

CONGRESSMAN FAISON KEPT HIS WORD

Told Basnight in His First Campaign He Would Get Him Later—Senator F. M. Simmons Has a Pretty Tough Problem on His Hands As Whom To Select For Postmaster.

H. E. C. Bryant, the Charlotte Observer's Washington correspondent, yesterday had the following interesting article relative to the squabble in the New Bern postoffice:

"The row at New Bern over R. E. Smith, a Democrat, has brought about many interesting situations and recalled some almost ancient history.

"Representative Faison, who is known as the arch-enemy of all Republicans, was speaking to a crowd in his district during his first campaign for Congress. He had as an auditor Jesse S. Basnight, who was removed last Saturday as postmaster at New Bern. Sometime in the course of Doctor Faison's remarks Basnight sneered or jeered at him. Doctor Faison told him that he had better be at his office, looking after the mail, and his partisan employes. Basnight laughed; Doctor Faison told him he would go to Congress and see that his record was clear, or have him ousted.

Doctor Faison has kept faith with himself. He planted the dynamite that blew Basnight out of a fine job. The fight did not last long after the old time partisan enemies locked horns. Basnight got mad, lost his head, and virtually hoisted himself on his own petard.

"In blowing Basnight out of the water Doctor Faison trotted Senator Simmons into one of the liveliest little postoffice contests that has come to Washington recently. Who will succeed Basnight? That is the all-important question, and it is up to Senator Simmons. The Senator is always permitted to name the postmaster of his own town without interference from the Representatives of the district. Doctor Faison, upon his ar-

rival here Monday, lifted his hat to Senator Simmons and told him to let the music begin. Senator Simmons had not eaten breakfast before a delegation of New Bern Democrats whose names have already appeared in The Observer, landed in town. The fight is on.

"Lewis Daniels, John C. Thomas, Jr., S. H. Lane, and others are candidates for Basnight's old place. The signs point to Thomas or, perhaps, Daniels. Here is the situation: Senator Simmons and Mr. Daniels are the best of friends—personal as well as political friends. Thomas is a very active party worker, and has larger support in New Bern than any other man in the race. Mr. Simmons must decide between the two Daniels and Thomas are capable. Daniels is well-to-do and Thomas has but little.

"It is Senator Simmons' affair," said Doctor Faison to the Observer correspondent to day. "I am an interested onlooker. Courtesy puts it up to the Senator, for New Bern is his home town."

"Senator Simmons will be ready to make his announcement in a few days.

"The older Washington newspaper correspondents for North Carolina newspapers recall the contest over the New Bern office that put Basnight in and shut "Bob" Hancock, now dead, out. The real war over the office was between John Motley Morehead, chairman of the State Republican Committee, and Marion Butler on the one side and National Committeeman E. C. Duncan on the other. Messrs. Morehead and Butler won out. Carl Duncan was flicked in one of his strongholds."

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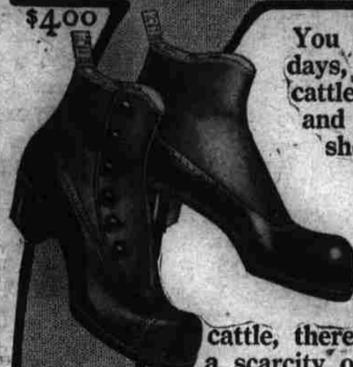
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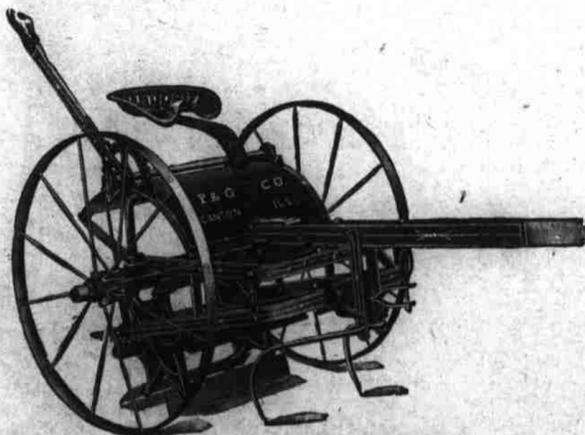
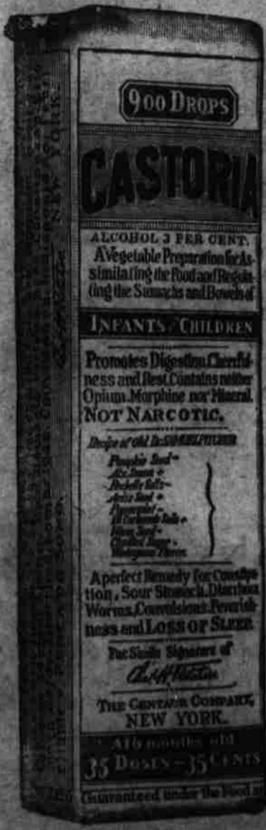
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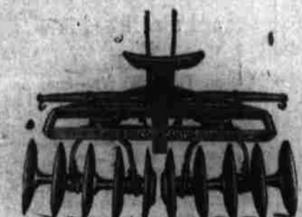
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