The Franklin Press

The Highlands Maconian

Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press At Franklin, North Carolina Telephone No. 24

Number 20 VOL, LI BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER Entered at the Post Office, Franklin, N. C., as second class matter SUBSCRIPTION RATES One Year'..... Six Months Eight Months \$1.00 Single Copy

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Political Reflections

SELF-CONFIDENCE may be a fine characteristic in politicians, as well as in golfers, business men and race hosses; but it 'pears to us Clyde R. Hoey is carrying it a little too far with his repeated statements that "I'm going to be governor of North Carolina."

Such temerity is unbecoming to a Democrat who pretends to subscribe to the principle of "the

people's will be done."

But, perhaps, it is not self-confidence on Mr. Hoey's part; it may be his unbounded faith in the political "machine," which he assures the voters does not exist, to continue running as smoothly as it has in the past. Reports from the east and the Piedmont, however, indicate that several cylinders are not functioning as well as they might.

Wouldn't it place the silver-tongued orator from Shelby in an unhappy predicament if he came out second in the June 6th primary and were forced to call a second primary or abandon his hopes of living in the executive mansion at Raleigh?

Old Guard Democrats in North Carolina have always decried second primaries as an unnecessary burden of expense on the voters and the taxpayers, and it has been a truism in North Carolina politics that he who calls a second primary is dead polit-

If we recall correctly, Max Gardner might have called for a run-off against Cam Morrison; but declined to do so and through his good grace and better judgment inherited the governorship eight vears later. On the other hand, when Cam Morrison, running for a second term in the U. S. Senate, called for a second primary against "Our Bob" Reynolds, he not only lost his seat but a lot of his fine reputation as well.

We can't help wondering what Mr. Hoey's tune will be if he fails to come out on top in the first voting. One thing is certain, if he calls a run-off the voters will be treated to a smoother brand of

smooth-talking.

Concerning this second primary business—it has always been our opinion that there has been too much hoakum about it. The howl has been that it was too expensive. We seem to recollect that estimates place the cost at about \$100,000. After all, a hundred thousand spread out over a hundred counties, with the big counties like Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg, Buncombe and Wake using the lion's portion, is not an excessive price to pay for what the people really think and whom they really want for governor, senator or any other important office.

When there are vital issues to be settled, such as in this campaign, we will welcome a second primary, regardless of who calls it.

"Sandy" Graham is attracting more attention and, we dare say, gaining more votes since he changed his tactics and began hammering away on both Hoey and McDonald, charging that the former's campaign is being run by Ex-Governor O. Max Gardner over long distance telephone from Washington and that the latter proposes not only to "soak the rich" but also to levy an occupational tax on every man and woman who earns as much as a thousand dollars a year.

Judging by the poll reports to date, Graham stands only one chance of success in this campaign. And, may we add, that chance is not as far-fetched as one might think on first glance.

Hoev is clearly the bedrock conservative of the

What are the Wild Waves Saying?

three men, while McDonald is the ultra-progressive. Graham is the middle-of-the road man, who wants a change but does not make Utopian promises. There is little doubt that the people do want a change, but a lot of them fear McDonald would change things too much. Sometimes voters switch at the last minute, and Graham's supporters see a ray of hope that much of Hoey's strength may swing to him as the primary nears. They cite Graham's fine record as lieutenant governor and point out that his stand in the campaign is attractive to liberals without being alarming to conservatives. In view of this, we believe Graham would stand a far better chance against McDonald in a second primary than Hoey. He would have not only the support of the unified conservative element of the party, but would also draw to him the less rampant liberals, most of whom are likely to prefer McDonald in preference to Hoey.

LET'S KNOW PROGRAM

In his "Dialogue of the Gods," the Roman satrist causes Zeus to "To bring charges, to find fault, and to chide is an easy matter, and within the power of anyone; but to take measures how the present state of things shall be improved, that is the part of the wise counsellor !

As the Boss on Olympus, old Zeus made the same sad discovery as every other executive—that there are a hundred folks to tell you why you are doing things wrong for every one with a constructive sug-

We have no lack of "counsellors" in this country, and perhaps it should not surprise us that their counsel is so conflicting. That always has been the condition, Even in the days of the men who now are referred to reverently as the Founding Fathers, the divisions of thought was as sharp as any that exists today.

Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton were hardly nearer together in their fundamental polotical concepts than Herbert Hoover and Father Coughlin, Jefferson stood for the widest possible practice of self-government Hamilton had little faith in the capacity of the people to govern themselves and said so in

national authority that would leave little excuse for the continuation of state boundaries.

These two Founders were vigorous critics, but they did not stop at criticism. Each had a definite program. We have a right to demand that their political descendants should qualify for our suffrage by having programs also.

No candidate should be chosen just because his lungs are the stronger. A proper question is: How do you stand according to the yard-stick of old Zeus? What "measures" do you propose, "by which the present state of things shall be improved?"

WE ARE SOFTIES

Our campaigns for safety on the highways make only halting progress, but in one department of our national life the safety movement has been eminently successful. We have made the profession of mur-

derer one of the safest in the land. My friend J. Edgar Hoover, head of all the G-Men, pointed out recently that only one criminal in four is arrested for his crimes, and even then he isn't badly off. Says as Register of D. Mr. Hoover.

"The greatest mantle of safety in the criminal world is known as ice, as good or bet copping a plea. The criminal reather the past. no uncertain terms. He wanted a lizes that he may commit twenty

erimes and pay further, that he, attorneys through the frightening of witness the delays of law, the less statutes which e protection, may be plan gling position with attorney, with the re bargains for his punis

As long as this e long will the underwa on inadequate punish of the aids in getting murder. And speaking may I place before average time served b America for the com most heinous crime, human life, is less th behind the walls of

There is in this co sion that Scotland Y efficient police force we have here, and the reason why England tively free from crim tion is nonsense. our G-Men, Scotlan country police statio the time in equipm

What makes Engl crime criminal is arrested! and when he is set he serves his time. (Copyright,

Politi Announce

FOR REPRESE Subject to the l mary on June 6, I for election as Representative in t sembly.

R. A. (BOB)

FOR SHE I hereby announce for sheriff of Mac ject to the Democr June 6th. WADE C.

FOR SHE Subject to the mary, I hereby and didacy for re-election

Macon County. A. B. SL FOR REGISTER

Subject to the mary on June 6th nounce my candida County. If reelect render efficient and

C. TOM B