

MOON HECKLING AT LAURENS.

CROWD BOISTEROUS, BUT NO SERIOUS DISORDER AT MEETING.

Jennings not in Usual Form—Pollock Has Dispute and Warm Words with Number of Audience—Blease and Smith Both Considered.

Laurens, July 22.—The record-breaking crowd of the campaign came to Laurens today to hear the senatorial candidates, there being approximately 4,500 persons present.

In consequence of the shakeup at Greenville last Saturday, many voters came here today from adjoining counties expecting another tilt. Long before the hour for the meeting to begin the natural amphitheatre out in the grove where the meeting was held had been packed. The meeting was boisterous, but there was no excitement, although the governor said that it had been rumored that he was to be assassinated here today.

Reminding his hearers that there was nothing between him and the man who would shoot, the governor urged that "if the assassin is here, let him do his dirty work."

The nearest approach to disorder was when W. P. Pollock referred to the Union Republican ticket of 1880, which ticket contained the name of J. P. Gibson of the governor's staff. One man in the audience branded this as a lie.

At this tense moment several policemen hurried about the man, who kept repeating: "It's a lie and he knows it."

The Cheraw candidate's reply was: "A man can't come to my face and call me a liar unless he's willing to take the consequences."

Marking back again to the assassination idea, the governor said that a newspaper yesterday in an editorial had invited the assassination of the chief executive.

"If I should be killed," the governor added, "more hearses would be called for the next day than for many years." The cause he represented, he explained, would still go on.

Reporters and editors came in again for a scathing assault, most of them being placed in the "Ananias club."

"The reporters and two-thirds of the editors," he said, "would be in hell before night," if adjudged as Ananias and Sapphira were.

Mr. Pollock got the brunt of the heckling today when he was making bold assaults on the governor's record. The leaders were in small groups, and kept up "team work" in raising an uproar when a particular point was being emphasized, or the climax of an argument was approached.

Sheriff John Owens referred to Blease as "intruders" from Anderson, Greenville, Greenwood and Spartanburg counties.

Calling directly to one particular squad, he reminded them that they did not belong to Laurens county and hence were not needed as yell leaders.

The sheriff also said that he did not believe that there would have been any disrespect shown to any speakers had there been no invasions from other counties.

George A. Browning, who acted as chairman in the absence of W. C. Irby, who is a candidate for governor, said that these were also strangers to him.

Gov. Blease was the first speaker today and began with the quotation: "Those whom the gods would destroy they first make mad."

He said the anti-Blease forces were defeated, and in substantiation cited three cases where men have recently become enraged. One, he said, at Whitnire, when a mill president invited the governor "to go below;" another at Anderson, "when another man with a gun climbed on the stand," and a third at Greenville last Saturday, when J. W. Norwood attempted to get to the governor after having been denounced as a coward by the chief executive.

No Blease man, the governor continued, had yet tried to assassinate Senator Smith. If any one of the three, he went on, had been a Blease man, the cry of anarchy would have gone up and the man would have been put in jail.

In discussing assassination the governor said that he had no fears of being killed, and added that though a Methodist he was a fatalist to the extent of believing that there is a certain way and a definite time for every man to die, which can not be evaded by the machinations of man.

Another report was being circulated in Laurens county, the governor added. This was that the negro Fred Elledge, convicted in Laurens county in 1908 on the charge of assault with intent to ravish and getting a sentence of 20 years, had been pardoned. This, the governor said, was a characteristic campaign lie, as the penitentiary records would show, he claimed, that the negro died May 6, 1912.

Newspaper reporters were liars, the chief executive charged; were paid to lie and if they didn't would lose their jobs. Warning the audience not to

believe anything that appeared in the newspapers, the governor predicted his election August 25, basing its certainty on reports which he has been getting that many men who did not support him two years ago would vote for him this year.

"If I were as certain of being saved as I am of going to the United States senate," the governor continued, "then I'd never pray for myself again, but only for my friends, as I'd be safe."

Again today the string of race prejudice was much harped on, and this drew applause from the strong Blease following in the audience.

Laurens, he said, was a sure enough white man's county. "A nigger," he added, "could no more ride the mail in Laurens county than a keg of powder last in hell."

This, he explained, would not be allowed without him as governor, and he was sure it would not with him in the governor's chair.

The governor got two large baskets of flowers, which he said he would place on the graves of Thomas B. Crews and John M. Cannon.

L. D. Jennings developed an attack of ptomaine poisoning last night and was not in his best form today, but got an attentive hearing.

The wholesale granting of pardons, the mayor of Sumter said, was undermining the system of trial by jury and was responsible for general disregard for the law.

"For ages," he continued, "men's minds were active in discovering best methods to try criminals. The plan which the combined wisdom of our forefathers agreed upon was trial by jury, the court being presided over by a judge, supposed to be learned in the law. Do you think that better than the present situation now existing in South Carolina?" he asked.

The getting up of a petition, Mr. Jennings explained, was due only to the efforts of some lawyer, who was representing the convicted man. For this, he said, the lawyer was paid, and he did not blame the lawyer. "It's his business," he added.

Mr. Jennings pointed out that four more years of the present policy would produce a state of affairs similar to that in Mexico. Many in the audience shouted their disapproval of this by answering in the negative.

"There will be an absolute disregard for law," the speaker retorted, "and that's exactly the trouble in Mexico."

In the course of his speech the governor had much to say about taking the negro out of civil service, and predicted much as to the hemp and limb method of destruction.

The Sumter candidate said that he, too, did not believe that the negroes should hold offices in South Carolina, but that he did not agree with the chief executive as to the shotgun and hemp-rope plans of getting rid of the negroes.

When the question was put to the audience, "Would you take part in hanging a man who was delivering mail in Laurens county?" there were many answers in the affirmative.

The proper way to prevent negroes from holding these jobs, the speaker explained, was by repealing the 14th and 15th amendments, thus disqualifying the negroes as to citizenship.

Then they could not apply for civil service examination.

It was further pointed out that sentiment was growing in both the North and the West against the negro. The time, Mr. Jennings added, would soon come when the South could look to these to help nullify these amendments, but this could not be hoped for if men are sent to Washington who are unfriendly to the present national administration and at loggerheads with the different departments of the government.

In concluding, Mr. Jennings said that if the governor should go to the United States senate, the first resolution he would introduce would be a measure to compel the president to release all negroes from the federal prisons.

Mr. Pollock threw down the gauntlet to the administration forces from the opening sentence of his speech.

Plucking a white cotton bloom from an "E. D. Smith prolific" stalk that had been seen brought to the stand for the senator, he said that he preferred the white bloom, the emblem of purity and of the South's prosperity, to the red badges. This brought numerous retorts from the audience, to which the speaker replied:

"It is better than the tagged like you to keep from getting lost."

In the course of his speech the governor said that 2,600 Blease badges had been distributed, while his followers were begging for more. Mr. Pollock predicted that there wouldn't be 600 on the coats, if the audience would listen to him.

At Greenville last Saturday, the red-typed, spread-eagled Union Republican ticket of 1880, on which the name of J. P. Gibson appeared as a candidate for the legislature from Marlboro county, was torn into shreds by some political enemy. Today, when the Cheraw candidate held up the fragments to the crowd, one in the

audience branded the charge against Mr. Gibson as a lie.

This was the only time during the day that there was any semblance of disorder beyond that of persistent heckling of Mr. Pollock throughout his speech, and for a brief interval directed against Senator Smith.

Expressing the possibility of his not being elected, Mr. Pollock added, "But I know Cole Blease won't."

"I bring you a message from the 24 counties we have visited," he explained. "From the coast to the Blue Ridge mountains the voters are singing the funeral dirge of Cole L. Blease and the womer, God bless their hearts, are chanting it as they fall in line," he continued. This speaker got much applause when he had finished.

Senator Smith returned to the campaign today with his voice greatly improved.

He began his speech by telling those about him that he had worked for the farmers five and one-half years, and paraphrased the governor by saying that those who didn't like it could lump it.

"That's the man Blease has got to defeat," some one called out from far up on the embankment.

"I'm the man he'd like to defeat," the senator came back, "but he'll never do it," he added, while the crowd sent up a deafening yell.

His competitors were challenged to say whether they intended to do anything to advance the price of cotton, in the event one were elected, if the senator had done nothing, as charged, and if no man could do anything.

"If you propose to sneak off like a whipped cur and leave the markets to be manipulated by Wall street gamblers, get up and say so," the senator commanded. "If that's your doctrine, get up and preach it," he went on, "and you'll not get enough votes to know that you were in the race."

At one time it appeared that the senator would have as much difficulty in making himself heard as his predecessor had. Senator Smith reminded the chairman that it was not fair for a half dozen men to prevent the majority of the people from hearing the speakers. The little group of disturbers soon dispersed, and the speaker was allowed to proceed without further interruption.

Gov. Blease had displayed a revised copy of Senator Smith's cotton exchange regulation bill. The chief executive charged that all of this bill had been cut out with the exception of the number of the bill and the enacting words and that "Congressman Lever's bill had been substituted."

In reply to this Senator Smith said that Congressman Lever, in his report with the returned bill, said that the language was changed, but not the principle of the measure.

"That makes no difference," Senator Smith added. "I started the work. I introduced the original bill and there's some honor in that."

An infamous letter was being circulated, Senator Smith said, charging him with defection in connection with the immigration bill.

He had just had a talk this morning, he said, with a representative of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, and these were entirely satisfied with the work that the senator had done in this direction. "Whether I'm reelected or not, I shall be senator until March 4, 1915, and in that time no opportunity will be allowed to go by to try to put this measure on the statute books."

Senator Smith said that the Smith voters August 25 would be as "pro-life" as the fruit on the stalk of cotton brought to Laurens for the senator today.

"And you can't head these voters off," the speaker added in conclusion.

The meeting tomorrow will be in Columbia. The party goes to Lexington the next day, with Saluda, Edgefield and Atken counties next advanced upon.

Washington, July 22.—The decision in the five per cent advance rate case will not be made today, was the announcement of the secretary of the interstate commerce commission. A report is current that the decision will be handed down Saturday but it has not been confirmed.

CARBAJAL-CARRANZA CONFERENCE.

Washington, July 22.—Representatives of Provisional President Carbajal will meet Gen. Carranza at Saltillo, probably next week, to discuss the transfer of the Mexican government to the constitutionalists. It was announced at the state department today. The Brazilian minister at Mexico City will arrange for the actual transfer of authority to the constitutionalists. A dispatch to Monterey states that Gen. Carranza has left there for Tampico.

New Orleans, July 22.—Mrs. Fannie Collom, aged 28, formerly post-mistress at Phoenix, Miss., is held here charged with the embezzlement of a thousand dollars of government funds.

The Governor's Race.

(Editorial in News and Courier, July 21.)

Because the opinion is everywhere strong that Gov. Blease is losing heavily in support and is sure of defeat it seems to have been taken for granted, by anti-Bleaseites, at least, that the election of an anti-Bleaseite as governor is certain also. We wish that it were, but unfortunately, as matters now stand, it is not. It is entirely possible for Governor Blease to lose by a substantial majority in the race for the senate and at the same time for a Blease candidate for governor to be assured of election to that office. Moreover, as the situation appears to be shaping up at present, there is serious danger, we think, that this very thing may happen.

The risk lies in the fact that it looks now as if the anti-Blease vote is likely to be split all to pieces while there is a strong probability that the Blease support will be centered upon two of the Blease candidates. If this should happen, the result would be that while the anti-Blease people might outnumber the Bleaseites very considerably the second race for governor might not be between a Bleaseite and an anti-Bleaseite but between two Bleaseites—say Richards and Irby, or Richards and Simms.

It would not be the first time in South Carolina politics that such a sad mischance had wrecked the hopes of a seemingly triumphant majority. Indeed, it is scarcely overstating the case to say that under the primary system this sort of thing has been the rule rather than the exception. Take the senatorial contest of 1902 as an example. In that year there were four candidates from one faction and two from the other. The vote stood as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Elliott...13,658; Evans...17,893; Hemphill...13,261; Henderson...13,771; Johnstone...13,566; Latimer...22,971.

The four candidates from the so-called Conservative wing of the Democratic party polled a total of 54,246 votes, or 13,382 votes more than both Latimer and Evans, the Reform faction candidates; but because the Conservative vote was pretty evenly divided among four candidates, forty thousand voters out of ninety-six thousand were enabled to name the United States senator.

The illustration was not quite so clear in the senatorial election of 1908, for factional lines were not drawn so closely in that year; yet a study of the figures reveals very much the same results in the contest of 1902. There were seven candidates. The vote stood as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Votes. Evans...27,584; Grace...1,499; Johnstone...13,656; Lumpkin...4,361; Martin...6,802; Rhett...22,423; Smith...30,012.

It is not a matter susceptible of proof, but citizens familiar with the conditions which existed at that time will generally agree that Mr. Evans and Mr. Smith each drew practically his entire strength on the first ballot. There were 47,241 voters who in the second primary had to choose between candidates neither of whom was as acceptable to them as some third candidate would have been.

It is some misadvantage of this sort which we fear in the governor's race this year, unless the anti-Blease vote can be reasonably well concentrated on some one of the candidates avowedly opposed to things which have made the administration of the present governor notorious. It is true that there are nearly as many Blease men in the race as there are anti-Blease men; but there is every reason to believe that the Blease forces will concentrate upon two of the Blease candidates and let the rest go. They can do that. Blease has lost strength but the elements which are for him are cohesive and organized. They will vote as their leaders say.

If this plan is followed—and for our own part we do not doubt but that it will be followed—there is a possibility that two of the Blease candidates may each receive upwards of or better than 20,000 votes in the first primary.

Is there any anti-Blease candidate for whom that many votes can be figured out in the first primary as things look now? We don't believe it.

There is every chance for the anti-Blease forces—the forces of reform and progress—to name the next governor in the contest this summer, but it will be an easy matter for them to forfeit that chance if they continue to proceed as they are now proceeding upon the theory that an anti-Blease man is sure of election and that they can afford to scatter their votes about as they please in the first primary.

Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Munn have returned to their home at Lamar, after a visit to Mrs. Jessie Bradford, on East Liberty street.

BROWNING MAKES REPLY.

Editor Sumter Daily Item.

A clipping from your paper of June 30, entitled the "Photo-Drama Defended" has just come to my attention. The article is signed "Pastor Alfred L. Smith," so one would naturally judge that Mr. Smith is not only a Russellite but a preacher of that faith, since his title is similar to Pastor Russell's. It is to be hoped that Pastor Smith obtained his ecclesiastical title in a much more satisfactory way than Russell did for nobody seems to know how Russell ever became "Pastor" Russell except that he just assumed the title.

Mr. Smith's objection to my criticism of the photo-drama "Creation"—especially where I referred to parts of it as "being weak and ludicrous." He reminds me that two million people have seen it. No small wonder that so many have seen it. It's a free show and greatly advertised and there are two million more who will probably see it, but that won't make it any better. Both Pastor Smith and Dr. Young of Columbia closed their replies to my criticism by reminding me of the fact that the Chicago Board of Censorship pronounced these pictures the finest Chicago had ever witnessed. That certainly makes me sorry for Chicago. Just let any ordinary bible student look at the pictures of Noah in the photo-drama. Poor old fellow He is dressed in a three-quarter mother Hubbard and with a mop of hair that looks like a corn shock tied in the middle. It made me feel sorry for the Noah family to see them herding into the ark a bunch of animals that reminded one of a stranded one-ring circus.

Again, for illustration, look at Abraham and Isaac on their way to the sacrifice. Isaac has about enough sticks to build a cow's nest and when he gets the altar ready it looks more like smoking a rabbit out of a hole than anything else.

But every person to his taste, as the old woman said who kissed the cow, so we'll pass from the pictures to Russell. Pastor Smith holds that it is unfair for me to criticize Pastor Russell's good name and character and regards such criticism as "false and malicious slanders." My reply is that when a man puts himself up for a target he must expect to be shot at. If Pastor Russell is a great religious leader and claims, as he does, to be that "faithful and wise servant" referred to in Matthew 24:45-46 then we have a right to expect him to practice what he preaches. We want to see what his religion does for him before taking it too seriously.

Pastor Smith says that I reveal a woeful lack of knowledge of the teachings of Pastor Russell. Neither am I familiar with the teachings of Rousseau for the reason that his life is repellant to me. However, let anyone who has Russell's Studies in Scriptures, volume 2 entitled The Time is at Hand, turn to pages 246 and 247 and simply read the chart. Just look at it. Jesus Christ came to this world as Bridgroom in Oct. 1874. He assumed his power and title as King in 1878. The Millennium begins 1914. Now who knows this? Nobody but Pastor Russell. This is a fair sample of Russellism. What's the use of my digging up all his errors?

Let's look now at this man who claims to have all this inside information concerning the secrets of heaven. Pastor Smith compares Pastor Russell with the Master who, when he was reviled, reviled not again. This comparison is very unfortunate when we see Pastor Russell suing the Brooklyn Eagle for the handsome sum of \$100,000 and having the civil court of New York decide against him.

Mr. W. T. Ellis, the editor-a-field of "The Continent," interviewed Pastor Russell after Russell had made a world tour investigating the missionary work of the churches. Mr. Ellis says that any school boy with a knowledge of world geography could riddle Russell's supposed investigation. He merely made a little sight-seeing scamper around the world and then came back and tried to discredit the work of 20,000 missionaries which involves an expenditure of twenty-five millions of dollars.

If Pastor Smith is interested in knowing something about Pastor Russell's private character I refer him to two pamphlets published by Chas. C. Cook, 150 Nassau Street, New York, "Some Facts and More Facts" and "All About one Russell." In the first named book Rev. J. J. Ross shows very conclusively that Russell lied about several things and also he tells about Mrs. Russell's reasons for divorcing her husband.

Raymond Browning, 1416 Richard Street, Columbia, S. C.

(Mr. Browning is an itinerant evangelist now stopping in Columbia and has letters of reference as to his sincerity as a Christian worker.—Editor.)

Miss Maggie Ard is visiting friends in Florence.

ABOUT THE CANDIDATES.

Two of a Kind.

Well, we know of nothing just now that could be of more interest to South Carolinians than to hear Gov. Cole L. Blease and the I. W. W. leader, Joseph J. Ettor, on joint debate before, say, two or three thousand wearers of the red ribbon.—Journal and Carolina Spartan.

Farmers Standing by Smith.

There is no discounting the farmers' popularity with the politicians—during a campaign year. Senator E. D. Smith, however, remembered the farmers during several off years, which is doubtless responsible for his good standing now among the rural voters.—Rock Hill Herald.

Not in His Race, Anyway.

Nobody who really knows Cole L. Blease, and really knows Lewis W. Parker believes for the thousandth part of a second, that the aforesaid Cole L. Blease, will face to face with Mr. Parker, say those things about him which he belched forth in a meeting at Woodside last night. A sufficient commentary on that speech was furnished by one who heard it. After, in the most demagogic way Blease had tried to influence passion against Mr. Parker because he had by hard work succeeded in life a little more than those who are now working for the company of which he is the highest employe, the governor said he would like to talk about Senator Smith, but did not like to talk about a man behind his back. One man in the audience at this point shouted: "Mr. Parker is not here and you talked about him."—Greenville Piedmont.

Why Does Blease Run?

Greenwood Journal thinks the governor is on the run. At least, he leaves the stand after speaking and does not wait to hear what Jennings and Pollock have to say about him.—Rock Hill Herald.

Already Got It.

Since the governor has turned turkey it is very natural to suppose that he will get it in the neck.—Greenwood Journal.

Notion Demagoguery.

A Gov. Blease and Maj. John G. Richards have been given some pretty hard knocks for their attempts to excuse prejudice by criticizing the new primary rules, and we think all of them have been deserved, but this one from The Sumter Item is about the soundest argument we have seen yet:

"John G. Richards, Blease and Simms rave over the disgrace it is for an illiterate man to make his mark on the enrollment book, but they fail to show that it is a greater disgrace than for the same man to make his mark on his bank check or on a real estate title, mortgage, note or other legal paper. The fact of the matter is each and every objection to the personal enrollment requirement is the rottenest sort of demagoguery and is as silly as it is false."

Every sensible man knows that the new primary rules were adopted purely and solely to insure an honest election and that there was no intention whatever to disfranchise the laboring, the poor or the illiterate man. If this were the case why are the newspapers, nearly all of which are opposed to both the governor and Maj. Richards and Mr. Simms, crying aloud every day for everybody to register before July 28th. It's a great pity the governor, Maj. Richards and Mr. Simms do not really work for the welfare of the class which they claim, without the shadow of truth to sustain them, is oppressed.—Greenwood Journal.

Newspapers Not Running.

The candidates are wasting their time in abusing the newspapers. None of the newspapers are running for office this year.—Anderson Mail.

Manning at Beaufort.

In the gubernatorial race Richard I. Manning stood out in the front rank judging from the applause and cheers which greeted the speaker in his short exposition of the platform on which he is running.—Beaufort Correspondence to Spartanburg Journal.

Poor Richards.

Also poor Richards!—Anderson Mail.

Ward Three Enrolling Committee Met.

The Ward Three Enrolling Committee met Monday afternoon and checked the enrollment against the poll list of 1913. All who voted in Ward Three then and have not enrolled so far were listed; the committee will ascertain if they are still residents of the ward, and if they are their memory will be jogged so that they will have no occasion to say "well, I intended to but I forgot it."