

PEYTON M'SWAIN OUTLINES PLATFORM

States His Position On All Issues In
Behalf of His Candidacy
For Senate.

TO THE VOTERS OF CLEVELAND
COUNTY:—

Several weeks ago I announced my candidacy for the office of State Senator from this district. The office is a financial loss to anyone that gets it. But I would appreciate the honor of the position, as I stated in my original announcement, and the opportunity to make additional acquaintances and friendships over the state. I feel that offices of this kind should be given to ambitious, worthy young men who hope to make it a stepping stone to something greater in life. Cleveland county would not now have the leading and only candidate for Governor had he been defeated in his younger days when a candidate for the State Senate.

Fathers and mothers in this county are denying themselves the comforts of life in order to keep their sons and daughters in school, with a hope that some day they will hold positions of honor and importance. If the young men of the country are never to get a chance to assert themselves, then you had better take your boy out of school and put him back behind the plow handles.

Every person that announces for office has a motive in view, or those who put him out have a purpose in view. I have stated why I am asking you to give me this office. And I also want to say that I have not been selected by any of the Political Bosses to go to Raleigh and do their bidding. I have a mind of my own. And will vote on all questions according to the dictates of my own conscience as to what I think is for the best interests of the people.

The position of State Senator is an office that requires the services of a man of some legislative experience and ability. He will have to meet and cope with some of the ablest lawyers in the state. He should be able to take care of himself and the people of his district on any question that may arise in discussion on the floor of the Senate. He must have some personal acquaintance and reputation over the state before he can get any important committee appointments or recognition in the Senate. It is therefore to the interest of the people that they elect a man who will be able to do something for them. I feel that I can meet all of the above requirements. And if I did not so feel, I would not

ask for your support in this election. If elected, as I expect to be, I do not have any special or pet legislation to enact. The fact is we already have too many laws. Morality, goodness, and virtue cannot be legislated upon the people. These things can only come by a regeneration from the inside, and out of the heart of each individual. However, I do expect to enact an Australian or Secret Ballot for this county with teeth so strong that it will absolutely guarantee the freedom of the ballot.

I am a progressive, not a reactionary. I stand for progress operating upon a business basis, for strict economy in governmental operations, and for a re-dedication of the Democratic Party to the principles of Democracy as enunciated by Thomas Jefferson. I believe in education, but am opposed to the legislature forcing an eight months school on the people. This matter should be submitted to the voters of North Carolina for their decision. I believe that the Bible is the inspired word of God, and have no time for those monkey-evolutionist. I prefer to stand by the simple faith of our fathers and mothers. It has stood the test of the ages.

To the farmers of Cleveland county, I want to say that I have your interest at heart. Every dollar that I own is invested in farming land. I own and operate two farms in this county. One of which is listed for taxation for more than I paid for it three years ago. I don't object to paying my part of taxes, but I know that it is not right to assess farm land at its actual value while other property is listed at about fifty cents on the dollar, and thousands and millions of dollars of other property in cash and securities goes untaxed. If I can do something in the Senate to correct this evil I will feel that my services have not been in vain.

Quite a few of my friends over the county have asked me to state my position in regard to the Judges Pension bill. I was in the legislature in 1921 when this act was passed. It was pushed through the legislature with very little discussion. And I believe that most any other man from Cleveland county, under the same circumstances, would have voted for it as I did. Max Gardner was there in the interest of the bill and was very active in behalf of its support. I did not agree to vote for it; nor did I vote for it until after I saw that it was going to pass by an overwhelming majority. If my vote had been the deciding ballot, I would have cast it against it. I have nothing but the highest regard for both Hon. O. Max Gardner and Judge James L. Webb, therefore to vote against this bill when it was going by with such a big majority it would look as if I had something personal against these distinguished gentlemen. However, I want to prom-

ise this to the citizenship of Cleveland county, and that is if you want this act repealed that I will go to the senate and make a desperate effort to have it repealed. And I believe that I can do more to secure its repeal than any other candidate in the race. If I made any mistake in the legislature I stand ready and willing to acknowledge and correct them if given an opportunity. No man can say or do more than that. As your representative in the Senate I will endeavor to repeal any existing legislation that does not meet with your approval. And will endeavor to enact any new legislation that you may deem necessary and important. I do not hope to please everybody. But will make an honest effort to abide by the wishes of the majority. And I hope that you will feel perfectly free at any time between now and the election, or after the election, to come to my office and discuss with me any particular matter in which you may be interested.

Having stated my position fully on all the main issues before the state today, I trust that my candidacy will meet with your approval. You squab about high taxes, extravagant expenditure of public money, the attempt of politicians to control everything from Raleigh and the evils of machine and boss rule. How do you expect to ever get relief unless you elect men to the Senate who can make their presence felt and themselves heard when they get there? If you don't believe everybody in North Carolina will know that I am in the State Senate, just read the daily newspaper after I am elected.

I cannot leave my work to go out and see ever voter personally and ask him or her to vote for me. Therefore I expect to leave my candidacy to the common sense judgment of the good citizenship of this county. And I hope that I shall not be disappointed in your decision. Thanking each and every one of

you for your vote and support in the Primary, June 5th, I am,
Respectfully your
adv.
PEYTON M'SWAIN

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