

Hard On Candidates

(News and Observer) The editor of a Texas country newspaper, Don H. Biggers, has announced himself as a candidate for the senate in Texas on a one-plank platform. He evidently thinks candidates for office use the soft pedal if they expect to be elected. Here is his one plank: I am a candidate for the United States senate. I do not choose to be elected, do not expect to be elected,

and could hardly hope to accomplish anything should I be elected—but even at that, I would do as much as the other so-called law-makers are doing. I am, therefore, the only candidate for the office who can go before the people and say what I think, tell the unvarnished truth just as I see it and have no fear of consequences. I will need no campaign headquarters, no campaign expense fund donations. But I may need a strong campaign bodyguard before this campaign is over.

The chances are that if he goes about telling the whole truth, and saying what he thinks about all public matters, he will find that his expectations of defeat will be realized. But Texas has sometimes liked political jokes, as when it elected the Fergusons. Suppose the man solely because he wasn't trying to win! Detroit elected a man Mayor who did not say a word. Would it have elected him if he had gone about telling the unadulterated truth.

SAYS HEYDAY OF J. P. HAS PASSED

Broughton Expects The Next Legislature To Cut Down The Number Of Justices.

Raleigh.—The next state legislature will see the cutting down materially of the number of justices of the peace in North Carolina, in opinion of the senator from Wake county, J. M. Broughton, in an interview.

The heyday of the J. P. has passed, he believes and wishes further that the office itself could be abolished. But that would take an amendment to the constitution.

In the meantime Mr. Broughton and Willis Smith, representative from Wake, are agreed that Wake county, for instance, should have ten justices of the peace instead of its present 50. It was in Wake county that many justices were indicted for alleged inactivity and failure to make returns and a number hastily resigned when the news of the indictments appeared.

"North Carolina has too many justices," Mr. Broughton said. "They filled a need of olden days when transportation was bad, when justices were actually needed. We still need them until the constitution is changed and the entire judicial system of the state is changed."

The interviewer caught Mr. Broughton by surprise with his question as to possibility of pressing for abolishing of the justice of peace system and admitted the matter might be visionary but Mr. Broughton rejoined that "all good comes from visionary things."

He pointed to "great hordes of justices" under the present system appointed by the legislature at each sitting, by the governor and through elections.

Mr. Smith held up the news article of John A. Livingstone, veteran legislative observer for the Raleigh News and Observer, as having done much good leading to eventual reform of the judicial system. Mr. Smith had studied the articles of the expert analyst and thought much could be done along these lines in the 1929 session.

The session gave the governor the right to remove justices of the peace for certain reasons.

Solicitor Brassfield, a leader in the recent J. P. cleanup, says he will press strongly for a similar cleanup, affecting the entire state, when the next legislature meets.

SAY: "SAW IT IN THE STAR"

TILLETT TALKS OF PREACHING HOURS

"Tiger of Carolina Bar" Says He Likes Short-Winded One Best. About One Parson

"I would like to be interviewed," said Charles W. Tillett, Sr., to a Charlotte News reporter: "What say you?"

"Sure," replied the reporter at once, expecting something "scrappy" from the veteran lawyer who has been dubbed "The Tiger of the North Carolina Bar."

"All right," said Mr. Tillett, "here goes: "Once upon a time, that is, about 30 years ago, there came a Methodist mission on the outskirts of Charlotte a timid young preacher named McLarty. After he had been here for a few months, he was called upon one Sunday morning to fill the pulpit of the absent pastor at Tryon Street Methodist church. He appeared a bit 'skeered,' but he preached. I heard the sermon. It was fine. One Monday morning, I took my pen in hand and wrote him a letter, substantially like this: 'My young brother: that was a splendid sermon you preached yesterday. It showed that you have in you the making of a fine preacher. I can easily see that you had prepared that sermon with great care. I want to tell you that if you continue to put on your sermons the work you put on the sermon you preached yesterday, you are destined to be one of the foremost ministers of the Methodist church; but if you allow the dear women of your congregation to pat you on the back and convince you that you are already the biggest preacher in the land and that you need not study any more, then you'll become a commonplace preacher and remain so.'"

McLarty continued Mr. Tillett, I went out to Hawthorne Lane Methodist church and heard a sermon by Reverend E. K. McLarty, D. D., the same preacher to whom the aforementioned letter was addressed. He preached a 'good sermon, strong in its simplicity, its thoughtfulness, its soul-winning power. All the time he was preaching I was thinking about that letter. At the close of the sermon, I rushed to the chancel and grasped his hand with congratulations. He said simply 'Brother Tillett I've got that letter yet.' I swelled up with pride, thinking that perhaps what I had written to him might have stimulated him to continue in painstaking preparation of his sermons as was shown by the one preached Sunday."

The Mr. Tillett philosophized a bit: "You see, I am one who believes that the Holy Spirit usually baptizes a sermon about 1 a. m. after a preacher has been giving it intense, intelligent study for several hours. It's all right for the preacher to 'wrestle in prayer' while preparing a sermon, but I like my preacher to do some 'wrestling' in intellectual work, also."

"But I must not forget to tell you another thing Dr. McLarty did last Sunday. He announced that during his pastorate, the entire services would be limited to one hour and that on Sunday morning when the clock was striking twelve, he expected to 'chime in' and pronounce the benediction. I thought that was fine."

Then Mr. Tillett proceeded to philosophize again: "You know, the automobile chauffeur is the symbol of our present-day civilization. Everything in our business, social and religious life, revolves around the auto as the center. This is particularly true of preaching. When it took a man an hour to drive six miles to church in his buggy, he would listen with complacency to a sermon of an hour's length, but now when the man travels the same six miles in his auto in ten minutes, he gets restless after the sermon goes beyond twenty-five minutes. The length of sermons nowadays should be in inverse ratio to the speed of the auto and since we now have a Ford car that can travel sixty-five miles per hour, every preacher in the United States ought to lop off at least five minutes from every sermon."

As the reporter started off Mr. Tillett called out: "Hold on! Here's something else. You know I'm a member of that great Methodist cathedral which Dr. Whisnant and Julian Little have built for us. We have a preacher there who is a 'corker,' Rev. W. W. Peele. When it 'went on the air' that Bishop Mouzon was going to send him to our church, I was in Raleigh and asked Honorable Joseph Daniels about Mr. Peele. Joe told me he had preached in Raleigh five years, was fine, preached splendid sermons and 'the best of all,' said Joe, 'he never preaches beyond twenty minutes.' That's been his limit here in Charlotte and if you want to be shown that a complete, first-class sermon can be preached in twenty minutes, come to the First Methodist church next Sunday. Also, if your preacher is one of the long-winded variety, persuade him to suspend services in his own church next Sunday and hear Brother Peele."

We are in hearty accord with the proposal to have the heavy trucking done at night. It is an outrage for noisy trucks to be lumbering around in the daytime when typical New Yorkers are trying to sleep.

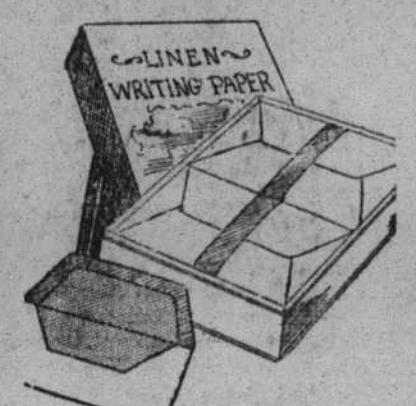
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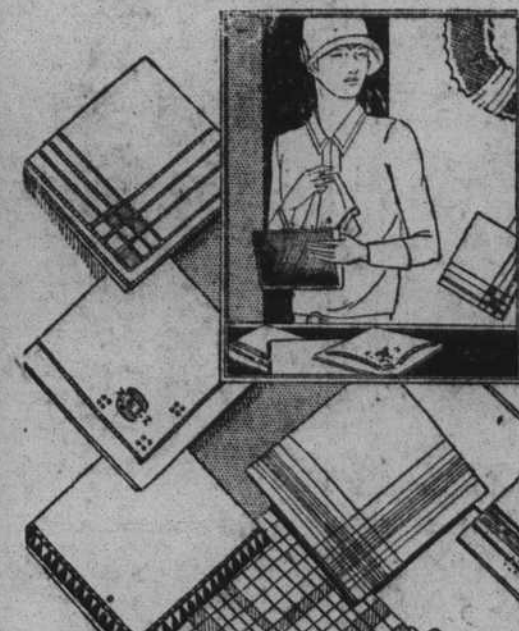
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