

STORY OF EDITOR'S VISIT TO JUDGE PARKER'S HOME

North Carolina "Pencil Pushers" Call on Next President at Rosemont.

A GREAT GATHERING.

Magnificent Banquet in New York In Compliment to Press Representatives—Their Trip up The Hudson To The Mecca of Democracy.

JUDGE PARKER'S WELCOME

The Party Received Cordially and All Meet The Judge Personally—Outlook for His Election Encouraging.

The writer had the unspeakable pleasure of accompanying more than 500 other newspaper editors, from every section of the country, to Judge Alton B. Parker's delightful home—Rosemont—Esopus, New York, on Thursday last week, where a most enjoyable meeting and public reception was held. The idea of this conference of editors with Judge Parker originated in the fertile brain of Mr. Josephus Daniels, the North Carolina member of the National democratic committee, who presented each individual member of the party. In shaking their hands Judge Parker spoke a kind word to every one and inquired about conditions in their respective States.

The story of our sojourn in the great city of New York and the magnificent banquet at the Waldorf Astoria is related in detail by the New York papers at the conclusion of this article and I shall not attempt any description of these things, all of which proved a wonderful revelation to me. I was much impressed with the simplicity of Judge Parker's beautiful home. It is a dream of beauty and loveliness: standing upon a commanding elevation overlooking the historic Hudson. The lawn extends to the river's brink and is dotted with every conceivable variety of the native flora. Lovely shade trees stand at frequent intervals and exquisitely arranged walks, lined with beautiful flowers lend enchantment to the scene. Rosemont is a modest, but comfortable wooden structure, standing on the foundations of a Dutch house of colonial times. It fronts the river and the panorama from the veranda is picturesquely grand. The home itself is the abode of hospitality and refinement. There is nothing aristocratic about this typical American home, but everything to charm and delight one who visits the place.

On being presented to Mrs. Parker I expressed the hope that the next time we met would be in the White House,—at the same time suggesting I was not surprised, since visiting Rosemont, that Judge Parker had indicated his purpose not to accept a second term, as his beautiful home possessed sufficient attractions for the most exacting mind. "I am very happy and contented here," replied Mrs. Parker, "but appreciate your kind wishes. There is a good deal of work ahead of you boys yet and I feel confident that you will succeed."

Judge Parker receives well. I was agreeably surprised to find in him such a genial affable sunny-spirited gentleman. He is not the austere aristocratic judge, I had supposed, but a most lovable American citizen and every inch a christian gentleman. His hand shake reminded me of the late lamented Col. T. W. Taylor, for as he extended the right hand one could feel a gentle tap upon the shoulder with the left. The Judge engaged all present in a brief conversation as they passed along, giving close attention to what each one had to say. He was especially interested in expressions of those from the doubtful states and impressed upon them the importance of immediate activity upon their return home. In bidding the next president good-by I said: "Judge you know North Carolina will give you a large majority, now let me give you my opinion of the result in New York." In his mild positive manner he replied: "Yes I know old North Carolina is alright and New York will certainly be Don't give yourself any concern about

that." These were the last words I heard him utter and I believe the truth of what he said will be verified by the returns from New York on November 8. With New York will go New Jersey, Connecticut and other doubtful States.

Judge Parker is fifty two years old, six years older than Theodore Roosevelt and nearly ten years older than was his rival when he assumed the presidential authority. He is just a little under six feet in height.

His cheeks are ruddy, deep chested and weighs 196 pounds.

His cheeks are ruddy and his hazel brown eyes sparkle with the glow of health.

His hair, which is thin on the top and sprinkled with gray on the sides, is of an unusual but attractive shade of red, characteristic of other members of the Parker family, it is said.

His mustache, which is usually worn close trimmed, is a shade darker than his hair—what I call red.

He keeps his muscles hard and his mind clear and keen by much exercise in the open air, horseback riding, driving, walking and farm work.

He is alert and energetic in his appearance, movements and speech. His manner in association with friends is affable and kindly and without the self-assertiveness of the judge.

His conversational habit is to be direct and frank and scrupulously careful in his choice of expressions. When his opinion is asked on any subject his reply is instantly ready.

Judge Parker is one of the best examples of self made man in the United States today. Born poor, he has built up a small fortune that amply provides for his needs, and above that he appears to have no further ambition in a monetary way. His three farms, one at Cortland, another at Accord and the third at Esopus, complete his land possessions and in all his wealth is estimated at not more than \$30,000.

That he will be the next president is strongly apparent and I firmly believe, since finding him so hopeful and confident himself, that the days of Rooseveltism are not long in the land.

I was introduced to and talked briefly with Chairman Taggart, Secretary Woodson, Assistant Secretary Sefton, Maurice M. Minton, the press editor, and all assured me of absolute confidence in Judge Parker's election. Democratic headquarters in the Century building had an air of business which greatly impressed me and an atmosphere pervaded the four floors where the busy hum went merrily on. It really looks like Parker. Respectfully,
M. L. SHEPMAN.

REPORTS OF NEW YORK PAPERS.

Residents of the Waldorf-Astoria made way for the democratic editors last night while these moulders of opinion ate of meats and drank of wines; descended upon the decay of Americanism; spoke unpleasant words about Mr. Roosevelt and warmed themselves into genuine democratic energy when besetting panegyrics on the standard bearer whom they will visit at Esopus today.

The banquet hall of the Waldorf was dressed fittingly for such a feast. From its walls there looked down upon the good-humored guests, come to New York for happy interchanges of fellowship, the portraits of Parker and Davis. The band played "Dixie" and those who couldn't shout patted their feet. The speeches were applauded, toasts drunk in wild enthusiasm—the name of Judge Parker each time bringing forth huzzahs that meant affection.

The banquet room was adorned with flags and colors that vied in brilliancy with the costumes of the hundreds of women who looked on from the surrounding boxes. Around the banquet tables editors who advocated reciprocity in New England sat side by side with those who believe that in Texas, sub, the extermination of the boll weevil and the burial of Roosevelt's desire to make no distinction in color are issues that are paramount to all others.

Editors From all Sections.

It was the largest gathering of Democratic editors that has ever taken place in New York. They were here from every section of the country.

A letter from Joseph Pulitzer was read, in which he advised the assembled democrats to accept the result of the Vermont election as a warning, but not as a discouragement.

Colonel Henry Watterson, of the Courier-Journal, got the applause of the evening when he responded to the toast assigned him. The editors, many of whom have been reading his double-leaded and thunderous assaults on the enemy for more than a quarter of a cen-

tury, all rose to their feet and gave him a welcome that was genuinely Kentuckian in its hospitality and enthusiasm. When they had taken their seats there came an instant hush of voices both on the floor and in the galleries, like the hush of an organ's music when the bellows are let drop, all wanting to hear his words. The other speakers were Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution; Herman Ridder, editor of the Staat-Zeitung; Andrew McLean, of Brooklyn; John B. Stoll, Willis J. Abbot, W. F. Sheehan, August Belmont, De Lancy Nicoll, George Foster Peabody, Urey Woodson, Homer S. Cummings and Daniel J. Campan, from democratic headquarters, were there as special guests of the editors. Indiana was more largely represented than any other state. The banquet hour was 7 o'clock, but it was some time later when all the guests were seated.

Samuel J. Johnson, of Cincinnati acted as toastmaster. He happily introduced Colonel Watterson, saying: "Tomorrow we go to the altar of the constitution, to the mecca of democracy, and we shall not detain you tonight very long, because we wish to see our candidate while we are wide awake. I promise you there will be nothing spurious in the speeches that will follow me."

Mr. Johnson said of Judge Parker: "We should welcome him because he has shown that he is a handy man at the end of a telegraph wire." He announced that the editors would accept President Fox's invitation to visit the democratic club. They will not go in a body, but as they desire from time to time.

Slogan of Watterson.

Mr. Watterson's text was, "If I Were a republican," "which, may I please the court," whispered Charles W. Knapp, "he may never be." In part Mr. Watterson said:

"In order to allay curiosity and suppress conjecture—or words to that effect—let me say in the beginning that I believe we can win this presidential battle. I will go even further and say that with anything like an even show down of powder and ball, it will be our own fault if we lose it. The two parties will go to the finish fairly united. Each will poll very nearly, if not quite its normal strength. The independent vote, therefore, will decide the result.

"In the five debatable States of New York, New Jersey and Connecticut in the east, Indiana and Wisconsin in the west, there are, on a rough estimate, a million of these independent voters. Half a million of them are Germans. The other half are mugwumps and floaters. For the life of me I cannot see how any self-respecting mugwump can vote for Roosevelt, the recreant civil service reformer; nor how any intelligent German, such as the president resembles the kaiser, can be willing to take even a lottery chance in a war with the mother country, precipitated upon the drop of a hat, to glorify the administration.

"The Upright Thing to Do."

"In venturing to discuss it tonight, though surrounded by members of my own party and profession, may I not take a supposititious standpoint, and declare that, if I were a republican—and over about the headwaters of Bitter Creek there are democrats who insist that I am not much better—I would vote for Parker and Davis and against Roosevelt and Fairbanks. Being only a plain American, who loves his country and clings to its institutions, I mean to do this anyhow. I shall do it because it seems to me the upright thing to do, the enlightened thing to do, the prudent and honest thing to do.

"The old democratic party came into being, like the republican party, as the friend of man; it grew so strong by prolonged domination that it was able to make its exit from power the signal for a long, bloody and senseless war. I would take no chance of a repetition of this evil history. I would have a change of parties, though only for the sake of the change. Little as the two administrations of Grover Cleveland effected, either in the statutory laws or in the general policy, they were beneficent interludes to the unbridled ambition and the grasping inclination of the republican leaders to a realizing sense of their public obligations. They did serve notice even upon the saints that they do not possess the earth. Such will be the effect, if none other, of the election of Parker and Davis, and the defeat of Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Watterson on Roosevelt.

"Inevitably the personality, the character and performances of Theodore Roosevelt occupy the foremost place in the public mind. They will constitute the chief horn of the people's dilemma in the coming campaign. They are, as

it were, the beginning and the end of the chapter. Yet, because we propose to discuss the president, and to hold him to a just measure of accountability, we are accused of abusing him. I would not, for my part, utter an unkind or discourteous word. I admit that he is as sweet a gentleman as ever scouted a ship or cut a throat. Indeed, very much that kind of a gentleman; for hoisting the black flag over the south, has he not scouted the ship of civil service reform and cut the throat of reciprocity? Has he ever obeyed the law in case it stood in the way of his humor?

"Does not his whole career, illustrated by his writings, his sayings, and his doings—his heedless criticisms his spectacular exploitations, his broken promises—reveal to us a self-willed adventurer upon the high seas of public life, having no rudder or compass except his own ambition, no principle or rule of conduct save that of decking the machine with the honours and furbelows of civic righteousness, whilst violating the spirit and sacrificing the actualities of the civil service by a line of partisan appointments to office never surpassed during the worst times of the spoils system he has so stigmatized and exemplified?

"Behind Theodore Roosevelt stands a group of radical republican leaders ready to do his bidding. If the predecessors of these radical leaders had been given their way after the war of sections, we should, at this moment, have in the south another Ireland, a second Poland. Wherever they have had their way, from old Ben Wade to Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt, we have seen higher taxes, renewed sectional disturbances, total disregard of the written law, and the constant menace of force."

Herman Ridder said that he opposes Roosevelt because he is erratic, meddling, spectacular, just the man likely to do something to injure our country. The fact that, at this very day, the republican party leaders are keeping Roosevelt quiet shows how dangerous even they regard him.

Speech by Clark Howell.

Clark Howell, editor of the Atlanta Constitution, spoke next, responding to the toast, "Democratic Success the Surest Guarantee of National Unity."

Mr. Howell opened his discussion by the development of the proposition that national unity was the basis of national strength. By "national unity" he meant unity of sentiment and of patriotic purpose among all the sections—all moved by the common impulse to contribute to the national welfare by the exercise of a policy so broad and generous as to let every section share alike in the benefits of the Federal administration. The mutual recognition of and allowance for the sentiments, traditions and surroundings of the respective sections, in so far as such recognition may not conflict with the Federal Constitution, was essential to genuine unity. Where there are honest differences of opinion as to the intent of the fundamental law it is for the courts of the land, and not for the political parties, to decide, and upon such decision every patriotic citizen should willingly take his stand. Not only by such broad and liberal treatment can the evils of sectional division be eliminated, but the man or the party who points the way to such a solution deserves, and will receive, the plaudits of the whole country."

Roosevelt and the South.

Speaking of the president's attitude toward the south, he said:

"Disguise as they may, they cannot deny the sectional animus of their party purpose nor evade the record of their administration in its unjust and ungenerous dealings with the south in the matter of Federal appointments, and in the brutal and indefensible manner in which their president has raised the lid of the radical Pandora's box—that our people, black and white, may be tormented with the devils that have emerged from it."

"I speak the sentiment of the south of today—the new south, if you will—when I tell you that the mistaken attitude of the republican president has done more to check the real progress of the negro than all else that has been done since the war. His stubborn disregard of the advice of even his own party referees in the state affected, in his mad determination that white constituencies should be served by negro office-holders—exclusively in the south—for it would be repudiated in the north—has rekindled the slumbering embers of radical hostility to a degree that has not been known since the days of reconstruction."

Andrew McLean, of the Brooklyn Citizen, responded to the toast of the "Democrats of the Empire State." After re-

ferring to the pleasant circumstances under which the editorial brethren had assembled, Mr. McLean proceeded to speak of the relation of New York to the country at large and of the grounds for believing that it would go democratic this year.

Warning From Mr. Pulitzer.

A letter from Joseph Pulitzer, written from Bar Harbor, Maine, in which the writer stated that physical infirmities prevented his being present, was read. It was, in part, as follows:

"You meet as the representatives and instruments of publicity, the greatest moral force. No other body of men can do so much in this campaign for truth and publicity as the independent and democratic editors of the country. I firmly believe that this year the democracy has the truth and the right on its side, and that if sufficient publicity shall be given to the truth, and no serious mistakes are made in the campaign at vital points, Judge Parker will be elected."

"The result in Vermont reported today should be accepted as a warning, not as a discouragement. Remember that the largest total vote ever cast in Vermont is only fifty-six thousand, about one-tenth of the vote in New York City alone. The democratic vote is usually only ten or twelve thousand, and was never more than twenty thousand, which is less than the democratic vote in single wards in New York."

Contest Fought Out Here.

"It is absurd to suppose that the result of the presidential election is decided, or even foreshadowed in the fastness and farms of the little Green Mountain State. The contest is to be fought out in New York, the Empire State, whose habit it is to vote independently; in the rich and populous industrial cities of Connecticut and New Jersey; on the wide plains and the busy marts of Indiana, Wisconsin and Illinois, and in the doubtful States of the further west."

"The lesson of the Vermont election is that the independents and the democrats must work with increased vigor and under a more thorough system."

"The result of the Vermont election makes it, in my judgement, all the more imperative that Judge Parker shall realize and perform his duty to the millions of honest voters who seek no office, look for no personal gain in this election, but who see him in an ideal and a hope, and aspire to preserve through him the institutions they love. The people need a judicial chief magistrate, but not too judicial a candidate. The judge is trained to look at both sides of the case; the candidate should have his hands full in looking after his own. From a judge is expected cautious deliberations; from the candidate, inspiration, energy, promptness and aggressive impulse. It is the part of a leader to lead in the combat of ideas, in the conflict of principles, in the denunciation of public wrongs, in the presentation and enforcement of truth." Party lands at Esopus.

AT JUDGE PARKER'S HOME.

Rosemont Esopus, Sept. 8.—In his second speech of this campaign, delivered to-day to the democratic editors, Judge Parker attacked the republican party for the extravagance and corruption of its Administration, and contrasted it with the two democratic Administrations of Grover Cleveland.

He gave figures to show the economy of the Democratic Administrations, and the high cost of the Republican ones, invited a comparison of the honesty of the Cleveland period with the postal scandals of today, and suggested a comparison of the present campaign with the "turn the rascals out" when Tilden ran for President.

He closed by warning the editors of the danger of attacking fellow democrats. He spoke of the Vermont election as an indication of the need for party harmony.

Judge Parker's speech was listened to with the closest attention by the editors, few of whom had ever heard him speak. Judge Parker read speech with great care and deliberation, using few or no gestures.

The editors frequently applauded and several times broke into cheers and laughter at the speaker's attacks upon the republican Administration.

The highest pitch of enthusiasm was reached toward the close when he deprecated attacks upon others within the party. Cries of "Good; that's right" and the like broke from various parts of the audience, and for several moments the speaker had to wait for quiet.

Arrival of The Editors.

With the exception of Aug. 10, notification day, this was the biggest day yet for Rosemont. The arrival of the

editors, their numbers swelled to more than 500 by friends and others desiring to be in on the doings of the day tested the ability of the local committee on Arrangements to the utmost.

Conditions were ideal for the reception of the visitors. The weather fates did their share nobly, and generalism and lieutenants on the Parker estate did theirs equally well. The show pieces of the place, such as the one black sheep and the dog Teddy, were made ready for editorial scrutiny, and young Parker Hall stationed himself with a silk flag on the highest knoll.

As the steamboat St. John appeared on the southern horizon a few minutes after 11 o'clock the young representative of the candidates family began a wild waving of the standard. The few gathered in front of the piazza waved anything that came in handy and as the craft drew nearer the landing it was observed that the saluting fever had caught all hands on the boat.

The roustabouts went about their duties of tying up the boat, stern to the north, but not without getting the usual instructions from a lot of landlubbers who spoke of the cellar of the boat and the roof thereof and the "other" side of the deck.

The Seventh Regiment Band began "The Star Spangled Banner" as the party lined up two and three abreast for the march up the hill. It wound up the road and through the gate past the lodge toward where Judge Parker stood. He stepped onto the veranda from a window. To his left was a roped-in inclosure for members of the family and invited guests.

The editors and their allies ranged themselves all about, while Josephus Daniels as Chairman, introduced Charles W. Knapp of the St. Louis Republic. The Missouri man said among other things:

Charles W. Knapp's speech.

"We are of one mind in echoing your own forcible denunciations of the trinity of oppressions from which the American people suffer so much. Not the transitory requirements of party duty, but the enduring responsibilities of a deep-seated conviction unite both you and us in unflinching opposition to imperialism, high tariffs, and corrupt officialism."

"Recognizing these evils as alike in their essence, since they are simply varying forms of the same reckless sacrifice of the general public welfare in order that the private interests of the favored few may be more effectively served, we congratulate the country that the promises of Democracy and the character of its nominee for the Presidency alike assure government by law and not according to individual caprice, assure regulation of our affairs through the wisdom of the Constitution and not by strenuous force."

"We have been profoundly impressed with your earnest appeal that the legislative, judicial, and executive departments of the Government preserve the clearly defined distinctions, as to their relative powers which the wise farmers of our organic law imbedded in the Constitution of the United States."

"We draw from the record of your judicial career many evidences that none of these distinctions will be overlooked in your performance of administrative duties. We fear no befogging phrase of new invention when you are our executive, and do not doubt that you will recognize that our so-called insular possessions are really subject colonies."

"We thank you particularly, Judge Parker, for the manly declaration that you will not be a candidate for a second term if you are elected President. We welcome in this avowal the introduction of a new and vital issue in politics and unhesitatingly give it our endorsement and support. It supplements and completes that vigorous manifestation of your individuality which the telegram to the St. Louis convention so forcibly conveyed."

"We rejoice that the principles and policies of democracy have found so worthy an exponent in 1904, because we realize that every great popular movement must present to the people both the idea and the man for the hour. We give both, and we are proud of the man who so impressively demonstrates that he would rather be right than be president."

Judge Parker's Reply.

Judge Parker's speech in reply was as follows:

"It is indeed a great pleasure to welcome to Rosemont this body of representatives of the great American press, one of the mighty forces in the upbuilding and strengthening of a sturdy American citizenship. You have been in conference to the end that your work in this campaign may be as effective as possible. Organized effort and concerted action must always increase the ef-

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