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OXFORD, N. C., SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1913.

**OUR STATE TICKET.**

- For Governor: **LOCKE CRAIG**, of Brunswick.
- For Lieutenant Governor: **E. L. DAUGHERIDGE**, of Edgecombe.
- For Secretary of State: **J. BRYAN GRIMES**, of Pitt.
- For Treasurer: **B. F. LACY**, of Wake.
- For Auditor: **W. P. WOOD**, of Randolph.
- For Attorney-General: **I. W. BICKETT**, of Franklin.
- For Superintendent of Public Instruction: **JAMES Y. JOYNER**, of Guilford.
- For Insurance Commissioner: **JAMES P. YOUNG**, of Vance.
- For Commissioner of Agriculture: **WILLIAM A. GRAHAM**, of Lincoln.
- For Commissioner of Labor and Printing: **M. L. SHEPMAN**, of Henderson.
- For Corporation Commissioners: **E. L. TRAVIS**, of Halifax; **GEO. P. PELL**, of Forsyth.
- For Justice's Supreme Court: **WILLIAM A. HOKE**, of Lincoln; **GEORGE H. BROWN**, of Beaufort.
- For Judge of the Fifth Judicial District: **HOWARD A. FOUSHEE**.

**Governor Kitchin in Oxford.**

Governor Kitchin arrived in Oxford at 10:20 last Tuesday morning over the Seaboard "Vestibled Limited," and not on the Southern's "Fast Mail, No. 57," and was met by a committee of three, composed of Col. Henry G. Cooper, Mr. Norman Burwell and Mr. L. T. Buchanan. The Governor was attired in campaign clothing and resembled the typical candidate from tip to toe, somewhat jaded in appearance, but with a handsome man.

The date of the speech had been set for July 30, and the date and the occasion had been broadly advertised for fully one month; yet the crowd, considering that it was court week, was very small. Judge Whedbee adjourned court at 11 o'clock and the first bell announcing the speech was instantly rung, followed by a second bell fifteen minutes later. Capt. T. G. Stem introduced the Governor in good style. It was at this point that we counted every person in the court room and found the number to be 483; of this number there were 18 ladies and 23 colored people. The crowd was composed equally of Simmons and Kitchin forces, with a good sprinkling of Clark adherents.

The Governor began his speech by announcing that he was for Woodrow Wilson for President; Locke Craig for Governor, and himself for the United States Senate. Touching the Gatlin gun incident, a matter of local history, the Governor declared that he was not aware that the gun was a part of the equipment of the military company when he ordered it to proceed post-haste to Oxford, but with a wave of the hand he dismissed the incident by quoting his constitutional right in such matters, Gatlin gun or no Gatlin gun. He said the Sheriff, too, did his duty in secreting the prisoner, and it was at this point that the voice of West Brummitt assured the Governor that

the incident cost the Sheriff 300 votes at the recent primaries.

The Governor enlivened things with a campaign joke, in which he said that a crowd of men, some five in number, met in the smoking end of a compartment car, when a stranger came upon the scene and told the crowd that he had studied the faces of men to such an extent that he could name the political party to which each man belonged. This assertion was instantly challenged by one of the party, who demanded the stranger to name his political affiliations. "You," said the stranger, "are a Democrat." This was correct, and the stranger picked out another fellow and pointing his finger at his face, remarked "You are a Prohibitionist." This was also correct, and the stranger continued the process to the amusement of everyone, until he reached a little man over in the corner, and with pointed finger said, "Sir, you are a North Carolina Republican." As quick as a flash, the little man sprang to his feet, jerked off his coat and said: "You are a liar, sir. I have been sick for three months; that is why I resemble them fellows."

Touching the Lorimer case the Governor said that if Senator Simmons was given an opportunity to vote twice on one bill he would surely vote right one time; that his second vote for Lorimer was a confession that his first vote was wrong.

The Governor did not come up to the expectation of his friends in his judgment against Senator Simmons. His arguments were weak and frivolous from beginning to end. It had the ring of a court case in which the defendants and plaintiff were "Kitchin vs. The Democratic Party, et al." There was no one present to defend the Democratic Party, and the Governor, like a school boy, proceeded to set up his blocks and knock them down, to the amusement of the crowd. Says he: "Oh, yes, Senator Simmons is a great man—he is a whole Congress unto himself—and so long as there is a candidate in the field to keep him walking the chalk-line he will be good and sweet." It seemed rather incongruous that a Governor should vacate his office, leaving our old friend A. J. Field at the seat of government, for the purpose of goading the Senator to a point of duty. We failed to see in the speech anything but a vain effort on the part of the Governor to reach the Senate chamber by condemning the act of the Democratic State Convention in endorsing Senator Simmons' record. With characteristic pose he reaches the climax when he pounds his breast and shouts, "I am the Moses come to lead you out of the wilderness!" He did not produce any argument to show why the people should substitute Kitchin for Simmons. We verily believe the shallow and flimsy arguments produced by the Governor has a decided tendency to entrench Senator Simmons more firmly in the hearts of the people. The Public Ledger is confident that Senator Simmons will carry seven of the ten congressional districts.

The Governor stated from the rostrum that "your local paper is very bitter; that many of the papers receive pay for editorial matter inspired in Washington; that he and his friends are not able to buy editorial space in the papers." The editors of the Public Ledger are qualified to defend Senator Simmons' record without consultation or pay. This paper was very dear to the heart of Mr. Kitchin when it stood by him in his congressional and gubernatorial campaigns, but now that it exercises its right to defend Senator Simmons, whose record was endorsed by the State Democratic Convention, the Governor cries out in the bitterness of his heart that we are subsidized. It is not necessary for the editors to seek editorial expression from any one on Democratic principles, nor would we accept pay for standing by the standard-bearer of Democracy.

Concerning some of the other matter stated in the Governor's speech we comment as follows:

He sneeringly dubs Simmons for being a reactionary not a progressive. As a matter of fact Mr. Simmons has been one of the most progressive statesmen of his time. He was progressive in State matters with regard to suffrage; with regard to all social and educational advancement in the State. And in like manner in the Senate he has been the advocate of all new measures that promised to be of advantage and benefit of the people. He has advocated the parcels post, postal savings banks and other such measures, even when there was a strong local opposition to them. He has been a strong advocate of increasing the efficiency of the rural free delivery service and increase of pay of carriers, and of all the measures which have so vastly improved the work of the Department

of Agriculture. He is the father of the present movement to aid the improvement of country roads by Federal appropriation. He has also been active in securing legislation to prohibit gambling in farm product. These are only illustrations. He has voted for the election of Senator by the people; for the constitutional amendment providing for an income tax; and for the law limiting the amount of money a Senator or Representative can spend in making a campaign for election, and requiring the publication of all such expenditures. Now the important question arises what has Mr. Kitchin done for his State and country?

The National Democratic platform has enumerated with approbation many new and progressive measures, every one of which (as far as we recollect) Mr. Simmons has urged and voted for. One progressive measure which he has advocated, to-wit: applying the illiteracy test to immigrants, the convention failed to notice. The party was not up to that yet. The platform, however, is in line with his great work for the preservation of our natural resources, the improvement of our waterways, and the conservation of our water power, etc., the platform being more and positive than any former one on these subjects, as well as for the improvement of our ocean mail service with South America, which is entirely in accord with the views expressed by Senator Simmons on that subject as far back as 1906.

As against all of this constructive legislation which shows that Mr. Simmons is one of the really progressive men of his time, Governor Kitchin has nothing whatever to show for himself. His record as a progressive statesman is at zero, and as an office-seeker is at fever heat.

The Governor says that he stands on both the State and National platforms. As he claims that Simmons packed the State Convention against him, and actually started to read the State Convention out of the party, it is a matter of amusement to learn that he stands on the Simmons platform adopted by the Simmons Convention.

In his first speech he declared that the National platform would demand Reciprocity as a Democratic measure and he was asked with great glee, "where will Simmons be then?" That he must be greatly disappointed in the National platform, which omits all reference to free lumber, to free raw material, and to the desirability of putting Southern products on the free list while giving Northern products such advantages as the tariff duty affords, and which virtually repudiates Reciprocity as a Democratic measure, it is indeed gratifying to learn that he stands on that platform.

On the other hand if Mr. Simmons had been selected to draft the platform he would have drawn it just as it is with the addition of his progressive measure in regard to immigration.

Mr. Kitchin says "that in 1895 fusion was arranged by Chairman Manly by the advice and consent of the State Committee, of which Mr. Simmons was a member. Mr. Simmons was not present at the meeting when that matter was agreed on," and on his return to Raleigh he expressed the opinion that the proposition was a mistake. However, the populist did not accept the offer, and that was the end of the matter. In the Spring of 1898 there was again some disposition to fuse with the Populist, Mr. Simmons and Mr. Pou (who was then the Chairman of the party) by correspondence and otherwise organized the fight against it.

On April 26th the Wilmington Star, which had fallen in with his policy, said: "With a straight Democratic policy and Simmons as chairman, we will win a glorious victory." When the convention met Governor Kitchin was the ardent champion of fusion, and it was with great difficulty that he was persuaded to abide by the action of the convention. He now claims that he wrote the platform except one paragraph. They had great trouble in getting him to abide by the action of the convention. We do not know that personally, but from the report of Governor Jarvis, as chairman of the platform committee to the convention. Gov. Jarvis being chairman of committee, we rather imagine that he had something to say in drawing the platform. It is indeed wonderful that Mr. Kitchin now claims that he wrote the constitutional amendment containing the grand-father's clause, disfranchising negroes, which doubtless would be news to Geo. Rountree, of Wilmington, who was Chairman of the House Committee that reported the measure, which was drafted by the committee on long and close consultations of Mr. Simmons and other leaders.

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**The Vile Sinners Return.**

If all who are signing the petition for a Simmons club in Greensboro are going to stick and vote the Democratic ticket this fall from top to bottom, as it is presumed they will do, the majority in State and county should be overwhelming. Men—many of them—who have not voted straight for some years, are pledging themselves to stand up and from those we know personally they will stick. The proposed rules governing the primary are that a man must first walk up and vote the Democratic ticket, after which he is eligible to vote for Senator. Some have signed who have been voting the Republican ticket from top to bottom for a long time. They are coming back home. "As long as the lamp holds out to burn," etc.—Greensboro News.

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