

THE PILOT

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A COURSE TO APPRECIATE

The decision of Mr. Miller, Mr. Cameron and Mr. Flinchum not to call for a second primary is one that the people of the county will appreciate, not because of its settlement in favor of Mr. Spence, Mr. Clegg and Mr. Currie, but from the much broader grounds of public welfare. The vote that gave Spence, Clegg and Currie a lead over their opponents was evidence of the high standing in which these men are held in the county, and that they both are acceptable to the people. Very correctly it is also deduced that Mr. Miller, Mr. Cameron and Mr. Flinchum are rated highly in the county, but the vote which gave them their rating did not put them ahead of their competitors, nor give them any argument to try another test to reach a leading place. That they might win in another race was open to doubt, and with the chances against them. They accepted the situation, and without any detriment to their high standing as citizens or business men or good neighbors.

They have served a useful purpose in presenting forcefully some views of county and state government, and even though they do not administer the laws they would like to modify or apply, the expressions they have given on affairs will have a weight in the coming sessions of legislature and of county government, in the trend of thought in the future and in elections that are yet ahead of us. They are business men of experience, engaged daily in the affairs of the community, and highly valuable in the affairs of the county in every way. That their particular views have not been accepted by the larger number of voters is not of grave moment, for very often the minority is the source from which majority opinions finally come, and Mr. Miller, Mr. Cameron and Mr. Flinchum are probably as strong in their advocacy of public policies as the men who have been chosen for the administration of the laws.

The second primary is a problem that has not yet presented a satisfactory solution. Perhaps nothing better can be devised than the present method of determining the nominating election. Yet the people will appreciate the attitude of these men in declining to put on the county the burden of another election when the desire of the people seems pretty well satisfied with the results as they stand. Also it is to be remembered that a minority on the outside is a valuable agency in government, for it frequently holds in check a majority on the inside. And even the majority does not always have a monopoly of all the wisdom in the world.

HOW TO GET THE MONEY

So we are to have a cheaper money again, although the effect of changing the gold value or abandoning the gold standard has not apparently had much perceptible effect. Perhaps the purchase of a great quantity of silver may do the trick, but when Senator Fess asked, as silver was under discussion, how will the man who wants the money get it when silver has been added in large quantities to the treasury stock? The answer was not forthcoming. There is no lack of money today. The treasury is full of it. The reserve banks are piled full. But the man who wants it cannot coax it out putting salt on the tail of the birdie on the dollar, nor is there any other way to get it except by giving something in return, and that is the trouble now.

To get silver for the treasury it must be bought and paid for. To buy it takes money, and that

money has to come from the taxpayer, unless a wise Congress knows some other source, which we would all be glad to learn is the cause, for if any other source than blood-shedding taxes can be discovered the whole country would rejoice to learn. In the good old days tobacco was the basis of currency in this section. Then coonskins had a value. Up farther north wheat was a basis and a turkey would pay a bill of a dollar at the store. These standards are pretty much discarded now, as gold has been dropped overboard as a basis, and as silver is about to be taken on. But with all of the shaking of the measure we do not know yet where we are, and it is an intricate juggler of hope who makes any success of outlining the financial path and its vagaries.

Take it all around anything now as always is worth what it will bring in a trade for something else. And whether it be silver or gold or old iron or automobile tires or anything else it can not be had unless we have something to give in return unless we are still able to bluff a line of credit, which is not so easy now as in the past. Today as always, a man who has something that will coax silver money from a neighbor's pocket into his own could with the same thing coax gold or gasoline or paper money or groceries, and the man who has nothing to coax these things with will have a hard time to coax much silver. The job has to be done yet before the silver bill is a success is to tell what to put on the hook when we go fishing for silver. When that is discovered any old money will be pretty good money. But if we can't get silver any easier than we can get the paper that is now afloat something still needs to be done to grease the wheels.

INTRODUCING MR. SPENCE

Our attitude toward politics in this country is a peculiar thing, and because it is based so much on prejudice and viewed with a blind eye, The Pilot does not take too much of a hand in the campaigns, as after all, the matter is one in which each man should use his own judgment. It is impossible for a popular government to hold a level any higher than the level of the intelligence and fairness of the people who compose the government.

The campaign of Mr. Spence was a curious one. He had no desire to be a candidate and his friends hesitated to urge him to enter the field because there was the possibility of a defeat, which is never consoling to any man. And to make matters worse the loss of time and business that a legislative session takes from a busy man is great, and with no compensating return. But Spence was urged by many men who realized his value in public life, and after long hesitation he announced his candidacy. Henry Page once declared that Spence is the one man in Moore county who should be called on to run for the Senate. But many opinions as to fitness are encountered, and to many persons the things that make Spence the most logical man seem to be the things that decri him.

The chief trouble is that a man who makes any success in life is automatically classed as a robber of the poor and a servitor of the rich and powerful. Spence has been a capable man and his services are in demand by people who can engage him. He cannot work for everybody so naturally he works for those who can pay the fees that his ability justifies. But he goes to the state to work for a fee that will little more than pay his expenses while in Raleigh, and gives up his other work with its income that he may serve his county for the fun of it. It is a pity that our political practice is such as to place in the way of a capable man all the nasty obstacles that a political campaign implies. It is a misfortune that the minute a man comes out for office we classify him as a rogue and a public enemy. But it seems to be the human fashion to scarify everybody who stands out for anything that is not harmonious with our own views no matter how narrow ours may be.

The Pilot has this to say of Spence. He is a capable and a dependable man. Now that he is chosen, for election follows nomination in this instance, the sensible thing is to give him his

head, for he knows more about what to do at Raleigh than probably any of the rest of us who stay at home. And he is as much interested in the welfare of the state and county, and as upright in his own way and attitudes as satisfies his clients in other matters, for he is trusted by men with big affairs and has never been known to default in any of his responsibilities. Of course we are not going to let him alone. That is never done with any man in public life. But good sense says when you have hired a good man the thing to do is to encourage him and believe in him and help him to do the best that can be done. That's the way we get the best return for the money the legislature costs us.

A CINCH ON GRASS FIRES

With the new fire tower to be built on the hill by the cemetery at Southern Pines, the tower at the Boyd peach orchard near the Duncan Shaw house, the outlook from the water tank at Pinehurst, the tank at the Swett house near Niagara and the Niagara water tower, and the tall tower Gilbert White has built at his place at Knollwood it is easy to get cross lines on any fire that breaks out in this section in a radius of any distance that affects any part of the Sandhills. A line of direction from the tower at the Boyd orchard extended to cross the line of direction from the Pinehurst tank for instance will tell to a few rods the exact spot on which a fire is burning except where both towers are in the line of the fire. But there a line from White's tower or from any of the others will cut in and tell the story exactly. The development of any fire can also be followed from the tower tops during the progress of any outbreak with all the accuracy of a survey on the ground in the immediate vicinity, and the magnitude of a blaze anywhere can be told at any time, the success of the work of the fire-fighters, the condition of the wind, the severity of the blaze and all the details. This is the culmination of a good job, and will materially simplify all fire work in the future.

THE ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS

When the gavel fell in House and Senate at Washington this week the legislative organization of the Federal government closed one of its most unique sessions of all time. No more serious climax has ever confronted the nation than that of the past six months, yet less noisy contention has probably been engendered in this difficult time than in almost any contingency the country has faced in its existence, while perhaps as much sound logic has come to the surface as ever at any session from the first day the government carried on. Perhaps we are becoming a tamer people, less given to conjuring with noise and commotion and more inclined to listen to the thoughtful leaders who seem to include a more proportionate number of real philosophers and a smaller number of ballyhoo artists and political gladiators.

True the whole performance has been given to the offering of experimental projects, which many people believe will prove the forerunner of pioneer ventures that will lead to great things. The enthusiastic majority is full of great hope, although since the days of Thomas who wanted to put his finger in the wound in the side we have had doubters. But the show is over now, and the test of the pudding is the chewing of the bag string, now as always. And now as always it is probably safe to expect that we will not see the benefits that some folks anticipate, nor the failures that others predict. Leaving out all of the wisdom and loyalty and ability that has to be conceded to Congress there is bask of that the broad sense and soundness of the bulk of the people of this nation. With that and with the work the session has done it is safe to take for granted that we are on the right road even though we may have to hit an occasional crosscut as we journey forward. The future will still be one of averages as the past has been, but we will be ready at any time to modify things if we have not set them on the right course.

Grains of Sand

Politics is such an ornery old thing it wouldn't surprise us if enough people took seriously the exploited opposition to Senator Bailey to cause a little trouble for one who promises to become one of the big men of the Senate and an able representative of North Carolina.

We've said for three years that when we got back to quantity production things would be all right again. These quintuplets and quadruplets are a pleasing sign.

We know a newspaper correspondent who's worked in a lawyer's office so long she always writes up births this way: Mr. and Mrs. John Doe are receiving congratulations on the birth of a son born as of June 10th.

"Never could see how there could be such a thing as a second primary anyway. Should think it would have to be a secondary," said the retired school professor who dropped in the office last week.

Page one of last week's Pilot Cooking School supplement was dated June 15, 1935 and stressed cooking by electricity. The Pilot is always first; even beats Franklin and Edison by a few centuries.

Some of the local boys are sorry they bet on the Big Bull in last week's fight. The Baer won.

Father's Day is very sill;
He gets a gift and then the bill.

A young Southern Pines woman turned to her companion at last Saturday's ball game between Southern Pines and Aberdeen with this remark: "I have five cousins out there in uniform and, strangely enough they are all on the Aberdeen side."

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt is disturbed and distressed that the teachers of North Carolina are paid such low salaries and fully expressed her feelings in that respect on the occasion of her recent visit to Raleigh. "We should see what the government does with the money we pay in taxes. We should see that this money is spent as we want it spent. Much of our difficulties come from not being interested in how the tax money is spent.

"If we watch these expenditures," she said, "we will pay better salaries to our teachers, and we should pay them better. I do not understand why we pay such meagre salaries to those we entrust with the responsibility of teaching our children. Many people don't seem to know that the most important thing in the school is the teacher."

"As frenziedly eager as everybody is for recovery, you can't get away from the insistent fact that the country is not ready for it yet," says Julian S. Miller, associate editor of the Charlotte Observer.

"Not ready because it is chuck full of paradoxes, injustices, criss-crosses, round pegs in square holes and all that sort of hodge-podge of inequities, misfits and wrong situations.

"The world hungry and farmers poor because they have raised too much food—that's one for you!

"Libraries closed and thousands being spent for swimming holes—that's another!

"College deans paid less than \$2,000 and crooners \$75,000; School teachers \$40 a month and the commonest of unskilled labor \$60.

Schools closed and hard-surface roads built right in front of them at a cost of thousands the mile.

"There's many another—you can think up a lot of them yourself if you are not too busy squirming under one of them yourself."

Correspondence

TELEPHONE SERVICE

Editor, The Pilot:
During the winter much complaint was heard locally of the service rendered by the Central Carolina Telephone Company. The company's excuse that its present equipment for Southern Pines and Pinehurst was not adequate to carry the heavy winter load was accepted. But now we come to the quiet season here and still the service is deplorable. Is there nothing that can be done about it? My right arm gets tired holding up the receiver waiting for numbers.
—SUBSCRIBER.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

Harold C. Buckminster and wife to Lansing B. Warner and Myra L. Warner; property in McNeill township.
Charles B. Grout to Emma L. Grout; lot in Southern Pines.



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