

The Story of the Constitution

by CALEB JOHNSON

XI. THE GROWTH OF NATIONALISM

For many years, after the ratification of the Constitution, statesmen and men of affairs were divided as to the exact character of the Government set up under it. To one school of thoughts, of which Thomas Jefferson was the foremost exponent, the Government was little more than a treaty between sovereign states. In the eyes of the other group, led by Alexander Hamilton, it was the foundation of a Nation. Ultimately the Hamiltonian point of view was to become generally accepted, though only after a long and bitter struggle.

Hamilton, as Secretary of the Treasury under President Washington, brought about the acceptance by the owners of wealth of his viewpoint of Federal supremacy. Under his leadership the new Federal Government assumed the debts of the state, thereby taking its stand as something bigger and better than the states. This was followed by other bold and rapid strokes of financial policy, all tending to the same end of national supremacy. He established a tariff on imports, an excise tax and an internal revenue service and, as a crowning stroke, a national bank. It was Hamilton's purpose to establish a government in which wealth should stand at the helm, guiding and steadying the ship of state.

Under the leadership of Thomas Jefferson, whose faith was in the masses rather than in the classes the doctrine of states' right, as opposed to Federal rights under the Constitution, began to take shape. As early as 1798 the General Assembly of Virginia adopted resolutions protesting against encroachment upon states rights by the Federal Government and asserting the right of each state to decide for itself the constitutionality of Federal laws affecting state interests. In the same year the new state of Kentucky adopted similar resolutions. Kentucky went further, and implied the right of a state to withdraw from the Union.

Thus were sown the seeds of the political parties which have struggled against each other for 135 years for control of the Federal Government. And the first important amendment to the Constitution, after the Bill of Rights, was one which recognized the existence of the partisan spirit.

The twelfth amendment changed the previous method of electing the President to be the method which is still followed. Under the original system, the candidate receiving the largest number of electoral votes became President and the one receiving the second largest number became Vice President. The effect of that today, if it were still the Constitutional rule, would be that Mr. Roosevelt would be President and Mr. Hoover would be Vice President!

With the division of public sentiment into two diametrically opposing camps, such a situation was not to be tolerated, so the Constitution was amended, in 1798, to provide for the electors' choosing both President and Vice President at the same time, with the further provision that the President and Vice President shall not both be residents of the same state, and that in case no candidate has a majority of electoral votes, then the House of Representatives shall elect one of the three leading candidates, in its discretion.

Thus, on the eve of the 19th century, the new nation was not only well launched upon its career but was embarked upon the stormy voyage of partisan politics.

BAPTIST ASS'N MEETS IN WILKES

Eleven of Twelve Churches Represented By Delegates

The 57th annual session of the Elkin Baptist association met with the Pleasant Home Baptist church in Wilkes county last Friday at 10:00 a. m. Eleven of the twelve churches of the association were represented by delegates.

By acclamation M. L. Pettyjohn was re-elected as moderator of the association for the ensuing year and J. W. Cheek was re-elected clerk.

Rev. Eli Jordan preached the annual sermon, and was said to have delivered a very stirring message.

Other speakers for the association of special interest were W. R. Beach and M. O. Alexander, the latter being a Baptist state-wide worker.

The sessions continued through Friday and Saturday, and dinner was served picnic style on the grounds each day.

The next annual session will meet with the Mount Pleasant church, near State Road, on Friday before the first Sunday in October.

William Larson, 47, was fined \$200 by a Chicago judge for pawning his wife's false teeth to obtain liquor money.

BRIAR CREEK ASS'N. HOLDS YEARLY MEET

Baptists Meet With Mt. View Church In Wilkes County

The 114th annual meeting of the Briar Creek Baptist association met with Mountain View Baptist church in Wilkes county Friday, October 4, at 10:30 a. m., the sessions of the meeting continuing through Saturday.

All of the 32 churches of the association were represented by delegates, and a large crowd was said to have been in attendance.

By acclamation Rev. N. T. Jarvis was re-elected as moderator for the ensuing year, and Sherman Crater was re-elected as clerk.

Inspiring addresses and talks were made on Friday by Rev. Roy Crater, J. T. McNeal and M. O.

Alexander, the latter being a Baptist state-wide worker.

The Saturday's session was featured by a talk by Dr. Smith Hagaman, who spoke on the Baptist Hospital of Winston-Salem, and R. D. Covington, who spoke in behalf of the Baptist Orphanage at Thomasville, and an address by Jesse McKaughan, who spoke in the interest of the United Dry Forces of America.

An enjoyable dinner was spread on the grounds for the delegates each day.

The next annual session of the association will meet with Mount Vernon Baptist church, in Iredell county, on Friday before the first Sunday in October of 1936.

sons spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. J. M. Speer.

Misses Carmen Frye and Miss Mary Lee Boggs, of Cherryville, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Frye.

Rev. J. P. Davis filled his regular appointment at the Baptist church Sunday.

Miss Elizabeth Amburn, Ellen Hayes and Miss Maggie Harkrader spent Tuesday in Winston-Salem.

Miss Ellen Hayes spent the week-end with Miss Myrtle Fleming.

Miss Julia Shelton, of Mount Airy,

has accepted a position with Bryant's Beauty Shoppe here.

Mrs. Stimpson, of Raleigh, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. V. B. Brown.

Three men helped J. B. Heft push his disabled car some distance to his home near Latham, Ill., and then robbed him of \$14.

Two brothers, Charles and Thomas Vigorito, are expected to be opposing candidates for mayor of Paterson, N. J., in November.

Boonville

Ed Speas, of Mars Hill College, spent the week-end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Speas.

Frank Poindexter, of Winston-Salem, spent the week-end with his mother, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Speer and



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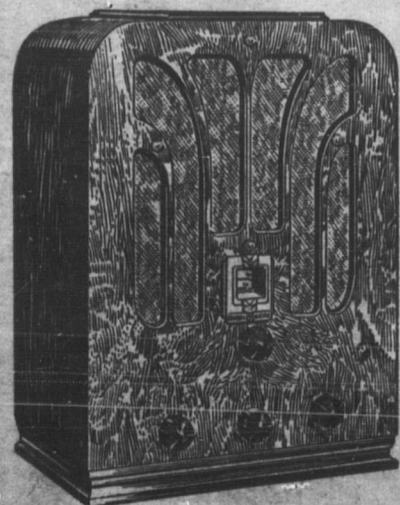
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