

## NEW PHASE OF THE QUESTION

### Race Problem Discussed By Former North Carolinian In Intelligent Way.

As a constant reader of THE HUSTLER, and one who appreciates the progressive and liberal spirit which characterizes it, and the fairness with which it discusses all questions of public interest, I beg to be allowed to offer a few thoughts on the very important proposition of the white men and the black man trying to live together in peace, which is only one of the many features of the race problem.

I know that a great many people will say that there is no such thing as the "race problem," that it is only scare talk used for political purposes only, and that there is no probability of trouble with the negro in the future. The republicans will say the democrats kick up a dust about him because he usually votes the republican ticket, and the democrats say that the republicans try to avoid this dust because they believe in social, as well as political equality and want to establish negro domination. The republicans score the democrats because they pass state laws to disfranchise the negro, and in turn they are scored for passing state laws to disfranchise white men who cannot read and write, or who have not been fortunate enough to corner a few hundred dollars worth of property while they were trying to decently support their wives and children. North Carolina said she had as much right to bar an ignorant black man from the polls as Massachusetts did an ignorant white man, and while the band played Annie Rooney, a negro was lynched in Delaware and one in Georgia.

Now the real race question doesn't hang so heavily on the right to vote as it does on other things. The average negro has no more knowledge of the sacredness of the American ballot than a hog does of Thanksgiving, and at this point the woman suffragists get into the game. They claim that they are being wronged by the cruel man because the negro is allowed to vote while they are disfranchised. Some people think that is the reason a woman has a voice in so many domestic affairs, because she is denied one in public questions. I don't know where the Populists and Socialists come in, but they undoubtedly have a kick somewhere.

Now all this fades into the glimmering distance when the thoughtful, unbiased citizen considers the momentous question, "Can we abide permanently in peace with this man of black?" He is here and here in alarming numbers. Our troubles with him increase just in the proportion that his population increases. He is not responsible for his presence on the American continent, and there is no doubt that he would immigrate in large numbers if he only had the proper encouragement.

Sometimes the very best way to answer one question is to ask another. Have we lived with him in peace since he became a free man? Upon the answer to this question depends largely the answer to the question "Can we do it in future?"

A man who has been educated in Latin, and who knows nothing about the nature of the negro, might possibly advance a very pretty theory on the race problem, and show conclusively that it would be the easiest thing in the world to live in perfect harmony with him. But after all we have to drop back into the school of actual experience to get knowledge of real practical value. We have had forty years of just such a school, and everybody has observed it closely. It is an open book of the results of actual test. The generous north united with the south and they invested millions in the only plan whereby any people can be elevated, christianized and enlightened—that of intellectual development. The avenue of opportunity has been cleared of every obstacle, and he has been encouraged on every hand, yet instead of the high moral and intellectual to which the government no doubt honestly believed that civil liberty in connection with these, would lift him, we have forty years record of the blackest criminal offenses ever known to man. And the first ten years record has been increased one hundred fold in the last ten of that period, until now we have to barricade our homes in order that wife and daughter may be protected from assault. Certainly mob violence sprang up. What less could you expect? The number of lynchings increased just in the proportion that the number of crimes increased.

I don't believe there is a right-minded man in America who actually believes in mob violence under a government by the people, such as we have, whose old flag stands the world over for liberty and justice, but I tell you there are certain crimes which, when

committed against the defenseless women of this country, so shock the human mind that the voice of reason fails to appeal. I deplore the act of a mob, whether it be in Georgia or Indiana. I fear the ultimate results of its work. I wish there was a plan to wipe from the face of America the crime which creates it, and I cannot think of a better one than that suggested by the Hon. John Temple Graves, of Georgia, to put the mean negro on the export list. Our government is spending millions in the Philippines trying to elevate a people whose prospects are as dark as night. Why not spend a few millions on the solution of a problem infinitely more important and that brings you into the home of citizen?

The mean negro element of our population is menacing. It hinders the advancement of the better ones. They will make little enough progress with the very best surroundings.

The mean negro cannot be reformed by gentle means or otherwise.

He is multiplying rapidly. He is the real cause of the existence of lawlessness to day.

I say away with him.

If our government would invest some of its vast surplus in a scheme to induce him to go, and transport him to the other side of the globe, it would confer an everlasting benefit on all concerned. This is no sectional or local issue. It was once bounded by geographical lines, but now so now. The time will come when the whole country will say that the mean negro must go in some way.

N. B. HUGGINS,  
FORT MOPHERSON, GA.  
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### The Era of Fusion or the Second Advent of The Republican Party.

In 1894, the republicans always agitating, to undo what the democrats had done, found a faction under populist leaders willing to help them in return for a few federal and state offices.

In that year, and again in 1898, fusion between the republican and populist parties was successful, and the government in the state, in the counties, and in the cities, passed out of hands of the democratic party, and again the negro became the dominant factor in the east, and in the control of the party in power.

They constituted two-thirds of the voters, who had made fusion successful, and upon which it had to rely for continuance in power. Conscious of their power, the negro demanded a division of the offices, and equal participation in government.

It is needless to say, this demand was heeded. As a result again as in the days of reconstruction, the local affairs of many towns cities and counties of the east were practically turned over to the negro politicians of that faction. They were sent to the legislature, they were made magistrates, constables, policemen, deputy sheriffs, registrars of deeds school committeemen. They were not contented with filling municipal and county positions, but demanded state and federal places as well. In some localities they were placed on committees to select teachers for white schools, and to visit and supervise white schools. They were made directors of state institutions, one of them being made director of the white deaf, dumb and blind hospital at Raleigh.

At one time during fusion about one thousand negroes were holding offices in North Carolina. Under these circumstances there was, of course, a repetition in the east of the conditions which existed under republican rule—during the reconstruction period.

In the cities, towns, and counties thus controlled there was the same irresponsible, incompetent, and corrupt government, which brought disgrace upon the state when the Republican party was in power during the 60's. Life was not safe, womanhood was not safe. It was a period of disorder and lawlessness, of wild excitement, and universal terror. The worst of feeling existed between the races. Race collisions were common everywhere and race war was a constant menace.

Gerrymander Clutch to Give Negro Minorities Control.

The people doubtless remember the cities Greenville, New Bern and Wilmington, and the counties of Craven, New Hanover, Bertie, Halifax, Granville, Warren, and other eastern counties. It might be well to recall briefly how vicious enactments of the fusion legislature threw or board the competent white government of the town of Greenville, and by a cruel gerrymander divided the town into four wards, two of them made in odd shapes in order that they might be controlled by negro majorities, leaving the other two with large white majorities. The negro wards were given two aldermen each and the white wards one alderman each. Under this fusion charter, at the town election, May, 1897, the two negro wards elected four negro aldermen and the white people

elected two white aldermen. To be sure the four negroes on the board outvoted the two whites; and they elected as officers of Greenville a white radical mayor, a white radical chief of police, a negro clerk, a negro day policeman and a negro night policeman. The first mayor and chief of police elected by this regime were during their first term indicted for gambling. They came into court and admitted their guilt, but notwithstanding these facts, they were each re-elected to their respective positions in the ensuing election May, 1898.

The charters of the cities of Wilmington and New Bern were so changed by the legislature as to take the control and management of the affairs of these cities out of the hands of the responsible people and turn them over to the tender mercies of the fusion governor, Daniel L. Russell, by placing in the hands of the governor the power to appoint one Alderman in each ward, while the voters elected only one in each ward. This was a direct blow at the theory of self-government. And it was done by the fusion legislature in the interest of the negro, while loudly proclaiming themselves in favor of government by the people; and boasting of their purpose to sustain self-government in North Carolina. The result was absolute negro domination and its attendant evils, lawlessness, arrogance, corruption, insult, robbery, burglary, incendiarism and unbearable municipal disorder, leading to conditions of race strife and riot, such as it is to be hoped may never be seen again in any part of our grand old state.

A Sample of Republican Rule in an Eastern City.

It is only necessary to give the result of fusion government in one city. That will show what fusion government meant in the east. Wilmington is selected because it was the home of Governor Russell. It is well known that in that city Governor Russell absolutely controlled the Republican party. The conditions in New Bern, Greenville and other towns and cities in the east were but little better than in Wilmington. An extract from the sworn statement of Hon. John D. Bellamy, a resident of Wilmington, and now representative of the sixth congressional district, will show the kind of government fusion gave in that city. This testimony was given in the Fowle-Bellamy contested election case:

"I stated that as a result of fusion legislation the city had been put under negro control, substantially; that although the white people owned about 97 per cent of the property and paid that much of the taxes of the city, that we had a board of aldermen, with a white man for mayor, who didn't own a foot of land in the county, and paid comparatively little or no taxes; that three or four of the board of aldermen were negroes; that forty of the magistrates were negroes; that from fourteen to seventeen of the thirty on the police force were negroes; nearly all of the deputy sheriffs in the county were negroes; that the register of deeds of the county was a negro; that every health office of the city, a very important position, was held by a negro; that one of the three county commissioners was a negro; and the result of it was that horrible state of misgovernment had been brought about; that night after night burglaries and robberies took place in town without any detection; that within about eight hundred feet of the city hall six burglaries had been committed within ten days without a detection; that one burglar had been arrested in a lady's residence, a negro burglar, was captured and held by the ladies until a police officer arrived, and that, although the offense was punishable by death and not bailable, he was let off on his own recognizance, or a straw bond, I have forgotten now which, and the negro escaped; that murders and crimes of all characters were of constant occurrence; that within about a year six murders had taken place in the county; that the negroes showed an utter disrespect for and defiance of the law; that the city authorities, in the exercise of their discretion upon sanitary matters, had located a hospital for infectious diseases on the outskirts of the town, and the negroes, several hundred in number, a complete mob, armed with guns, pistols and other weapons, went out attacked, shot into, and burned it down, and the mayor and policeman, although remonstrating were powerless to resist it, and none of said negroes were ever arrested or tried for the offense; that in the trial of the causes in the court-house it was impossible to convict a negro of crime a question of credibility arose between white witnesses and negro witnesses; that the jury, composed partially of whites and partly of blacks, would retire, and a hung jury was the result, the negroes always voting solidly in the jury box in favor of the acquittal of the negro, if a negro was on trial."

Some Benefits of Republican Government in a Few Eastern Counties.

In New Hanover county forty negro magistrates were appointed.

Bertie county got sixteen of these dusky dispensers of justice, law and "equity." Edgemore got nearly twice as many, or thirty-one.

Craven county was blessed with twenty-seven of the ever faithful.

Halifax county was particularly obnoxious, having produced "Buck" Kitchin, who did not believe in negro magistrates, got twenty-nine of them.

Granville county got seventeen, while you wait.

Caswell county, which had not done quite so much for "our cause," received seven.

In all, there were named by the legislature of 1895 three hundred negro magistrates in North Carolina.

So much for the dispensers of justice at the homes of the people.

But the negroes were not content with that. Years ago the negro did not aspire to the county offices. In that year, however, Craven county was given a negro register of deeds and negro deputy registers and three negro deputy sheriffs, a negro coroner and a negro commissioner.

A negro was elected register of deeds in New Hanover, negro constables and deputy sheriffs were appointed.

In Halifax, Edgemore, Bertie, Warren and, indeed, in all the black counties of the east, negroes were elected or appointed to public offices.

And if there was one office the negro was particularly unfit for, it was school committeeman over white children; and yet throughout the eastern counties there were a great many negroes appointed school committeemen over white children.

An Illustration of Republican Management of a State Institution.

John R. Smith had been appointed superintendent of the penitentiary, but there were so many scandals in the administration that Governor Russell transferred him to head of the agricultural department; and it was rumored abroad that the governor gave as the reason for making the transfer that there was so much speculation and thieving at the penitentiary that he wanted to get Smith away and into a place where he would not make any more of public property.

The administration of the penitentiary under Governor Russell was a disgrace to the state. It shows the character of the men, who were in charge of the state during the fusion era. For scandal, indecency, and downright corruption, and dishonesty it is unique.

When the Republican party took charge of the penitentiary, it was self-sustaining. During the time it had control of it, it cost the state \$255,000.00. The democrats have now had control of it under Governor Aycock a little over three years, and during that time it has not only paid expenses, but has turned over \$100,000.00 into the treasury.

The story of the scandals which in connection with the republican management of this institution is too long to be recited here. One or two instances, however, are given by way of illustration.—Handbook.

## TAGGART AT HOME

### He Says the Outlook Is Favorable and Parker Will Win.

Indianapolis, Oct. 20th.—Thomas Taggart arrived here this morning and was met at the Grand Hotel by a number of party leaders with whom he was in consultation most of the day. It is generally understood that he is here to look over the situation with particular reference to the legislature, and that while he is here he will map out the campaign by which he hopes to elect a majority on joint ballot in that body. The report current for several days that he will be a candidate for the United States Senatorship should the country go republican and the state go Democratic, causing Mr. Fairbanks to resign, is denied by the party managers, who says that he has no thought of being a candidate.

Mr. Taggart declined to discuss politics in detail, but said everything was favorable to the party in the east and that New York, New Jersey, West Virginia, Maryland and Delaware, together with Indiana, would certainly give their electoral votes to Parker. "I do not care to give any forecast at this time," he said "but will probably give out statement early next week. I will say in a general way, though, that the outlook everywhere is encouraging and that Parker will win."

## Register At Once.

The registration books have been open since the 6th day of October. They will close Saturday night, October 29. The registrars will register all voters who apply for registration until that time, but can be found at the polling places only on Saturday, the 22nd and Saturday, the 29th.

All voters who were not registered for the election held two years ago, or who have moved from the precincts in which they voted at that time, must register at the time specified if they desire to vote.

It is needless to urge upon the Democrats the necessity of registering.

## AN INTERESTING STORY.

### Some Facts Which Indicate the Importance of Keeping the Democrats in Power.

#### The Asylum for the Unfortunate.

Christianity and civilization demand that the unfortunate men, women and children shall be provided for at the expense of the state or the communities in which they live. North Carolina was one of the first of the states to respond to this appeal in the erection of an asylum for her insane and a school for the education of her deaf, dumb and blind children. The wrecked fortunes and desolated homes caused by the war multiplied the number of white insane persons, who were obliged to rely upon state institutions for treatment. The insane, deaf, dumb and blind of the colored race had hitherto been provided for by their owners. After the freedom of the slaves these also became a charge upon the state. The asylums for the treatment and care of the insane, the deaf, the dumb and the blind were therefore wholly inadequate for the demands upon them. During the years of republican rule that party had splendid opportunity to do something for these unfortunate people. The rate of taxation was high, bonds were issued by the millions, the unfortunates were incarcerated in jails or confined at home. The afflicted appealed for help, but no help came. The insane were left to their fate; and the deaf, dumb and blind children, white and black, were left to get on in the world as best they could.

When the democratic party came in power it addressed itself to this work of humanity, and by rigid economy in all public matters it provided asylums for the insane of both races, and schools for the deaf, dumb and blind, both races, without increasing taxation. Go to Raleigh; see the large and improved insane asylum for the whites; go to Goldsboro and see the insane asylum for the blacks; go to Morganton and see that splendid asylum there for the whites; and at Morganton and Raleigh, see the asylums provided for the deaf, dumb and blind of both races, and learn something of the democratic humanity and democratic management. These fine institutions stand as monuments to democratic wisdom, humanity and integrity; and the auditor's reports show that the expenses of the state government under democratic rule during the years these great improvements were being made, and these grand buildings were being erected, were much less than they are now under republican rule when there is nothing of the kind going on.

#### Education.

The democratic party believes in education. Jefferson, its great founder taught that for a people to be strong and powerful and truly sovereign, they must be intelligent; and to be intelligent, they must have schools. Hence he set himself to work to establish universities, colleges, high schools and common schools. No service he ever rendered his country has been worth more to the generations that have come after him than the example he set his countrymen in the cause of education.

The democratic party, upon its advent to power in 1870, addressed itself to the great work of providing schools for the training, preparation and education of the children. It re-opened, re-established, and supported the university. The career of the institution under democratic rule became again useful, progressive and noble. It was brought in touch with the people and its field of usefulness enlarged. It was brought in full accord and sympathy with all other educational institutions, and became a co-worker in an enlarged life and usefulness of the common schools. Instead of being, as it was under radical regime, "a closed incident," it again became the pride of our state.

Appreciating the importance of having trained teachers for the common schools, the democratic party established normal schools at various points in the state for the training of these teachers. It began, as we now remember, with the normal school at the university for the white teachers; and the state normal school at Fayetteville for the colored teachers. These were followed by others at different points in the state for each race, and these, in turn, were followed by the teachers' institutes in most or all the counties of the state. These efforts at training men and women to teach and to work resulted in establishing the state normal and industrial school for young ladies at Greensboro, the agricultural and mechanical college for young men, and the colored normal and industrial school at Greensboro for the colored race.

The fund for the support of the common schools was increased as rapidly as the condition of the people and their ability to pay taxes would allow, and every dollar collected for schools was expended for schools. Steadily the system of common schools was improved, better teachers provided for them, longer terms taught, and attendance of children increased. In most of the larger cities and towns graded schools were established as part of the common school system.

In brief, an impetus was given to the

cause of education under democratic rule, that made itself felt in every section, in every school, and among all classes in the state, and every college in the state has felt the good of our efforts to promote the cause of education. As a result the liberality of generous friends was stirred by the zealous activity of our efforts to advance education, and increasing numbers of students were attracted to the colleges to profit by the splendid endowments that have aided in making these colleges so useful to the people of the state.

The record of the party in reference to education during this period, like its record in other things, is a noble one, and stands out in bold contrast to that made by the republican party, and should satisfy all reasonable men that the vital interest of the people is safest in democratic hands.

The Governor's Mansion and Supreme Court Building.

During this democratic period a convenient and commodious residence for the governor was built and the supreme court and state libraries were taken out of the cramped-up rooms in the capital and placed the new supreme court building on the same square with the agricultural building, where the court is now held and the libraries are open to the public in a splendid building that is a credit to the state.

#### The Penitentiary.

When the republicans undertook the location of the penitentiary they set agoing a public scandal that forced a change of the location from Locksville to Raleigh. Those familiar with these times will recall the scandals attending the attempted purchase of a site at Lockville, and how the contracts were repudiated. These scandals were still fresh in the public mind when the democrats gained control of the legislature and became responsible for the legislation affecting the management of the penitentiary. It was during the democratic administration of the penitentiary that the great buildings of that institution were constructed, and finally completed, and it was also under this democratic administration that the expenditures for the support of the penitentiary gradually grew less and less every year till the institution finally became self-supporting in 1896, the last year before fusion control in which it was under the control of democratic officials.

The Railroad Commission and Taxation of the Railroads.

Government has its burdens as well as its blessings. Its burdens are the necessary taxes for its support. Its blessings are good laws, properly administered; peace, good order and protection. The democratic party ever seeks to make the burdens of government as light and the blessings as great as possible, and to call upon all species of property and upon all classes of people to share in both without discrimination as to any. When in power it imposed the same burdens upon all according to their ability to bear them, and required a strict compliance with the law on the part of all. Hence, when it appeared that there were certain railroad properties in the state which bore no part of these burdens and that some corporations were in some instances not obeying the law, and were misusing the powers given them by the state, the democratic legislature established a railroad commission, to take charge of these matters, to place all railroad property on the tax list, and to compel all corporations to do justice to their patrons and the public generally. Some of the roads resisted the efforts of the board to put their property on the tax list for taxation like other property, claiming they were exempt by their original charters; but the democratic board, in pursuance of the policy that all property should be taxed alike, pressed these corporations in court and out of it till they succeeded in placing all property on the tax list, thus adding millions of dollars to the taxable property of the state. The board also fixed a passenger and freight rate, which was considered at the time fair and equitable to both the corporations and the people. Complaints were speedily adjusted; and so long as the board remained under the exclusive control of the democratic party, it was absolutely free from scandal or suspicion.

#### Pension to Confederate Soldiers.

It was during these years of democratic administration that the soldiers' home was established and provisions made for the poor and needy Confederate soldiers. The state also made liberal appropriations to the Oxford orphan asylum for the white children and likewise to the one for the colored children.—Hand Book.

## Recent Marriages.

The two following marriages will interest Tryon people. Miss Grace Augusta Bagley and Mr. Fredrick Cornelius Letteney were married in Haverhill Mass. on Monday Oct. 4, at home after December the first 20 Auburn St. Nashua N. H. Miss Bagley spent the last two winters in Tryon and will be well remembered.

The other marriage has been announced in these columns before that of Miss Violet Leland Eskine, and Mr. Macdermid Parish Watson at St. Clements Church in London Eng., on Saturday the thirteenth of August. They have arrived in this country and are at home at Villa Faveria, Lowerre Youkers, N. Y.