

The Smithfield Herald.

PRICE ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR.

"TRUE TO OURSELVES, OUR COUNTRY AND OUR GOD."

SINGLE COPIES THREE CENTS.

VOL. 21.

SMITHFIELD, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 1902.

NO. 4.

POU WINS APPLAUSE.

Says he Would Lose His Seat to Save the State from Negro Rule.

BOLDLY DEFIES REPUBLICANS.

Calls on Congress to Investigate the Corrupt use of Money for Campaign Purposes, Ever Present Menace to Liberty.

Our townsman Edward W. Pou, delivered the following speech in Congress Monday:

Mr. Chairman, I make the usual apology in submitting these remarks. I apologize because I shall not discuss the bill under consideration; but it would seem that an apology is hardly necessary, inasmuch as it appears to be the custom of this House to discuss the merits of one measure while some other measure is being considered. It is not deemed improper to discuss, for instance, the tariff when the Indian appropriation bill is under consideration. Bills about which there is an honest difference of opinion are rushed through almost without debate, while ample time for discussion is permitted when bills about which there is no contest are considered. Fortunately there is, I am told, no rule of the House requiring gentlemen to confine their remarks to the subject under consideration. This strikes the new member as being a little peculiar, but we are told that this is one of the great liberties permitted by the Reed rules.

Now, in the exercise of my right as an American Representative, I saw fit the other day to introduce certain resolutions requiring the Speaker to appoint a select committee of 13, whose duty it shall be to investigate the corrupt use of money in elections by all the great political parties. These resolutions have been misrepresented to such an extent by the Republican press of the country that I feel constrained to submit these remarks.

The reply of the Republican press is threefold. They say first, that I am proposing to investigate the use of money by the Republican party only, and that the resolutions are therefore unfair. Those who charge this certainly did not read the resolutions.

The word "Republican" is not used. They would inaugurate an investigation of money used by the national committees of all the great political parties offering candidates for President in the years 1896 and 1900. Why the Republican press should distort the resolutions I can not imagine, unless it is prompted to do so by a consciousness of the guilt of that party. Secondly, this partisan press has attempted a little ridicule which is indeed crushing. It suggests that I am a new member. My reply is that I came here just as soon as I could get here. [Laughter.] Thirdly, it suggests that I am a member of unimportant committees. I deny this; but if it be true, a Republican Speaker is responsible, and not myself. [Laughter.] All this, Mr. President, will not prevent honest men, thinking men, from giving the resolutions some consideration.

How is it that the House is about to enter into an investigation of the affairs of the States? What has provoked the resolutions of the gentleman from Indiana? I can only speak for my own State. It is not necessary to go further back than the year 1894. During that year two parties, professedly opposite in principles, united to carry our State. One favored the free coinage of silver, while the other was committed to the gold standard. One favored the subtreasury project, while the other favored the national banks.

One favored the Government ownership of railroads, while the other favored the railroad ownership of government. And there were other radical differences be-

tween these two parties, but all that made no difference. Offices they wanted and offices they intended to have. So they divided out all the offices, except the electors for President. Their leaders even went so far as to calculate the emoluments of the numerous offices parceled out in order that the division might be just and fair. This is not a jest, Mr. Chairman, but a melancholy truth. On election day, in compliance with their programme, 50,000 white men walked to the ballot box by the side of more than 100,000 negroes, and decent government was overthrown in our State.

It gives me pleasure to admit that some men in both these parties repudiated this unnatural alliance, and that most of those who did repudiate it helped us to redeem the State in 1898. What was the result? What offspring was born to this union? As I love my State, I hesitate to make this admission. As I am proud of her history, I am ashamed for the world to hear it. The result of this fusion enabled more than 900 incompetent negroes—some of them vicious, very many of them venal—to occupy positions of trust or profit in our good old State from 1894 to 1898.

There was incompetency almost everywhere. Public virtue was ridiculed. There were many run-downs of scandal in high places. Bills were put upon the statute books which never passed either house of the general assembly. The negro, by nature kind, became insolent. Our wives and our daughters walked the streets of some of our largest towns in the broad day time in constant fear of negro insults. During these few moments I can give you but a faint idea of the humiliation of our good old State.

In 1898 the white men of North Carolina united and swept these people from power. In 1900 they boldly, openly adopted an amendment to their constitution which renders a repetition of this condition forever impossible. I have not time to-day, Mr. Chairman, to discuss the constitutionality of that amendment. We believe it will be sustained by the courts. We do not believe that by law the Republican majority in the House has any right to reduce our representation here. But we have done what we have done.

If the law of the land requires a reduction in our representation in this House we will submit to it. I undertake to say there is not a Democratic member from our State who would not willingly give up his seat if it is necessary to save our State from the curse of negro rule. If you wish to punish us for protecting our homes, do your worst. We defy you. We shall appeal from the blind partisan here to our patriotic and sympathetic white brother in all the States of the Union. Think you this appeal will be in vain?

But, Mr. Chairman, while they are proposing to investigate, I thought it would be a good idea to propose an additional investigation. Let us ascertain, if we can, something about the corrupt use of money in our national elections. While you are investigating the legal suppression of the negro in the South, suppose you investigate how many white votes were purchased in other sections. It is a matter of common knowledge that large funds are raised and distributed in every campaign by the Republican party. It is charged and not denied, that this corruption fund (for it can have no other correct name) in 1896 amounted to millions. It has been charged that the Republican national chairman raised \$600,000 in one city, and more than a million in another. Of course this cannot be proven without the aid of the law.

I do not undertake to say the statement is true, but it is believed to be true by many an honest man in this country. One of the editorials in a Republican paper, which misrepresented my resolutions (as the editor has since admitted,) uses these words: "It is the common

belief that far too much money is spent in our political campaigns. It is a growing evil, and many men deplore it." When a Republican paper makes this admission, Mr. Chairman, you may rest assured that a very grave evil exists. Whether true or false, there is a belief entertained by many a good man that the Presidency of this great Republic goes to the party who can raise the greatest corruption fund. Let us illustrate.

Suppose, in 1904, the Republican party shall name its candidate, supply its national chairman with unlimited means, as was said to be the case in 1896, and suppose the Democratic party shall name its candidate, and its national chairman shall only be supplied with enough money to defray the legitimate expenses of the campaign, which candidate do you suppose will win? Now, reverse the proposition. Give the Democratic national chairman plenty of money and the Republican chairman little or none. How do you think doubtful States will go?

Do you think, Mr. Chairman, that there would be very much Republican money put up on their candidate? The parties are so equally divided that a few doubtful States generally decide the election. How utterly abominable the practice of pouring money like water into these doubtful States to corrupt their votes! How utterly horrible this quadrennial contest between campaign funds! If my party is guilty, let us turn on the lights. Let us investigate, and if these rumors be true which we constantly hear, let us do something to put an end to the practice forever.

We sometimes hear men suggest that the Republic is in danger. Most of this is idol talk. But, Mr. Chairman, there is one real danger; there is one ever-present menace to liberty. It overhangs our country like a black cloud. It is the corruption of the American electorate by the use of money. Neither party can justify the practice by charging that the other party is guilty. It never has been right to "fight the devil with fire." Gentlemen can not evade the responsibility. No man should be willing for his party to do what he himself would not do.

For one, Mr. Chairman, I prefer a repression of partisan strife. Rancor and partisan bitterness are to be deplored at all times. Let us look beyond our own State, our own section, and embrace within our loyalty and our love every inch of this Republic. Let the gentleman from Indiana be warned that no good can come of his investigation, but much harm. Let him be warned that it will open up strife in a land now prosperous and peaceful. It might be well for him to ask himself whether there is any demand for the passage of his resolutions. But if his party shall insist upon an investigation let it proceed to correct, if possible, the very greatest of all our national evils.

Mr. Chairman, it remains to be seen what will be done with the resolutions I have seen fit to introduce. They have been referred to the Committee on Rules. That committee is all-powerful, but the resolutions will not be reported. They will sleep, because, if adopted, they will expose such practices as will render a continuance of the power of the Republican party impossible. [Loud applause.]

Congressman Pou must be making a pretty good start. The New York Sun takes nearly a column editorial in which to ridicule him a bit. Mr. Pou is on the right track if he can bring the Sun out to denounce or ridicule.—Concord Tribune.

Wields A Sharp Ax.

Millions marvel at the multitude of maladies cut off by Dr. King's New Life Pills—the most distressing too. Stomach, Liver and Bowel troubles—Dyspepsia, Loss of Appetite, Jaundice, Biliousness, Fever, Malaria, all fall before these wonder workers. 25c at Hood Bros. Drug store.

NORTH CAROLINA NEWS.

Some Happenings of the Week Tersely Told.

Many Items of Interest Concerning Tarheeldom Clipped and Culled From the State Press.

Last week an 18-year-old girl at Spray eloped with a widower, who is 40 years old.

James L. Fowle has donated \$10,000 for a hospital at Wilmington, to be known as the J. L. Fowle Memorial.

Plans and specifications for a new city hall and market house for Goldsboro have been accepted and bids will soon be called for. Goldsboro also expects to get a union passenger station.

Rev. A. C. Dixon, pastor of the Ruggie Street Baptist church, Boston, Mass., will hold a series of revival meetings in Raleigh, beginning on Wednesday night, April 30th. All of the churches will cooperate in these services, which will be held for the most part in the Tabernacle Baptist church and the Academy of Music.

Prof. George H. Crowell, superintendent of the High Point graded school and president of the North Carolina Sunday School Association, has been appointed manager of the Southern Educational Association for the State of North Carolina, and assistant State director. The next meeting of the association will be held at Chattanooga, Tenn., July 1-4, 1902.

Leaksville Rockingham county, was the scene of a runaway marriage last week, the contracting parties walking eight miles from the country into town. The bride-elect struck town first and confided in some one that she had come up to get married, but had not "run up against" her man yet. The groom soon arrived and claimed his bride, who was arrayed in the glory of a new calico dress and bonnet.

A colored man named Isaac Johnson, who lives near Crowells, in Halifax county, was poisoned by his son some days ago and narrowly escaped death. The old man had rented some land and the boy had to do some of the work in cultivating it. He got tired of the job and thought he would get out of it by killing his father, so he put Paris green in his coffee. The old man was taken to Enfield, where the physician saved him.

Mr. H. B. Varner, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, left Lexington Tuesday for New Orleans, where he will attend a meeting of the Labor Commissioners of the United States from April 1st to 5th. He will go to Hot Springs, Ark., April 15th to be present at the National Editorial Association and read a paper on "How to Secure and Handle a Circulation." He will go to Denver, St. Louis and other cities, winding up at Charleston while on this trip.

Dr. Dred Peacock has resigned the presidency of Greensboro Female College, in consequence of a partial failure in health. He will be succeeded by Mrs. Lucy H. Robertson, at present lady principal of the college. The change will take place at the end of the present term. The new president is a woman of strength and culture. She has been in the educational work for twenty-five years and is well fitted for the duties of the new position to which she has been called.

A Doctor's Bad Plight.

"Two years ago, as a result of a severe cold, I lost my voice," writes Dr. M. L. Scarbrough, of Hebron, Ohio, "then began an obstinate cough. Every remedy known to me as a practicing physician for 35 years, failed, and I daily grew worse. Being urged to try Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Coughs and Colds, I found quick relief, and for last ten days have felt better than for two years." Positively guaranteed for Throat and Lung troubles by Hood Bros. 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free.

The Criticisms Show That Republicans are Ruled by the Trusts.

Hon. Edward W. Pou, member of Congress from the Fourth district, is the subject of the leading editorial in Friday's New York Sun and Washington Star. These papers evidently feel that the two shots he has fired have had some effect or they would not turn their big guns on Mr. Pou.

The Sun criticizes his resolution to put all trust-made or trust-controlled articles on the free list, taking the ground that Congress could not constitutionally delegate the power of removing the tax to the Executive. As a matter of fact, Mr. Pou proposed that Congress itself should remove the tax whenever a trust sold goods "at a lower price abroad than in the United States," leaving it only to the President to execute the mandate of Congress. The Sun pokes the usual amount of the so-called fun that scintillates in that paper at Mr. Pou, but that does not answer the impregnable position that Mr. Pou takes in his resolution against the trusts. It is far-reaching and would destroy or cripple those trusts that depend on the tariff bonus. Mr. Pou's resolution provides:

"That whenever any article manufactured in the United States is sold at a lower price abroad than in the United States, the President, having ascertained such to be the case, is authorized and empowered to suspend the collection of import duty now imposed by law upon similar articles imported into this country from abroad for such length of time as the President shall deem expedient."

The Washington Star takes Mr. Pou's resolution to investigate the corrupt use of money in elections as its text. It says that "Mr. Pou may live some distance from the big road," but he ought to know that resolutions to investigate and make public "all such transactions"—corrupt use of money in elections—will not help his party to get campaign funds from the "big money interests of the country." Mr. Pou is not interested in getting corruption money from any source, but in preventing the collection and use of it in thwarting the will of the people.

Nobody knows better than Mr. Pou that both his resolutions will be defeated or pigeon-holed. But they serve to still more call attention to the fact that the Republican party legislates in the interest of the trusts and perpetuates its power by the corrupt use of money in elections. The more the Sun and the Star criticize Mr. Pou, the more they show that the Republican party is trust-ridden and money-controlled.—News and Observer.

Durham Leads the State.

There are thirty-three public schools for white children in Durham county. A public library has been established in every district except two, and Superintendent Massey will soon send orders for libraries for the remaining two, so that within thirty days there will be a public library in every white public school in Durham county. The State provides the money for not exceeding six in each county. The other twenty-seven libraries are made possible by the generosity of General Julian S. Carr, of Durham, whose intelligent and zealous devotion to the cause of public education has been marked during his whole career.

The value of these rural libraries is much greater than can be appreciated now. They will grow into educational institutions that will bring cheer and education to young and old alike into every community in which they are located.—News and Observer.

To Cure a Cold in One Day

Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. E. W. Grove's signature is on each box. 25 cents.

Selma Social Chat.

Mr. F. K. Ellington, of Raleigh, was in town a few hours Sunday. Mrs. Alden and son, of New York, are guests of Mrs. J. A. Spiers.

Rev. Mr. Holmes, pastor Methodist church here, preached an able sermon Sunday morning.

Miss Addie McKinne, of Princeton, spent a few days in our little city this week, guest of Mrs. R. A. Ashworth.

Miss Stella Pasmore, teacher of third grade in the graded school here, spent Easter at her home in Cary.

A pleasant occasion was the Easter picnic Monday under the management of the superintendent and teachers of the graded school. Although the day was cold and the wind blowing a gale all seemed to enjoy the outing and wandering through the woods near the banks of the Neuse.

The "Bachelor Maids" Club entertained the Tuesday Afternoon Book Club at the residence of Miss Margaret Etheredge Wednesday afternoon from four to six. The occasion was thoroughly informal and the time spent pleasantly by the guests present. The amusement consisted of a guessing game, "What shall the harvest be?" Miss Nannie Richardson and Mrs. Ashworth having sharpened their "wits" won the prize. After the game the folding doors were opened and guests were ushered into the beautifully decorated dining room where a dainty luncheon was served. Pink and green, the fresh lovely color scheme was carried out in every detail of the decorations. Mrs. Alden, of New York, rendered some beautiful instrumental solos that were much enjoyed. Those present were Madames Winston, Carrington, Spiers, Robinson, Ashworth, Alden, Misses Margaret Etheredge, Julia Etheredge, Nannie Richardson, Marion Preston, Stella Pasmore, Fannie Jackson and Mary Hatcher.

Y. O. B.

Fire in Benson.

Benson, N. C., April 2.—The town of Benson sustained a fire loss Tuesday, the worst in its history. It originated from a defective stove flue in the residence of Preston Woodall and spread rapidly till three dwellings were in flames. Much of the household property, however, was saved, considerably damaged by rough and hasty handling. At one time it seemed inevitable that the entire north-eastern portion of the town would go up in flames, so strong was the southwest wind, and it will seem incredible to any one other than an eye witness, that the last building burned was within thirty feet of another that was saved, toward which the wind was drifting.

There have been tales told in song and story of daring and heroic effort, during disastrous conflagrations in cities, but none of them, we think, could excel in zeal and activity the efforts of our people in this instance. The country people vied with the town people, and the colored people with the white people, to see who should render the best service in a time of great peril. And so effective were their united efforts that what threatened to be the destruction of a fair portion of our little city was confined to three dwellings and some out-houses, and damages less than \$5,000, partly covered by insurance.

Those who suffered loss as well as those whose property was so miraculously saved, are profuse in their expressions of gratitude to the people who rendered such valuable service in arresting the progress of the flames.

The heaviest losers are Preston Woodall, J. W. Whittenton and Seth Allen.

The Stated Clerk says reduced rates have been promised to him by all the railroads for all parties going to the meeting of Fayetteville Presbytery at Raeford, Monday, April 14. Apply to the local agents for the reduction.