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JOHN JOHNSTON PARKER

Appreciative Sketch of His Life and Character

By IREDELL MEARES

The life and character of John Johnston Parker, the republican candidate for governor, are marked by qualities and incidents which denote a fine type of personal manhood and a high type of intellectual power.

He was born on November 20, 1855, at Monroe, Union county, this state. His father was the late J. D. Parker, a merchant of Monroe, whose ancestors lived for generations in Union county and whose father, the grandfather of the subject of this sketch, fell while fighting in the Confederate army at Chancellorsville. His paternal ancestors lived in the quiet walks of life, merchants and farmers and, if less prominent in the social, public or professional life of the state, they were not less possessed of the qualities of sturdy, honest and industrious manhood—the priceless legacy bequeathed to their distinguished descendant.

The mother of Mr. Parker was Miss Francis Johnston, a daughter of Dr. Samuel I. Johnston, a prominent physician of his day and generation, of Edenton, N. C. She was a woman of rare gifts, gentle refinement and Christian character. Highly educated, she was an accomplished linguist, both in ancient and modern languages, and cultivated in both instrumental and vocal music. On the maternal side Mr. Parker is descended from the Johnston, Nash, Ireddell and Burgwin families of eastern North Carolina, who have given to the state in its history distinguished representatives in its judicial, political, military and educational life. He is a lineal descendant of Governor Abner Nash, and of John Burgwin, one of the early settlers along the Cape Fear, and the proprietor of the plantation known as the "Hermitage," near Castle Hayne.

Lamartine, the great French author, in his biographies of great men, said that the study of their ancestry, whether prominent or humble, would show that nature gradually assembled and concentrated in them the strong traits of many ancestors and thus produced their greatness. Inheriting from his parental ancestry the qualities of physical manhood, energy, industry and capacity for hard work, and from his maternal ancestry the instinct to intellectual culture, aspirations to public service, legal and political attainments, Mr. Parker is peculiarly endowed with a combination of inherited qualities of mind and soul, which he has well developed, and which pre-eminently fit him for the responsibilities of our great office to which he may be called, and in equal degree give him an understanding and sympathy with the spirit and needs of all classes of our people and their interests.

Education.

He received his education at the public schools of Monroe and at the University of North Carolina. He graduated at the university in 1887, at the head of his class, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Although he worked his way through college, he found time to make a fine record both in his studies and in the college life. He won the Greek medal and the Bryan prize in economics. Displaying unusual capacities for oratory and debate, he was twice the representative of his college in intercollegiate debates, once each with the Universities of Virginia and of Georgia.

He was president of Phi Beta Kappa, a college fraternity, of the Scholarship society, and of the Dialectic society, and was twice elected president of his class, being its president at the time of graduation, which is considered the highest honor of college, as it comes from one's chums and classmates as a tribute of ability, scholarship and personal esteem. He was also made president of the college athletic association and of the University council. This council is a student body to investigate and pass upon infractions of college laws by students and to advise the faculty in judging the punishment of any student violating college rules or properties.

Thus, when in his young manhood, at college, we find he was student leader among his fellows, and the recipient of the respect and esteem of both faculty and student body.

Professional Life.

After his college graduation he remained to study law and graduated at the University Law School in the class of 1898, and obtained his license as a lawyer upon the usual examination before the Supreme court at its fall term, 1908. He won at the law school the Henry R. Bynum law prize. He seems to have had a genius at this time for winning prizes. He had for

a year in Greensboro, this state, practicing in the office of the late David Sterne, and then went to Monroe where, since 1910, he has practiced his profession in co-partnership with the Hon. A. M. Shack. Later Mr. William Craig was associated and his present firm is that of Shack, Parker and Craig, one of the leading law firms of the state. As a lawyer Mr. Parker has been connected with most of the important litigation in his county, and adjoining counties, his prac-

tice extending over a large area and he has attained prominence and reputation at the bar as a strong advocate, well equipped attorney, and success has attended upon him in his chosen profession. He is a member of the North Carolina Bar Association and of the American Bar Association. He was a delegate from the State Bar to the American Bar Association in 1918 and in 1919 was elected a vice-president of the State Bar Association.

Political Life.

His studies at college in American political history and in economics influenced by wide reading, led him in early life to espouse the principles of the national republican party. His talents and ambitions at this time would naturally have led him to thoughts of political preferment. Had he been a man of less independence of action and courage of opinion and less devotion to convictions, he would have remained with the dominant political party of the state, from which he could have expected, more readily the realization of his ambitions; but, independent by nature and actuated by a high sense of public duty, he could not have advocated policies he did not approve, and so he elected to identify himself with the minority party of the state in order to speak and stand for his convictions upon public questions without regard to the effects upon his personal future or opportunities.

He became secretary to the Hon. John M. Morehead in the campaign of 1908, when Mr. Morehead was elected to congress as a republican from the Fifth district, and in 1910 Mr. Parker was the republican candidate for congress from the Seventh district, running in opposition to the Hon. R. N. Page, the democratic nominee. He engaged in a joint discussion with Mr. Page throughout the district and established his reputation as a strong debater. Although not elected, he proved to be a strong antagonist and entirely capable to discuss the pending national issues. The writer has heard this debate between Mr. Page and Mr. Parker often spoken of as having been well tempered, able in discussion and pitched by the candidates on a high plane, but it was generally thought that Mr. Parker, at best his admirers so thought, got the better of the discussion. In 1916 he was nominated as the republican candidate for attorney general, and in this year the party placed him at the head of its state ticket as its candidate for governor. If elected, he will be the fourth governor furnished the state from the families of which he is descendant.

Personal Life.

He married Miss Maria Maffitt, of Wilmington, N. C., on November 23, 1910, and they have two children born to them. Miss Maffitt was the daughter of the late John N. Maffitt, of Wilmington, and a grand-daughter of the famous Capt. John N. Maffitt, who was an officer in the United States navy before the civil war and afterwards became distinguished as a daring and intrepid commander of Confederate cruisers and privateers.

Mr. Parker is a member of the Episcopal church and senior warden of St. Paul's church at Monroe. He has taken an active interest in all church, commercial and welfare work in his community, being a member of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the Red Cross society, of the war work, of which he was chairman; of the State Good Roads' association and of the Masonic fraternity.

At the outbreak of the war there was an anti-draft meeting held at Monroe. Gov. Blease was advertised to speak. Mr. Parker went to the meeting determined to reply to him. He did not come, but Mr. Parker did address the meeting, and appealed to the people to be loyal to the country and to stand by the constituted authorities. The effect of his eloquent speech, delivered to an audience at first hostile, was to destroy the anti-draft sentiment in the section and to end all opposition in the country to the draft.

Concluding Tribute.

He who has known John Parker, whether as boyhood friend, college chum, business or professional associate, or in his more intimate relations as son, husband and father, knows full well that at all times and in all relations his life has been above reproach. Warm in impulses, considerate and approachable in personal intercourse, energetic in business and loyal in professional service, he commands the respect, esteem and admiration of men. There are no incidents in his personal or public life which require explanation or apology. He is a man resolute in will and in

spirit, self-poised and confident without egotism, bold in expression, fair in argument, eloquent and persuasive in speech, and incorruptible in integrity.

A student of public questions and informed as to public needs, he discusses all matters in a spirit of fairness and candor, sense and conclusiveness, but at no time does he indulge in that common substitute for argument—the high-powered lung explosions of hot air exaggeration. Broad-minded in vision and liberal in temperament, he suffers no political bigotry and avoids the narrow paths of irrelevant and discarded issues and passions of a dead past. He does not have to resort to such methods in the presentation of his cause for he is a gentleman by instinct and a man of culture by study and reflection.

If he is elected governor, he will be the governor of no party nor class, but, as he himself declares of all the people of the State of North Carolina. So mote it be.

KEPT OUT OF WAR, NOW SERVES COX

Publisher's Son Escaped Military Service Through Democratic Nominee's Influence.

Young, able-bodied, rich, a strapping big fellow, who possessed all the physical equipment of an American soldier, save, evidently, heart, Robert P. Scripps was kept out of the war through Administration influences.

The local draft board of Butler County, O., rejected his plea and held that there was no valid claim for his exemption and that he should surely don a uniform and shoulder arms, but Secretary of War Baker's law partner, Tom Sidlo, was employed to save the youthful slacker. Governor Cox took a hand in the case, and finally, by White House decree, he went scot free.

His multi-millionaire father, E. W. Scripps, controlling owner of the Scripps League of Newspapers and the Newspaper Enterprise Association, a powerful combination, threatened to overthrow the Administration rather than permit either of his sons to answer the call of Uncle Sam.

Administration Exempts Slacker. Having helped to re-elect Woodrow Wilson President on the issue, "He kept us out of war," the elder Scripps demanded that his sons be kept out of war. And the Administration kept them out.

Young Robert Scripps, who had never done any real newspaper work, was given the title of Assistant to the Publisher of the Scripps League of Newspapers to create an excuse for his exemption. Finally he was ordered home from Camp Sherman by Governor Cox, after he had been in uniform for ten days.

All these facts and more of an equally astounding and discreditable character were brought out by the Kenyon Senatorial Committee, which subpoenaed young Scripps to Washington to explain his activities in the present campaign.

Now Supporting Cox. He is today editor in chief of the Scripps League of Newspapers and the Newspaper Enterprise Association and is putting out daily pink propaganda sheets of a lurid and sensational character in support of the candidacy of Governor Cox.

Samples of these sheets were submitted to the committee, and Senator Reed, Democrat, frankly denounced the propaganda as "rot" and manifested extreme impatience and disgust with the young man's loose talk about a "Senate oligarchy" and criticism of the Supreme Court.

Young Scripps, although he did not fight for his country in 1917-18, insisted that he was doing it all through love of country and in the "public interest," without any pay from the Democratic committee or thought of obligation for keeping him out of war.

The draft-dodging aspects of the case, as brought out at Washington, are not unlike those of young Bergdoll of Philadelphia, which resulted in a Federal prosecution for conspiracy to evade the draft.

BACK PORCH CAMPAIGN TO BE BEGUN SOON BY WILSON.

Washington. — Gradually being pushed to the rear by the progress of the campaign it is now announced that President Wilson is to wage a "Back Porch" campaign. The local evening papers announce this fact and say that the plan is being discussed by the Administration leaders. It may even come within a week, some of these leaders believe. Edmund H. Moore, who managed Governor Cox's pre-convention campaign, is given credit for this "back porch" plan. He does not object of using the word "back porch" in connection with the

Compulsory Attendance Law

An Act to Provide for the Compulsory Attendance Upon the Public Schools of Children Between Certain Ages and to Regulate and Restrict Employment, etc.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. Every parent, guardian or other person in the State of North Carolina having charge or control of a child between the ages of eight and fourteen years shall cause such child to attend school continuously for a period equal to the time which the public school in the district in which the child resides shall be in session. The principal, superintendent or teacher who is in charge of such school shall have the right to excuse the child from temporary attendance on account of sickness or distance of residence from the school, or other unavoidable cause which does not constitute truancy as defined by the State Board of Education.

Sec. 2. Any parent, guardian, or other person referred to in section one of this act, violating the provisions of the aforesaid section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be liable to a fine of not less than five dollars (\$5) nor more than twenty-five (\$25) and upon failure or refusal to pay such fine the said parent, guardian or other person shall be imprisoned not exceeding thirty days in the county jail.

Sec. 2a. It shall be the duty of the State Board of Education to formulate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the proper enforcement of the provisions of this act. Said board shall prescribe what shall constitute truancy, what causes may constitute legitimate excuses for temporary nonattendance due to physical or mental inability to attend and under what circumstances teachers, principals, or superintendents may excuse pupils for nonattendance due to immediate demands of the farm or the home in certain seasons of the year in the several sections of the State. It shall be the duty of all school officials to carry out such instructions from the State Board of Education, and any school official failing to carry out such instructions shall be guilty of a misdemeanor: Provided, that section one of this act shall not be in force in any city or county that has a higher compulsory attendance law now in force that that provided herein; but in such case it shall be the duty of the State Board of Education to investigate the same and decide that any such law now in force has a higher compulsory attendance feature than that provided by this act: Provided, that wherever any district or buildings for the proper enforcement of this act the county boards of education may be allowed not more than two years from July the first, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, to make full and ample provisions in every district.

Sec. 3. The county superintendent of public welfare or chief school attendance officer or transient officer provided for by

HAYES, COX AND OTHERS TO SPEAK HERE SATURDAY

law shall investigate and prosecute all violations of the provisions of section one of this act.

Sec. 4. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall prepare such rules of procedure and furnish such blanks for teachers and other school officials as may be necessary for reporting each case of truancy or lack of attendance to the chief attendance officer referred to in section three hereof. Such rules shall provide, among other things, for a notification in writing to the person responsible for the nonattendance of any child, that the case is to be reported to the chief attendance officer of the county unless the law is immediately complied with. County boards of education and governing bodies of city schools shall have the right to appoint town or district attendance officers when deemed by them necessary to assist in carrying out the provisions of section one, two, three and four of this act, and the rules and instructions which may be promulgated by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, but in every case in which becomes necessary to prosecute for non-attendance the case shall be referred to the chief attendance officer of the county for further action: Provided, that in town or cities having special attendance officers paid out of town or city funds said officers shall have full authority to prosecute for violations of this act.

Sec. 5. No child under the age of fifteen years shall be employed or permitted to work, in or about or in connection with any mill, factory, cannery, workshop, manufacturing establishment, laundry, bakery, mercantile establishment, office, hotel, restaurant, bar shop, boot black stand, messenger or delivery service, except in cases as provided under regulations prescribed by the commission hereinafter created: Provided, the employment in this section enumerated shall not be construed to include bona fide boys' and girls' canning clubs recognized by the Agricultural department of this State; and such canning clubs are expressly exempted from the provisions of this act.

Sec. 5a. It shall be the duty of the county boards of education of each county in the State of North Carolina to cause this act to be published in full in some newspaper in the county if there be one, and if there be none, then in circular form and distributed over the county at least four weeks prior to the opening of the school after the first day of July, one thousand nine hundred and nineteen.

C. L. GABARD, Chief Attendance Officer.

NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Jesse Matthews deceased late of Yadkin County North Carolina all persons holding claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to me on or before the 8th day of Sept. 1921 or notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery and all persons indebted to said estate are requested to settle at once.

This the 8th day of Sept. 1920.
W. G. Wooten Adm of Jesse Matthews

Listen, Patriots all! Next Saturday is to be a Red Letter day in Yadkin and it is hoped that every Republican and Democrat too will lay down their work and come to Yadkinville for a day of rallying is coming. Hon. Johnson J. Hayes of Wilkesboro, and Mrs. Queen Bess Kennan and Miss Nell Hartman of Davie County, will be here and they will bring a message to you all.

Hon. W. H. Cox, nominee for congress will also be here.

Mrs. Kennan and Miss Hartman have consented to come at an invitation from the Yadkin Woman's Republican Club and they will bring a special message to the ladies of Yadkin county. Come to hear them, ladies, and the men of the county are urged to bring their wives along. Mrs. Kennan is a fluent speaker and she will no doubt be received here with open arms by the ladies who are anxious to learn and hear of their new duties in politics. Miss Hartman is also a talented speaker and entertainer.

As to Mr. Hayes he needs no introduction to Yadkin people. He is well known here as a forceful speaker who always has a new message for his audience and he knows how to tell it. Mr. Hayes will discuss State and national issues and especially the new revaluation act, together with other problems affecting this section.

The time of the speaking has been set for a convenient time, two o'clock in the afternoon, in order that the ladies of this whole section will have an opportunity to come and enjoy the afternoon with their sisters of the town. The Woman's Republican Club send them a message to come and be one of them for the afternoon, visit their headquarters over the Bank of Yadkin, where they have some large pictures of Harding and Co. slide to give them, also some buttons, literature and so on if you want it. They say for you to come and feel at home with them.

Politics is getting at a high water mark now and we hope everybody will come next Saturday and hear the good speeches. You will lose only half a day. Come one, come all.

North Carolina Superior court Yadkin county before the clerk S. L. Whitaker, adm of J. L. Whitaker dec'd Notice vs S. L. Whitaker et al

The defendant Harry Whitaker will take notice that an action has been commenced in the superior court of Yadkin county to sell lands belonging to the estate of J. L. Whitaker, dec'd to make assets to pay debts, and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear before the Clerk of the superior court of Yadkin county, N. C., at his office in Yadkinville, on Saturday, the 23rd day of October, 1920, at 2 o'clock P. M. and answer or demur to the petition in said action or the plaintiff will apply to the court for the relief demanded in said petition.

This Sept. 18, 1920
J. L. Crater, C. S. C.

NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of the estate of Erma Reece deceased late of Yadkin County North Carolina all persons holding claims against said estate are hereby notified to present them to me on or before the 9th day of September 1921 or this notice will be pleaded in bar of their recovery. And all persons indebted to said estate are requested to settle at once.

This the 9th day of September 1920.

D. M. Vestal Adm of Erma Reece deceased.