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and

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Talking Politics

WE read a great deal in the city newspapers, and hear a great deal of talk among the folk we meet, about the political outlook for 1936. We hear of men who used to regard themselves as Republicans expressing complete satisfaction with Mr. Roosevelt's Administration and the determination to vote for him again if he is renominated, which undoubtedly he will be. On the other hand, we hear of and occasionally meet a Democrat who says he is disgusted with the New Deal and will vote the Republican ticket next year.

We hear people talking of candidates to oppose Mr. Roosevelt, of the possibility of a third party or even a fourth or a fifth party. Some think we may develop some coalition such as now exists in England, where a National party, composed of leaders drawn from all of the old parties, runs the government.

All of this talk is of interest, and it is significant because it indicates clearly that, whatever else we may have done, the people of America have not surrendered their political independence. Nothing, as we see it, would be worse for the future of America than to have any party leadership so firmly seated in power that nothing could dislodge it. That, of course, is the ambition of the leaders of every party. It has seldom been realized, probably never will be. For any element which remains in authority too long inevitably gets to the state of mind where the maintenance of the party, rather than the best interests of the nation, controls its activities. That has happened more than once in our history.

A healthy opposition is needed at all times. That can only come about when the mass of the people take a genuine interest in politics. Before there can be any such opposition set up for 1936, however, there must be an agreement upon principles on which to base the opposition. It seems to us that it is foolish to talk about candidates before there is a clear definition of the differences between the Ins and the Outs.

A Romantic Figure

THE most romantic figure of modern times died the other day. "Lawrence of Arabia" was killed on an English highway when he swerved his motorcycle to avoid running down a child.

One has to go back a long way in history to find a man who combined the qualities which went to make up the personality of this scholar-adventurer, who had not yet reached the height of his career. T. E. Lawrence might have lived to become the leader of the English government, for he had just resigned the humble post in which he had buried himself since his exploits in Arabia made him world-famous, in order to go into politics.

Lawrence was only 46 years old when he died, but into those 46 years he had crowded enough experience in a diversity of fields to fill the lifetimes of several ordinary men. A brilliant scholar and linguist, he had gone into the Arabian desert with an archaeological expedition, and learned not only the language but the habits and manner of thought of the native people, who were groaning under Turkish misrule. Arabs are slow to give their confidence to an outsider, but Lawrence captured their devotion, and when the opportunity came, during the war, to lead the Arabs toward independence, they followed him gladly.

He picked the one Arab chief whom he trusted, Feisal, to become the king of the newly-liberated nation, and after the most amazing adventures and deeds of daring which read like tales out of the age of chivalry, he broke the Turkish strength in Mesopotamia and set his friend Feisal on the throne of the desert kingdom. Then, declining all honors and shunning publicity, he enlisted in the British aviation forces under an assumed name, as "Aircraftsman Shaw." He had just left that post when he died.

Anyone who likes to read of stirring adventure ought to read Lawrence's book, "Revolt in the Desert." Unlike many such tales, it is true story.

THROUGH CAPITAL KEYHOLES

BY BESS HINTON SILVER

LINES TIGHTEN—

Around the state capitol lines are being drawn in the contest between Lieutenant Governor A. H. (Sandy) Graham and Clyde R. Hoey for Governor. From all indications the administration is not going to be active in the campaign. Some Ehringhaus men are for Graham while other friends of the governor are for Hoey and both sides talk the matter openly. However, it is difficult to find non-partisan observers to venture a prediction on the outcome of this Democratic contest in its present stage.

HOWL COMING—

In some Raleigh quarters there is a feeling that the folk who live along secondary roads are going to holler when they realize that increased diversion of highway funds is going to hurt their chances of getting to town. These people remained patiently silent while their gasoline tax money was being spent on the state primary highway system with the promise that when the concrete was poured from county seat to county seat the dirt roads would be improved with the same money. Now that the primary system is near completion, will these country people (the backbone of the state's social and economic life) be willing to see their road money go for other purposes?

WHICH ONE?—

There is something in the nature of a foregone conclusion in political circles that either State Senators Carl L. Bailey, of Washington; W. G. Clark, of Edgecombe; or W. P. Horton, of Chatham, will oppose Paul D. Grady, of Johnston, for lieutenant governor. All three men have large personal followings and a movement is on to get the boys to settle on one man. Any one of the trio could reasonably be expected to give Senator Grady a run for his money in the primary next spring.

FOUNTAIN—

Former Lieutenant Governor R. T. Fountain claims he is in excellent campaign fettle these days and is letting no grass grow under his feet in his efforts to unhorse Senator Josiah William Bailey. Still bitter from his defeat by Governor Ehringhaus in 1932, Fountain has been actively campaigning for several months although the primary is a year in the offing. The senior senator, it is said, remains unperturbed and not even the Fountain opposition or the plea of ex-service men has moved Senator Bailey in his opposition to immediate payment of the soldiers' bonus. Even his severest critics should give Bailey credit for the courage to follow his convictions.

SELF-EFFACING—

The much-heralded legislative opposition to Dr. M. C. S. Noble, Jr., (daubed by some columnists as the governor's braintruster) who is executive assistant revenue commissioner, did not materialize during the recent marathon session. Seldom seen about the capitol while the general assembly was in Raleigh, "Doc" evidently effaced himself on the theory of "if they can't see me, they can't shoot me." At any rate, instead of verbal barbs being cast in their direction, Dr. Noble and Commissioner of Revenue A. J. Maxwell both received high praise from the lawmakers for their showing in running the state's revenue collecting machine. The doctor is no politician but a stickler for efficiency.

POPULAR G. O. P.—

One of the best liked Republican members of the general assembly was Edward Hyde, of Cherokee county. While many members personally regretted to do so, their Democratic politics demanded that they vote to cut Cherokee into districts for the purpose of electing county commissioners. The plan is to assure Democratic representation on the county board at all times, providing the reaction is not contrary to Democratic expectations.

YOUNG DEMOCRATS—

The Young Peoples' Democratic clubs of North Carolina will meet in convention in the Capitol City in June. Whether they will again resolute on likker remains to be seen, but the odds are that the young folks will stand behind the

Highlands Highlights

EDITED BY MRS. T. C. HARBISON

CAMPERS FROM KENTUCKY VISIT HIGHLANDS

The 1935 graduating class of the Flemingsburg, Ky., high school, about thirty-five in number, was in Highlands Tuesday of this week. They are traveling in a truck and camping out at night. They seemed to have especially enjoyed points of interest in and around Highlands, and were lucky to have planned their trip so as to be here at the time of year when mountain laurel and azalea are blooming. The party camped Monday night at Lake Toxaway. They are on a 2,000-mile tour of the mountain and sea coast country in West Virginia, North and South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. Miss Elizabeth King is secretary of the class. The class is accompanied by Superintendent R. G. Huey and Mrs. Huey, and Miss Hilda Power, class sponsor. They earned the money for the trip by giving plays throughout the year.

SATULAH CLUB GIVEN LOT FOR CLUB HOUSE

The Town of Highlands recently

national trend for legal whiskey. The youngsters are now an admitted political factor in North Carolina, and their convention will be watched carefully by the four announced candidates for governor and several potential candidates for lieutenant governor.

BAISE—

Vance Baise, North Carolina's first native-born chief highway engineer, is doing a daily job that is automatically building up an enviable record. This state has been fortunate in its selection of highway engineers and Baise is making a worthy successor to Agnes, Upham and Waldrop, according to the noise around the highway building and the news from the hinterlands.

CHAIN LETTER—

Some wag has concocted this one at the expense of current chain letters supposed to make you rich if you send somebody a dime or a dollar and pass the letter to five friends. "In omitting the top name from the list above, send this person one raw oyster, carefully selected and packed in a bushel basket. In turn, as your name reaches the top, on the sixth operation, by mental calculation, you should receive 156,350 oysters. The law of averages says that in this amount of oysters, there should be one and 19-32 pearls. At the present market value this should bring about \$1,563.51. Is this worth an oyster to you? Explain it to five of your friends who haven't any more sense than you. String along with us and you'll soon have a string of pearls."

gave to the Satulah Club, Inc., a lot between the Highlands school auditorium and the southwest corner of the tract of land known as Highlands park for a site for a club house. There is a clause in the deed stipulating that the club shall erect the building within three years. The building will contain a woman's club room, a kitchenette, a basketball court, showers, and sanitary plumbing. At present the club owns a lot on the Dillard road near the home of Carl Zoellner. It is understood that the club expects to sell this lot and add the proceeds to the fund for the building of the club house.

CONDUCTING REVIVAL

Revival services are being conducted at the Baptist church here by the Rev. Mr. Mayberry, of Sylva. Mr. Mayberry is an excellent speaker, and numbers of people have attended his services which are held in each morning and evening.

SEES SON GRADUATED

Mrs. A. R. Nall attended the graduation exercises at Christ School, Arden, N. C., on Monday. Her son, Richard Pearson, was a member of the graduating class.

FROST DAMAGES CROPS

The night of May 24 was unusually cold for this time of year. In several places north of town crops, especially potatoes, were damaged by frost. No frost, however, was reported in Highlands.

PAVING SIDEWALK

Some of the property owners on the north side of Main street, between Potts Brothers store and the new Sinclair service station, are proceeding on their own initiative to have sidewalks laid, although plans fell through for paving the whole strip partly at the expense of the town. A proposal had been made that the property owners pay for the cement and labor and that the town should furnish crushed stone and screenings for the job.

If only the height of a monument attested the worth of the man instead of the worth of his estate.

But why is defensive armament necessary if no nation intends to do anything except defend itself?

On the ocean, in violent storms, waves may be thirty or forty feet high.

I have enjoyed life

but I am going to enjoy it more from now on—my retirement income begins this birthday."



IT IS a pleasant prospect to see a life of comfort, enjoyment and financial independence when you contemplate your retirement years.

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