citizens of Charlotte well remember it, an illiterate man from Mitchell county brought to the city one of the largest and most vicious rattlers ever seen. It had two apparently well formed horns on the top of the head and

was known as the horned rattlesnake. Its owner declared it was the only genuine horned rattler in the world, and he wanted \$500 for the rare specimen. It was in the days of Barnum, the great naturalist and showman of New York. Barnum refused to consider any proposition for its purchase, declaring it was a fake, an imposture, a fraud and a lie, or no horned rattlesnake ever existed in the world. But two horns protruded from the creature's head and could be seen by all men. The mountaineer promoter, getting into financial trouble, borrowed \$50 from the late John T. Butler, a jeweler, on Tryon street, and departed. The Smithsonian institute at Washington sent an agent to investigate, and he made the discovery that the horns had been deftly pared from a cow's horns and cunningly grafted and rooted under the skin by the shifty, sunning and rascally mountaineer.

A fight between the snake and a large rat was staged in the show window facing Tryon street. At first the rodent seemed almost paralyzed, and so great was its terror that it left a trail of cold sweat in its movements. The rattler made a vicious strike, when the rat narrowly dodged the blow and, seizing the monster snake by the back of the neck with its sharp teeth, cut the spinal cord and finished the snake.

In the summer of 1873, when a very young man, I sailed on the "Braunswieg" from Baltimore to Bremen. Captain Undutch was the commander, and I sat on the left of his table with a Mr. Buntner, a German cotton buyer of Mobile, on the right. Both the captain and Buntner were large men, gross and heavy eaters, and almost gourmands in their appetites and tastes. At the first dinner they ordered a can of rattlesnake and smacked their chops with great gusto over the contents of the can, and asked me to share it. I had never seen or heard of such rancid, revolting food, but as soon as I saw spots on the skin of the decapitated dead serpent, encased in olive oil, I left the table, followed by the laughter of the officers and servants, and this action was repeated every one of the 13 days we were at sea. It was the invariable custom of Buntner and the captain to partake of the snake and evil smelling Limberger cheese at the finish of each dinner and called me a "tenderfoot," probably meaning a "tenderfoot," because I did not have the stomach to remain.

Many years later, and shortly before the world war, I was relating this experience to a group of passengers on a German ship under Captain Schmidt. They jeered me, calling me a maunchausen, and inventor of unbelievable tales, I called the captain, and explaining my adventure years before on the vessel of his line, asked him to vouch for my veracity. "Yes," he said, "there is such a commercial article as canned rattlesnake, I have seen it frequently, but have never eaten it. I was born in South America of German parents, and when a boy of 13, saw a rattler in a tree, and made for him with a machete, but fortunately he ran. Rattlesnake canning is quit an industry in certain parts of South America." When the captain had made such a deliverance, I turned to the scoffers of my recital and invited them to openly dispute the words of the captain. He was their size and I was an unknown and lonely passenger. His word was the law, and whether they believed him or not, they did not have the courage to deny it, and my impugned veracity was vindicated in their abashed presence.

This subject has for me a sort of fascinating repugnancy. If the late Cyrus B. Watson of Winston-Salem were alive, he would doubtless answer satisfactorily all these strange questions, for I have never known anyone fonder of nature and who lived more closely in touch with folk and animal lore. I believe H. E. C. Bryant is well equipped in this particular, or is acquainted with someone who is.

Fess Explains His Case.

Fess Cuthbertson, colored, manager of the Peoples Drug Company, who was indicted last week on a narcotic charge, requests The Journal to state that his offense is of purely a technical nature, and that there was no moral violation of the law. His offense, he says, was the filling of a prescription containing narcotics not signed in ink by the physician, Dr. H. H. Creft. Fess also wants the public to understand that he does not sell patent medicine preparations containing alcohol for any other medicinal preparations if he is aware of it.

Montgomery Denies the Charge.

To the Editor of The Journal:—Please allow me space in your paper to say a few words in regard to a piece in your paper of last week to the effect that I had stolen or attempted to steal an automobile from Mr. B. C. Hinson. I wish to say that the charge is absolutely untrue. I have a car of my own already and do not need another, and if I did I could get it in a better way. If anyone should think the statement true, let them ask Mr. B. C. Hinson himself. —Respectfully, S. A. Montgomery.

Elizabeth Remained Single.

Little Elizabeth Tilton, single Harper's Magazine, had attended school only a few days when she fell ill. When she returned she brought a note from her mother signed, "Mrs. Banes." The teacher asked for an explanation.

"It's this way," said Elizabeth, leaning toward the teacher with quite a confidential air: "my mother got married again, but I didn't."

Forty-Odd Union County Men Being Tried in Federal Court

"Faith Healer's" Fame Spreads To Statesville

IREDELL COUNTY FOLKS ARE CLAIMING "CURES"

Landmark Says One Lad Recovers Partial Sight, And Lame Child Is Helped by Treatment.

Statesville people are testifying to the wonderful powers of the "doctor" near Bethune, S. C., who is arousing much interest by his alleged curing of illnesses and afflictions, says the Statesville Landmark.

Ray Eidsen, the 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Eidsen, who live on Eighth street, suffered an illness when he was 10 years of age, and since that time had been unable to see or to hear. His parents took him to the South Carolina man, who gave him treatments with castor oil, rubbing the oil three times on his chest and pouring it in his ears and prescribing that it be taken internally. Ray stated that the man appeared to divine his afflictions before he could explain them himself, and that the "doctor" explained the healing powers were not with him, but with a Higher Power. Ray is now able to see, not with a clear sight, but partially. His sight is coming back. He can also hear slightly. Mrs. Eidsen stated that she and her husband were skeptical of the man's power before having their son treated, but now feel confident that he has marvelous powers. He does not claim to have medical skill, but lina marvel, the castor oil treatment was revealed to him in a dream.

Elsie McNabb, seven years of age, daughter of Mr. S. B. McNabb, who lives on Mill street, had been unable to walk after an illness which she had when she was two years of age. Her father took her to South Carolina, where the castor oil treatment was applied, and now the child is able walk in and out of the house.

Evidently large crowds are visiting the "doctor." Mrs. Eidsen stated that 50 automobiles were waiting about the man's house when her son was taken to him. The man takes any voluntary contributions offered, it is said, unless he thinks the contributions excessive, whereupon he returns part of it.

COUNTY SCHOOLS TO OPEN BY NOVEMBER THE FIFTEENTH

Late Start Decided Upon So as to Let Children Assist in Gathering Crops.

The county board of education, in session here yesterday, set November 15th as the opening day of the county schools. All schools must be in session by that date, but schools that are in a position to do so can start work before then. This is rather late, but the board decided it was best to defer the opening so as to permit the children to assist in the gathering of the cotton crop.

Although a delegation headed by Mr. Wiley Stinson plead for a reconsideration of the Ebenezer-Center Grove consolidation, the board decided to stand firm on its original action. Mr. Funderburk was instructed to proceed with the erection of the modern rural high school building, which will have six or eight rooms with a large auditorium. The site will be selected in a few days, and actual construction will doubtless be under way in a few weeks.

Messrs. L. L. Little, C. A. Carriker, and J. B. Hinson were appointed members of the Carriker's school committee, and a petition for a local tax election in Mill Grove district was also granted.

Hitting Back.

Presiding over the class in advanced mathematics, the Harvard professor called upon the fat student to rise and elucidate the binomial theorem. The fat one stood up and complacently remarked that the problem was too deep for him, and begging to be excused for his delinquency, he sat down.

Wise Old Man.

Beachtown's most successful miser, Bill Allhold, placed some difficult lega work in the hands of the good-hearted town lawyer. As the time approached, Allhold hemmed and hawed over having to pay a just debt. The attorney's cheerful good nature again asserted itself.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen.

What has become of the old-fashioned nickel that used to be worth five cents?—Twin Falls Times.

Wanted To Move.

Mr. Peck—Would you mind compelling me to move on, officer? I've been waiting on this corner three hours for my wife.—Puck.

Making Whiskey a Moral Offense Against Nation Charges Judge Webb

Almost an entire train load of defendants and witnesses in the 40-odd liquor cases from this county went to Charlotte yesterday morning to be present at the opening of Federal court. None of the Union county cases however, were heard Monday.

On the grand jury from this county are Messrs. P. H. Johnson, foreman; J. N. Price, Henry McWhorter, and T. C. Collins. In his address to the grand jury, Judge Webb, who is presiding, said:

"You are about to assume duties of a high calling. The fact that you have been chosen to perform these duties is a splendid tribute to your patriotism and high type of citizenship. I have no fear about the enforcement of the prohibition and other laws with such men as you on the grand jury. I believe when the oath you have taken, the laws of the land are safe and will be enforced.

"You are citizens of two sovereign jurisdictions, the state and the United States government."

Judge Webb then went on to outline briefly some of the crimes that come under federal jurisdiction, including that of cheating the government out of the taxes due it, violation of interstate commerce laws, such as stealing freight from box cars, violation of the Mann white slave law, counterfeiting money, robbing postoffices and making whiskey. Commenting on the prohibition law, the judge said:

"MOONSHINING" THRIVES IN STATE, AVOWS BAILEY

In Six Months Forty Officers Captured 1,265 Stills, and Arrested 837 Men.

Startling figures that show the growth of illicit distilling in North Carolina and pointing out the way by which the state may realize a splendid revenue through the suppression of "moonshining" have been made public by Mr. J. W. Bailey, Raleigh, United States internal revenue collector.

In summarizing a six months' campaign against illicit distilling in the state, Collector Bailey stated that, up to July 1st, his forty prohibition agents have captured 837 prisoners, seized and destroyed 1,265 stills, poured out 4,310 gallons of liquor, seized and destroyed property valued at \$173,928; seized additional property worth \$49,290, including 3,070 pounds of sugar, 54 automobiles and 24 horses and mules; and destroyed 730,331 gallons of beer, 4,450 gallons of molasses and 586 bushels of corn meal, and raised taxes and penalties amounting to \$600,518.

In commenting on these figures, Collector Bailey said that the record for six months demonstrates three facts, as follows:

First—The prohibition agents have been doing their duty. They could not have been active in politics and, at the same time, have made this record.

Second—The extent of liquor making in North Carolina is alarming. If forty men could find and destroy 1,285 distilleries and arrest 837 men in six months, what might a hundred men have done? Illicit distilling is increasing in North Carolina.

Monroe Market.

Cotton	24 to 24 1/2
Seed	57
Eggs	40
Hens	70
Young chickens	40 to 45
Sweet potatoes	\$1.50