

BLEASE OPENS CAMPAIGN FOR THE U. S. SENATE

Continued from page 4.

I invite a comparison of my record as a Democrat and as one who has always been true to the Democratic party with the record of any other man in the party.

It is true that Mr. Wilson, under certain recommendations from our State, against the Democratic nominees, I have not complained. If my friends have seen fit so far not to give a single public office to a "Bleasite," as some call them, every office that he has given in South Carolina has been to men who were against me and my friends, and in some instances he has given them to men who have voted against me for anything, I do not know of anything for them, and I only mention this to show that Mr. Wilson either himself or through his advisers in this State has absolutely ignored the present Governor of South Carolina and his followers, and instead of treating them with fairness and consideration, he has treated them as if they had been robbers.

In order to show more fully the kind of people he is questioning my Democracy, I desire to call attention not only to the editor, but to the writers and managers of this daily newspaper in Columbia that is holding itself up as the great guardian of South Carolina's Democracy and as the censor of the Democratic party. I quote from a statement in the paper itself:

"Managing Editor - W. W. Ball" "Geners - Ambrose G. Ganssals" "estate of N. G. Gerasias, William E. Gonsals" "Independent Frankelito, and as I heretofore stated, a chicken that has gone back home to roost, one who has gone back to Cuba, the present minister to Cuba; Wm. H. Lyles," "Independent and Secretary of the Haskell convention, who flouted the Democratic nominee and supported Independents, one of those of all of whom General Wade Hampton said-copy of which statement I have - An Independent in the sense that a Radical." Later General Wade Hampton reiterated this in an article on Governor Tillman, which was printed in this newspaper.

"And since this paper and its editor, and I beg pardon here to call your attention to the fact that what a newspaper says is not what the people of the State say, or even what the people of the community say, but what one man, its editor, says, and your opinion to you certainly must be better than his, it is to you - now, while this paper is continually dwelling about supporting the nominee and about upholding the hands of the President, what about them? Have they ever supported me?"

"Have they ever spoken a pleasant word of me or my administration? Have they ever done one thing to uphold my hands as Governor, and for the best interests of the people of this State? No, they have misrepresented me; they have failed to support me; they have abused me; they have lied on me, and all this talk is slush to try to fool my friends and deceive them. However, it will not go. The people will not be deceived. They will not be in 1914, nor in 1912, and they will not be in 1914. Do you remember how the reporter of the papers says everything to the other side? The reporter on the other side, the speaker on the other side received all the compliments, two-thirds of the crowd at every meeting almost were 'against Bleasite.' It was all false. It was done to deceive those who were not present. But when the primaries were held each year their reports were broken false by the voters, who sold their souls for a few cents a year.

My friends, as they will do again this year - too newspaper misrepresentations and falsehoods to the contrary notwithstanding.

all laws, fairly and impartially to all citizens alike.

Second. Honesty of Purpose. Third. Education. Fourth. Taxation. Fifth. A measure that will prevent white people from teaching negroes in any school or college in this State.

Sixth. A flat rate of two-cents a mile on all railroads in South Carolina. Let each candidate when he appears before the voters show himself competent and honest and declare himself upon the issues which I name. Then, after he expresses himself, if the voters find him competent and honest, and his record upon these issues as the voters judge, let the voters support him. If he does not do this, let the voters reject him. I will never permit my fight for my cause to be weakened by my unwilling to give my position.

First. Competency. As to my competency, my experience in the House and Senate, and my reputation as a parliamentarian in those bodies, speak for themselves, and I respectfully submit to you my thorough competency to be a member of the law-making body in this nation.

Second. Honesty of purpose in doing these things which the candidate pleads himself to do, and being certain that he favors those things which are for the best interests of the people - that he favors them at heart and is not simply claiming to favor them for the purpose of being elected.

As to my honesty, I submit the public record in various offices which I have held since 1896.

Third. Education. Let every mother control her own children in her own way, as God intended, and let her be free from outside interference and meddling. As to my education, it is so well known that I feel that it is unnecessary for me to state it.

wasting time to reiterate it. I have done more for the country's schools in this State than any other man who has ever held office in it. My fight for an extra one-mill levy is well known, and it has reached the minds of the people. My fight in the last Legislature, and the result of bringing about a very large appropriation for a common school purpose, marks this administration as having done more for educational interest of South Carolina than any administration heretofore. I think all the leading educators will admit this fact, though some of them, of course through narrow-mindedness and prejudice, will attempt to take some of the credit for me. However, the record speaks for itself, and the country schools of this State under the appropriations of 1914, will receive more assistance than they have ever received before and if the money is spent properly they will be in the best condition they have ever been in.

If this policy is kept up, it will be only a short while until there will not be any more common schools in this State. If this policy is kept up, it will be only a short while until there will not be any more common schools in this State.

many thousands of dollars in my way of handling regulations, and in refusing to offer useless rewards, and by working of all possible ways of making Public, I like the state of mind of the State, and at the same time have placed in the State Treasury about \$19,000. Recently I discovered that a negro was holding an office as a member of the board of trustees in Beaufort. I called by wire mandating that he be turned out, and a meeting of the State Board of Education, a resolution was passed deposing him from office. If there is any negro now holding office in South Carolina, other than in the United States government, I don't know it, and if I were in the United States senate I would make a hard fight to have the United States government fire these postages held in the State by negroes to our white people.

In addition to these matters, I have saved the state thousands of dollars by my veto of extravagant appropriations. At the last session of the General Assembly I sent the following veto message on appropriations:

Message No. 10. State of South Carolina, Executive Chamber. Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: I have received from you without my signature House Bill No. 1405 (Senate No. 1986), Act No. 334, General Appropriation Bill, 1914.

I do not veto the entire act, but in several many instances to sign it would be inconsistent with my pledges to the people of the State, and therefore, while I do not disapprove of all of the items of the Bill, I mention specially herein those which I disapprove.

It is currently rumored in fact I have received it from the body itself, the Senate, and I am glad that the Governor is perfectly satisfied if the people are to be benefited by the money during his administration, whether it is done by this House or by the Senate, by his friends or his opponents. His first idea is the interest and benefit of the State. However, if you will notice the Senate vote, you will find that it had not been for the Governor's friends in that body, many of these items would have been cut out.

"The Governor's only regret is that he did not learn this three years sooner."

I have requested the General Assembly, at each session, since I have been Governor, to remove all of their appropriations, and not to put many small items together, and make a large lump sum, without a proper explanation of their individual items. Patrons have I requested the State to the appropriations to be made to the institutions of learning, and I have pointed out under the heading of maintenance, for instance, as many thousands of dollars in placed upon a school, that item, and you will find that it is not necessary, and it will not be essential in order to give the children of the parents their children and place them in the hands of some one who is highly educated in books, but whose God, in some way, and for some reason, has woefully neglected in applying the common sense.

I am opposed to compulsory education, and it is every other man who is a true Democrat and who believes in the God-given right of letting all people control their own children. I have common-sense argument in favor of compulsory education. It comes from those who expect to receive higher salaries in order to be financially benefited, or who come from some narrow-minded big game preserve school system, whose children have brought shame to the face of many families, and now want to attempt to raise somebody else's children.

My friends, I have brought shame to the face of many families, and now want to attempt to raise somebody else's children.

but political spite and little cheap intrigues on the part of some people, has created all the stir that has gone on there. I think you would make a mistake, gentlemen, a serious mistake, to interfere with this board, and I certainly do not think you should, you find a bill to change the management of the House, and the manner of appointment of the board, and it was overwhelmingly defeated by your Body, and I cannot understand why a change in the management should now try to be eloped in the Appropriation Bill. It is simply another case of legislation in the Appropriation and Supply Bill, which is getting entirely too common for your Bodies.

I respectfully disapprove of the entire section 31 (Historical Commission), and I disapprove, specifically of Items 2, Item 3, Item 4, and Item 5, under this section. I also disapprove of the entire section, and my reasons apply to this section as a whole and to each item separately. I do not believe that this Commission is legally constituted under the Constitution and Statute Laws of our State, and I believe that any appropriation that you would make to it, as at present constituted, is unconstitutional, and that, by an injunction, this Commission, or any of its officers or employees, could be stopped from drawing every dollar of any appropriation which might be made for it. In addition, I do not believe that the Commission is recording a fair and truthful history of our State. Those of you members of the General Assembly, who are friends of mine, if you desire to be written in the history of this State as anarchists, blackguards, as thieves in primary election matters, as favoring illiteracy in the State, and as being opposed to honest government, you vote to pass this section over my veto, for I am satisfied that this is the manner in which my friends and myself will be written in the History of South Carolina by the present Historical Commission. No matter what attainments may be ours, no matter what historic things we may do, the truth in regard to us and what we do will never be recorded by this Commission.

I hope that I speak plainly. This Commission, as now constituted, is clearly unconstitutional, and has no power except such as they take without the authority of the law. I want the world to know I am against this thing, and my friends, that they were my enemies.

I disapprove of Item 5 of Section 32 (interest likely to accrue under head of State Library) as a similar item in 1909, and I have never been able to see it since I have been Governor, and so far I have never seen any necessity for it, and in my opinion it is \$3,000 simply set aside for some people to get their hands on, if the opportunity is offered.

I disapprove of Item 3 of Section 32 (I have stated to you gentlemen in my general message, and in special messages, that I would not sign any bond under your Act of 1913. You have been able to make many changes in this pending act during your session, and I want to guarantee you right now that I do not propose to sign any such bond. Therefore, this \$25,000 is absolutely useless, and an un-called-for appropriation, and if you put it on the people it will simply be an outrage.)

I disapprove of Item 4 of Section 30 (I have been Governor for a little over three years, and I have never heard of a Phosphate Commission, although I am told I am chairman of it. I don't know whose pocket this is getting into, but if anybody is getting it, he is getting it wrongfully, and, as Uncle Josh would say, "I am against it.")

I disapprove of Item 5 of Section 32 (I do not see any use in having a committee to be examining lawyers when the Supreme Court is having lawyers before it every few days for disbarment. I think we would do better to go back to where we were a year or two ago, and then maybe we wouldn't have so much partially.)

I disapprove of Item 16 of Section 32 (I am reliably informed that there is another bank building in the city of Columbia which offered the commission a better proposition than this, and this was declined, or at least was not properly considered, and that when offered the State can save \$200,000 more out of the \$200,000.)

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your time, but I find that on account of the fact that I cannot get into the newspapers of this State, except that I say for it matters which I desire to talk to the people of South Carolina about, and being a poor man and unable to pay the extravagant prices charged, it is necessary for me to do so fully. I have only given you an outline of the various matters here today, but as I will take up more fully and discuss the various issues which I have laid down.

The election of a Legislature is a very important matter and you should ask each candidate for the House of Representatives and the Senate the question how he will vote on these various issues. Ask him particularly what he will do in reference to preventing white people from teaching negroes, and if he says he will not vote for the bill, to stop it, you beat him. Ask him particularly how he stands on the two-cent rate bill, and incidentally, you might ask him if he is a railroad attorney, if he travels on a railroad pass, and if he is a candidate for re-election, you might compliment him on how he voted on the two-cent rate bill at the last session, and want him to do better.

The election of Governor is of particular importance at this time. I do not know that it is necessary for me to state here what I am going to say, but for fear that my position may be understood fully, and to keep it from being misunderstood by any one, I wish to say that I do not propose to take any part in the gubernatorial election, as between friends of mine. In other words, I do not propose to take part in the gubernatorial election, as between friends of mine. In other words, I do not propose to dictate to the people of this State whom they shall elect as Governor. I do not propose to suggest even to my friends and supporters whom they shall support, or whom they shall not support. I am going to support and vote for the man who is my friend, and who represents the principles that I do, and I expect my friends and supporters to do the same thing. In the first primary election, if that primary is held on two friends of mine, I shall take no part, but if it is between one of my friends and an enemy or opponent of mine, and the cause which I represent, I shall do everything within my power, and use all the power I have, to elect a man who stands for the principles which I represent, and who is my friend, for by representing those principles he proves himself to be a friend of the people of my state, and should be elected Governor.

Those of you who believe in a government of the people, by the people and for the people, should vote only for a man who would carry out the principles and policies which the majority of the people of this State endorsed by re-electing me in 1912. This is no small matter, because all of my friends will be kicked out of office if the opposition wins, they will treat you exactly as if you were from Cuba, or as if you belonged to a non-union party. Marry the opposition. If an anti-Bleasite man is elected Governor of South Carolina, every Bleasite holder in the State, whether he be high official or low, whether he hold a salaried position or an honorary position, as soon as the time comes he will be dismissed and one of the other faction placed in his stead. I have set a precedent in appointments, and I refused to appoint any man upon the proposition of the Legislature of other persons, unless the man appointed was acceptable to me. The only exceptions in this has been in cases where the law made it so that I had no discretion in the matter.

I did not mean the word, "Bleasite," in 1890, when the State was divided into Bleasite and anti-Bleasite, but I do mean it now, because I believe that the State of South Carolina was too great and her people are too honorable, to be divided off an followers of the not followers of any one man. And I had never hoped to live to see the day when the great Palmetto state, with its glorious history, with her gallant and chivalrous men and noble women, would be divided into "Bleasites" and "anti-Bleasites." It is an honor to me, which I never expected, a word which was coined and a condition which was brought about by enemies. Indeed, I thank them for the honor, but I am not yet ready to accept it.

This Bill was sent to the Governor's office and recorded for by the Governor's Secretary last night, and it could easily have been returned to your desk last night, but since it was found in the Bill, and it had to be recalled and corrected this morning. The Bill was returned to the Governor's office and recorded for by the Governor's Secretary at 11:10, and he had it in the Governor's hands much less than an hour after your Bodies the House and Senate have been working for it for EIGHT WEEKS. Who has caused the delay in the adjournment of the General Assembly? Who has protracted your session, certainly not the Governor.

Very respectfully, COLE L. BLEASIE

Notwithstanding the fact that the Senate has vetoed \$35,000.00, and that the University of South Carolina has been closed, and the Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station has been closed, and the State Agricultural Experiment Station has been closed, I have disapproved of this appropriation as well as I have been Governor, for the Constitution of this State says that you shall not appropriate public funds for private purposes. I would rather my Constitutional oath by approving this item, and therefore, I will not consent to it.

I herewith insert extracts from Hon. A. Banks' address to the members of the Fair Association, as reported in the Columbia State of Saturday, April 11, 1914.

tiring from the office of president of your society it is my desire to give a brief review of its history during the three years of my administration.

A new Constitution has been adopted, which admits and renders more prominent all of the affairs of the society.

The city of Columbia is paying one-third the interest of our bonds outstanding.

The treasurer reports \$1,900 cash in the bank.

I also quote financial report of the Fair Association, clipped from the same newspaper.

Assets: Real Estate \$15,000 00; Treasury bonds \$3,000 00; New grounds and buildings \$9,723 11; Race Track \$2,934 89; D. G. Ellison, treasurer \$1,953 89; J. M. Cantey, secy. \$7 84; Suspense account \$6 85; Total \$33,675 99.

Liabilities: Bills payable \$29,500 00; Bonds outstanding \$3,000 00; Warrants outstanding \$69 72; Total \$32,569 72.

Net surplus \$1,106 27; Net surplus 1912 \$64,844 49; Profit 1913 \$1,651 78; Total \$66,496 27.

You will notice by this that this society is no longer a beggar. She has a net surplus of \$70,467.27, and I call your particular attention to the fact that outstanding notes of \$12,000 endorsed individually by members of the Executive Committee have been retired. These are the words of President Banks. A steel auditorium worth \$40,000 has been put up. The Treasurer reports \$1,900 cash in bank.