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NO. 42

HARNETT PREPARES FOR "SPRING DRIVE"

Democrats of County Hold Big Get-Together Meeting at Lillington. Expect to Come Back.

Lillington, March 6.—Harnett Democracy is preparing for battle. Laying aside all thought of those dissensions whose injection into the campaign of two years ago proved so disastrous in the November reckoning party leaders, supplemented by some hundreds of followers, are here today to launch the great "spring drive" whose momentum will gather force sufficient to drive the rampant Republicans from their entrenchments, originally so strong but recently impaired through a lukewarmness toward education, an attitude of aloofness as regards public health work and downright antagonism to farm demonstration.

It was a right sprightly gathering that crowded into the auditorium about dusk, time today, and when Chairman Clarence J. Smith, the hefty Dunn lawyer, who heads the Democratic executive committee, called the meeting to order it was evident that those present were here for motives prompted by something more than curiosity. There was an air of determination about that crowd that argues not at all well for Republican hopes, and if the plans outlined in that meeting do not result in bringing Harnett back into the Democratic fold there'll be a lot of disappointed Democrats down here next November.

Politics always looms large down here among the "God Blessed Macs" of Harnett. It's a big thing in their life. And this year more than average interest is occasioned through the large part Harnett is likely to play in State and district politics. The county has two favorite sons, twins, so to speak, who aspire to represent the "Sixth" in Congress—Hannibal Lafayette Godwin, present incumbent, and Ernest F. Young.

The race between those two is going to be a warm proposition; and to make things still livelier, George K. Grantham, a Dunn druggist, several times president of the Carolina pill rollers organization, may enter the lists for State Treasurer. These next to a campaign in which is to be set to a campaign in which is to be decided the fate of Harnett Democracy.

Dan Hugh McLean, the old war horse of Carolina Democracy, sounded the keynote in today's meeting and the Hon. Dan Hugh is some "keynoter." He said Harnett was a Democratic county; that Republicans had no legal or moral right to hold office in it. "Through dissatisfaction," said he, "occasioned by the cattle tick, dog and other laws and eastern Harnett's new county engineering, many Democrats stayed away from the poles, while every Republican lived up to his reputation of voting at least once." He admonished the gathering that Harnett must be guided by the maxim of Caesar that "An army of sheep led by a lion was much better than an army of lions led by a sheep" and choose men of energy, ability and intelligence to lead it out from the blight of radicalism.

Mr. McLean was tumultuously applauded and Chairman Smith was moved to remark that had the same degree of enthusiasm been manifested in the meeting two years ago so large a meeting would not be necessary now. He said the defeat had already resulted in good to the party, because it brought all the factions together for the big battle before them. Fearing that some blame for defeat might be laid at his door, Mr. Smith offered his resignation. A resolution was offered, however, protesting against its acceptance.

After a general "experience" meeting in which many expressed determination to redeem the county, the committee went into executive session.

Late in the afternoon the meeting closed with the spirit of harmony prevailing the Democratic atmosphere throughout the county. Foughten are the stock laws, the dog laws, the new county proposition—gone are all the things which work to the detriment of unity—gone is every doubt that Harnett can come back. Republicanism is scheduled to lose the territory taken by surprise in 1914.—Byron Ford, in News and Observer.

Four negroes are in jail at Lumberton, three of them very much shot up, as a result of an attack made by the negroes on Rural Policeman Lon Townsend of St. Paul Sunday about 11 o'clock. The negroes were drinking at the time. They went from Cumberland county to the Ballance farm in Robeson and are said to be bad negroes. No further trouble is expected as all the offenders were arrested and placed in jail.

BAKER APPOINTED SECRETARY OF WAR

Has Accepted the Portfolio, And is Preparing to Go to Washington.

Washington, March 6.—Newton D. Baker, former mayor of Cleveland has been selected by President Wilson for secretary of war.

Mr. Baker has accepted the position and is now arranging his affairs in Cleveland preparatory to coming to Washington to take up his duties.

When President Wilson was making up his cabinet in 1913 he offered the place of Secretary of Interior to Mr. Baker twice. Mr. Baker, then was Mayor of Cleveland and declined for that reason.

The President and Mr. Baker have been close friends and have corresponded frequently. Mr. Baker is said by his friends to be in close sympathy with the President's policies and is known to have the support of some members of the cabinet for the war office.

At the time of the Baltimore convention Mr. Baker was prominently mentioned for the vice-presidency because of the fight he made for Mr. Wilson.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS

The following deeds have been filed for registration in the Register of Deeds office.

H. E. Barbour and wife to W. H. Parrish, 23 1-2 acres in Black River township; consideration, \$100 and other valuable considerations.

Richard Byrd and wife to B. F. Parrish, 25 acres in Grove township; consideration, \$100 and other valuable considerations.

C. McCarter and wife to Parker Brothers and M. T. Spears, two tracts, 20 2-5 acres in Lillington township; consideration \$55.45.

Chas. Ross and wife to J. C. Byrd and Bro., 127 acres in Stewart's Creek township; consideration, \$800.

R. L. Godwin and wife and N. A. Townsend to Martha C. Rayner, Lots Nos. 1 and 2 in Block "F" in Dunn; consideration, \$300.

Grover C. Weaver and wife to S. Bain, one lot in town of Coats; consideration, \$10 and other valuable considerations.

P. J. Jeffreys and wife to Ernest M. Jeffreys, 176 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$5,000 and other valuable considerations.

J. McC. Ray and wife to Frances R. Ross, 25 acres in Anderson's Creek township; consideration, \$125.

D. J. Ryals and wife to J. G. Layton, 2 2-5 acres in Nell's Creek township; consideration, \$24.

Henry Thornton and wife to M. P. Pope, 12 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$225.

Willie Johnson and wife to W. J. Morris, 4 lots in town of Lillington, 21 acres in Nell's Creek township and 23 acres in Lillington township; consideration, \$16,000.

M. C. Upchurch and J. B. Upchurch to Alice E. Reardon, 15 3-4 acres in Nell's Creek township; consideration, \$1,000.

Ottis P. Matthews and wife to W. L. Matthews, 47 3-4 acres in Black River township; consideration, \$400.

M. T. Britt, mortgagee, to H. W. Barnes one lot in Coats; consideration, \$100.

H. W. Barnes and wife to M. T. Britt, one lot in Coats; consideration, \$100.

G. H. Nash and wife to Wm. Epps, 1-4 acre in Buckhorn township; consideration, \$50.

Merriman Thomas and Dallas Zolkofer, commissioners, to W. Marcus Thomas, 67 acres in Buckhorn township; consideration, \$500.

A. J. Fletcher, and wife to W. W. Seawell, Lots Nos. 61, 62 and 63 in town of Dunn; consideration, \$70.

N. A. Townsend and wife to W. G. McLamb, 20 13-25 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$1,500.

N. A. Townsend and wife to Kate B. McLamb, 15 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$1,000.

Marvin Wade Co. to Kate B. McLamb 13 1-2 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$1,000.

Jack Cameron and wife to W. D. Graham, 10 acres in Barbecue township; consideration, \$10.

J. A. McLeod, commissioner, to J. J. Pleasant, 98 acres in Black River township; consideration, \$800.

Hood and Grantham, Inc., to Florence Grantham and Rosalie Hood, one lot on Broad Street in Dunn; consideration, \$3,000.

Malcom Shaw to Flora C. Shaw, 25 acres in Anderson's Creek township; consideration \$100.

C. E. Lee to Monroe Lee and Marvin Lee, 21 2-2 acres in Aversboro township; consideration, \$1 and other valuable considerations.

Mr. A. J. Holmes, of Lumberton manager, of the Holmes Jewelry Company of that city spent Sunday with friends.

RALEIGH NEWS LETTER

Raleigh, March 7.—The odor of the federal pic-counter dominated the Republican State Convention, as usual.

The election of a national committeeman was the paramount issue before the convention chiefly because of the official's influence and power with the national administration in dictating who shall receive the offices and other federal jobs apportioned to North Carolina.

The defeat of Col. Duncan was largely due to dissatisfaction, especially among the "Roosevelt Republicans" who controlled the convention with the "autocratic manner" in which he is alleged to have dispensed that patronage in the past. I know this because some of the most prominent and active delegates on the floor of the convention told me so.

The election of Mr. Morehead to the position after he had protested that he was not a candidate and "under the circumstances could not accept it" was partly due to the evident fact that he was badly needed to insure the defeat of Duncan. A less formidable opponent might have failed in the consummation of the plan.

Marion Butler of Washington, D. C., led the fight on Duncan and was the most conspicuous of all those in the line light of the fight. He delivered several speeches, but they were devoid of oratorical force—although he grew very red in the face while delivering them.

He received several ovations, when he appeared in the hall and demonstratively marched up the aisle and upon the platform—always at opportune times. But the tributes of applause were for the Political Fox and not to an eloquent and high-minded statesman. To that extent the convention was, indeed, very much "Butterfied," but it is the opinion of many that the Republican vote in North Carolina this year will not be increased, if it is not seriously diminished, by these latest amours of the old Elephant with "Maryann."

Morehead and Butler.

Although the "Butterfied" were chiefly responsible for the unhorsing of Duncan the man they elected to succeed him has not been aligned with that element of the party in the past. Mr. Morehead may line up with them in future (and he may not), but he was not a Roosevelt man four years ago and has recently been identified more closely with the Duncan than with the Butler wing of his party.

While Butler succeeded in venting his personal spleen on Duncan it does not necessarily follow that he will be able to exercise unbounded influence with the new national committee in dispensing federal patronage in future. At present there is none to dispense and will not be until they elect another Republican President, a very uncertain contingency at present.

Roosevelt Republicans as Delegates.

Of the four delegates to the national convention at Chicago elected Judge W. S. O'B. Robinson of Wayne and J. T. Lewis of Randolph, but been strong admirers and supporters of Roosevelt. Ex-Congressman Settle has (since the last election, when he held a government position and yielded loyalty to Taft) become identified with the "Roosevelt Republicans" or so-called Progressives. Congressman Britt was not definitely placed by the delegates whom I questioned on the subject.

No gubernatorial Nominee.

It is a significant fact that the convention failed to "endorse" a candidate for governor, to be voted for in the June primary.

When the convention assembled, and up to eleven o'clock that night it was the understanding among the delegates that a candidate for governor would be "endorsed" by the convention.

Some of the speakers were loud-mouthed in their claims that the Republicans would this year capture both the State and National governments. Their subsequent conduct furnished striking proof that they did not believe what they said—as far as the State government is concerned.

If any of them really cherished such an aspiration the injection of Butler into the management of the campaign seems likely to cut the string to the kite—that barrier of course being secondary to the evident intention of the Democrats to this year to name one of the strongest men in North Carolina with the people for governor.

At the only Democratic headquarters so far in operation in Raleigh, that established by the manager of Gov. Daughtridge's campaign, there is a constant stream of encouraging letters being received, telling of the hopes and activities of the Democrats all over the State and the spirit of confidence felt by the rank and

DUKE'S NEWS

Duke, March 2.—The Robina Book club held its regular meeting with Mrs. Thos. H. Webb Wednesday afternoon. All members were present, except three. The regular routine business was handled. As refreshments, lumpy cake with cream and coffee were served. This meeting comes close after Mrs. Webb's return from a tour through Florida and Cuba and she made the conversation intensely interesting telling her guests of her various experiences and pleasures on the trip. The next meeting of the club will be held with Mrs. E. S. Yarbrough.

A library of standard books and periodicals is being opened up at the Parish House of St. Stephens Episcopal Church. It will consist of books on religion, Biography, History and a choice selection of fiction, also a general line of papers, magazines, tracts, health bulletins etc., will be carried for general distribution. The library will be open to the community and books may be secured on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Rev. N. C. Duncan pastor of the church is behind the movement and will be in charge of the library.

Mr. W. L. Burrows, who for some time has been connected with the Bank of Harnett, left Monday for a week and on Tuesday next will take up his new duties with the bank at Benson, N. C.

The internal revenue receipts for the Eastern North Carolina district, as well as for the Western district, show a big increase for the past month—nearly \$200,000 more than in February of last year. The receipts being \$500,584.44. Of this amount \$475,474.30 was from tobacco and only \$7,048.18 from income taxes.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the North Carolina Orphan Association it was decided to hold a meeting of the association in Raleigh in the capitol building April 6.

The sentiment among Democrats of prominence over the State, in Raleigh today, is decidedly for upholding the President in his conduct of diplomatic negotiations with Germany and strongly in approval of the action just taken by Congress along that line.

THE BIRTH OF A NATION

At LaFayette Theatre Fayetteville, on April 17, 18 and 19.

The general character of "The Birth of a Nation" is necessarily sober and somber. It represents a critical period in the history of the States. It pictures a time that "tried men's souls" and not to be approached in levity on any view.

It is not a farce; it is not a comedy, it is simply a truthful picture of the times it portrays, and there was little of a comic nature about those times and events. Yet here is comedy in D. V. Griffith's filmed spectacle. Comedy of the most delicate sort, but comedy nevertheless.

There is the typical Southern home where all is good cheer. War alarms have not yet disturbed its serenity. A Northerner is visiting his old college chum. Youth will be served, and in their playful wrangling and chasing each other about the old mansion and grounds we have pure comedy and the best of good feeling. No matter if within a few months they are to die on the field of battle, enemies but clasped in each others arms.

Then there is the young daughter of the Southern home; almost a boyden, playful as a kitten, up to all sorts of tricks with her brothers, her sisters, and their guests. Alas, later we see her tragic end, when to save herself from a fate worse than death, she jumps from the high cliff. Comedy that ends in tragedy, but comedy just the same.

Again there is the scene in "the quarters" where the negroes are "howling off" for the benefit of Northern visitors. There is the "shuffe, buck and wing" "Mississippi Sawyer," "Turkey in the Straw," and other steps in which the darkeys delighted. Later in the play they have their serious roles.

And so through it all there are bits of the lighter shade of life to be overcast by the sombre, shade later on. And that is what makes "The Birth of a Nation" such a truthful picture of the times whose life it portrays, for tragedy follows comedy ever. Such is life.

GEORGE McLEOD GONE TO THE PACIFIC COAST

Believes Mr. Godwin Will Again Succeed Himself.

Washington, March 6.—George R. McLeod, recently named a special investigator for the Federal Trades Commission, before leaving tonight for the Pacific Coast, where he is to conduct important oil investigations for the commission, denied the reported interview of Fred Brown, of Rod Springs, published in some of the State papers, to the effect that the appointment of McLeod would cause the Democrats of Robeson county to work against Congressman Godwin for re-nomination at Congress.

Mr. McLeod said that he did not propose to either work for or against Mr. Godwin. He pointed to the action of the Democrats of the county inviting him to attend a banquet in his honor as proof that the Democrats of the county are not against him. Mr. Godwin's record in Congress, he said, had already been endorsed by Robeson county Democrats and he did not believe that they would or intended to have a change of Congressman at this time when Mr. Godwin is upholding President Wilson in all important legislative matters.

"The people of the Sixth district," he said, "know that a man of experience in Congress can do more for one without experience. For this and many other reasons, I do not believe any change is to be made in the representation from the Sixth Congressional District."

COL. J. A. NARRON FATALLY INJURED

Smithfield, March 6.—Col. John A. Narron died at his home here tonight at 11 o'clock from injuries received this evening when his horse became frightened at a passing automobile and ran away just beyond the river bridge, while the horse was going at a good rate of speed. Col. Narron attempted to leap to safety but he fell violently to the ground, striking the side of his face and fracturing the skull at the base of the brain. He never regained consciousness and died five hours after the accident.

Colonel Narron was 50 years old and the eldest member of the Smithfield bar. When the recorder's court was established here in 1911 he was made the solicitor. He ably represented the State in that capacity until his death. He leaves his widow, Fattie Shaw Narron, and one son, John A. Narron. The funeral will be held Wednesday.

STATE PRIMARY LAW

An Act to Provide for Primary Elections Throughout the State—Also Making Certain Changes in the General Election Law.

Sec. 1. On the first Saturday in June, preceding general election (June 3, 1916) there shall be a primary election for each political party for all offices except for strictly county offices in 49 of the counties mentioned below.

Sec. 2. At this primary election may express choice for president and vice-president and plurality shall decide.

Sec. 3. Primary election in accordance with the general elections with same registrar and judges.

Sec. 4. On tenth Saturday preceding said primary election (March 25, 1916), State Board of Elections shall appoint all the County Boards of Elections; on seventh Saturday (April 15, 1916), before said primary, all County Boards of Elections shall meet and organize; on sixth Saturday (April 22, 1916), all County Boards of Elections shall appoint all Registrars and all Judges of Election in all precincts and these Registrars and judges shall likewise serve in the general election in November.

Candidates upon filing their notice shall pay to the State Board of Elections as follows:

Congress, \$50.00; state officers, Judges and Solicitors, \$20.00; State Senator, \$3.00.

County candidates shall pay county Boards of Elections as follows:

All offices \$5.00, except candidates for surveyor, coroner, county commissioners, \$1.00, and no fee for constables and other township officers.

Sec. 5. Registration books open for primary same manner, and time as for general election; all who are formerly registered shall be transcribed on new registration book; new registration book shall contain a column for the question "Which political party are you affiliated with?" no person shall register for primary or vote in primary without telling to which party he belongs, "meaning that he intends to affiliate with the political party in whose primary he proposes to vote, and in good faith a member thereof."

Sec. 6. Six weeks before the primary (April 22, 1916), all candidates for state and district offices shall notify State Board of Elections Two Weeks before primary (May 20, 1916), all candidates for county offices and State Senator in districts of one county only shall notify County Board of Elections. Notice shall state party affiliation, office sought, and pledge to abide by the result of said primary.

Sec. 6 1-2. Ten days before primary and also within twenty days after primary all state and district candidates shall file with Secretary of State itemized account of all money spent.

All county candidates and State Senators in districts of one county only shall file a similar statement with Clerk of Superior Court of their county. Failure to file such statements is a misdemeanor.

Sec. 7. Tickets for state and district offices furnished by State Board and tickets for county offices furnished by County Boards. This means not only tickets for the primary, but also tickets for the general election.

Sec. 8. The State Board and County Board shall distribute tickets to Registrars.

Sec. 9. Only official ballots can be voted.

Sec. 10. Elector shall make cross mark opposite candidate of his choice in the primary election.

Sec. 11. Provides separate primary ballot boxes and each voter shall declare the political party with which he affiliates.

Sec. 12. Provides for counting of ballots.

Sec. 13. Only those who have duly filed notice of candidacy and paid the fee shall be voted for.

If only one candidate enters race in primary that one shall be declared the chosen candidate for his party for the general election without being voted for at all at the primary.

Sec. 15. State Board shall furnish county boards notices to be filed by candidates and county boards shall furnish county official ballots.

Sec. 16. County primary same as State primary.

Sec. 17. County Boards shall distribute ballots to county registrars at the same time they send State ballots.

Sec. 18. Provides for ballot boxes a properly labeled.

Sec. 19. If only one aspirant for office in primary, he shall be declared elected and his name placed on his party ticket for the general election.

Sec. 20. County Board to provide for primary for township and precinct officers at same time as other primary.

Sec. 21. The Registrar and Judges shall certify results.

Sec. 22 1-2 County Boards shall tabulate returns and furnish same to State Board.

Sec. 22. State Board shall declare results.

Sec. 23. Both State and County Boards shall certify returns.

Sec. 24. Second primary shall be held if no candidate in the first primary gets majority, except that nominations for president only require plurality.

Sec. 25. All laws as to the general elections apply also to the primary elections.

Sec. 27. State Board to have access to ballot boxes.

Sec. 28. For the general election in November, the State Board shall prepare one official ballot for each political party for all state and district officers and distribute such official ballots to the several Boards of Elections of the counties ten days before election and they in turn shall send to the precinct registrars and judges in time to be received three (3) days before the election.

Sec. 29. For the general election in November the several County Boards of elections shall prepare one official ballot for each political party for members of the general assembly and county officers and see that such official ballots reach the precinct registrars and judges three (3) days before the election.

Sec. 30. No name other than one chosen in primary shall be printed as a candidate of any political party.

Sec. 31. The term political party shall include all political parties having candidates voted for at state offices in 1914; or, declared a party by obtaining ten thousand voters as signers.

Sec. 32. On the ticket of November election a small square shall be placed opposite each candidate and a cross mark (thus X) in such square shall be counted for only this candidate and for only the one office; there shall also be a large circle opposite the name of the party and printed instructions that a cross mark in such circle will be a vote for each and all the candidates of your party; such cross in the circle votes the straight ticket.

Sec. 33. If any person who shall have been nominated in any other primary election as the candidate of a political party and shall die, resign or become ineligible or disqualified between the date of such primary and ensuing general election, the vacancy caused thereby may be filled by the proper party committee.

(Note that provision is made only for filling vacancies such as were already duly chosen at the primary.)

Sec. 34. This primary shall not apply to county offices and members of the Houses of Representatives in the following counties: Mecklenburg, Ashe, Alleghany, Beaufort, Davidson, Catawba, Watauga, Sampson, Montgomery, New Hanover, Stanly, Wilkes, Yadkin, Davie, Cabarrus, Gaston, Craven, Halifax, Hyde, Graham, Jones, Lenoir, Iloke Transylvania, Duplin, Brunswick, Alexander, Harnett, Martin, Northampton, Cherokee, Clay, Macon, Surry, Swain, Stokes, Tyrrell, Madison, Pamlico, Alamance, Gates, Da.C., Currituck, Lee, Yancey, Union, Caldwell, Mitchell and Edgecombe.

Sec. 34 1-2 Laws in conflict with this act repealed.

Sec. 35. Same as 34.

Sec. 36. Act in force after ratification.

PROUD OF POU

Johnston County Falls Proud That he is Measuring Up.

Smithfield, March 6.—The sudden prominence of Representative E. W. Pou of this district is being freely discussed on the streets of Smithfield. A number of the country people have been in town and with rare exceptions, all approve the course of the Congressman in standing with the President. This opinion is shared irrespective of partisan lines. The town and the county feel that in the crisis, Mr. Pou is measuring up to the expectations of the people. They believe that Mr. Wilson should handle the situation. A telegram was sent to Mr. Pou approving his stand. A goodly number of prominent citizens signed it.

DECLINE TO ATTEND DINNER TO MR. BRYAN

Washington, March 6.—Representative Kitchin and Representative Webb of the North Carolina delegation were invited by Representative William Warren Worth Bagler, the Pennsylvania Democrat who is opposing the legislative program of the President, to a dinner today, but declined. They put their declination on the ground of "previous engagements."