

to use his land as collateral as easily and with as little expense as he can use his personal property, and avoid the expense for every examination of title, and this would reduce the cost of borrowing money. I am not blaming lawyers for charging their fees, but I want another and a better system than we have. I would favor a system of rural credit, which would furnish money at a low rate of interest and for long time, so that more farmers could buy and own their own farms, and by low rates of interest and on long time it would cost them less than the usual rent. If this system were adopted it would help an energetic economical farmer to own his land, to improve its production, its increase, his comforts for his wife and family, and make it more profitable and more comfortable, a more attractive place to live, and we would help to stop the flow of people from country to town. So intensely do I feel the necessity, not only for the individual, but for the welfare of the State,—the necessity of farmers on a small scale owning their own land, that I should, if it were not unconstitutional, advocate freedom from taxation for a period of 5 years to the extent of the homestead, \$1,000.00, provided the owner lived on his own farm in the country, or lived in his own house in town, granting to the struggling farmers the same privilege now freely given to struggling manufacturers in cities. Since, however, this cannot be I deem it imperative that we pay particular attention to the farmers by teaching agriculture in the county schools as well as by sending experts to the farmer to aid him by suggestions. We have a great agricultural college but the percentage of our boys who can ever get to Clemson is pitifully small, still Clemson in conjunction with the State and federal governments can and will carry instruction in agriculture to the children in the country. I shall advocate this so that children can acquire a knowledge of plant life, of soil building by winter cover crops, deep plowing, rotation, diversification, animal husbandry, which will give the taste and love for it, and the farm will come to be a place of comfort and plenty, which will attract and hold our people. As a trustee of Clemson College, and as a member of its fertilizer board, I desire to say that an earnest effort is being made to give protection to the farmer, and also to the honest manufacturer in commercial fertilizers. The legislature enacts the fertilizer laws—the Fertilizer Board at Clemson College sees to their execution. We propose the redrafting of these commercial fertilizer laws to meet new conditions which have recently developed as well as to deal with old conditions. There is a large loss to the farmer through the use of worthless fillers in fertilizers. The use of these fillers is not now against the law; the fault is in our law. The farmer and honest manufacturer would be better protected by preventing the use of worthless fillers; it would mean a higher grade fertilizer, and a higher price yet it would save paying freight and handling charges on material that is absolutely worthless.

I favor also that the law be changed to require a statement showing the source of ammonia (whether blood, fish scrap, cotton seed meal, or sulphate of ammonia, or any other source.) Such changes in the law would be fair and just to both farmer and honest manufacturer and would protect both against imposition by dishonest manufacturers. I cannot too strongly urge upon farmers to follow Clemson's lead in striving to build up the soil otherwise than by commercial fertilizers. As it is, it costs the farmer 1-3 to 1-2 of his crop to pay his fertilizer bill. He must build up the soil but must do so at less cost than that of commercial fertilizer.

**Railroads.**

It is easy and popular to attack the railroads. I have no pecuniary interest in railroads. I believe that railroads should be under regulation of the State, and be required to give the public the best service consistent with conditions, but I believe in fair treatment of railroads, as of anything else. I believe that what all business interests require is a readjustment of rates in order that discrimination may be wiped out. There is no reason why Virginia should have lower rates than South Carolina, nor why North Carolina should have lower rates than South Carolina. I believe we can and will have a readjustment of rates based on Charleston as our chief seaport. I favor procuring a workable mileage book system—commercial travelers and the public are entitled to this much.

**Liquor Question.**

I had hoped that there would be nothing in this campaign about the liquor question, but as it has been injected, I will merely say that I stand for local option. Conditions differ greatly in different counties, and public sentiment is necessary to make any law effective. We cannot force

prohibition on a county that does not want it; nor can we force a dispensary on a county that does not want that. As governor I shall see to it that such laws as are adopted by the different counties shall be rigidly enforced.

**Taxation.**

The inequality of assessments is notorious—this trouble is State-wide. In my judgment the primary cause of this is lack of accurate information as to values. Our system is wrong and devoid of opportunity for accurate knowledge. My plan to remedy this is to provide a system by which information can be secured, and with this information in hand I would offer a plan to equalize assessments—a plan to be submitted to the legislature for its determination and action.

**Roads.**

I stand for better roads; and when built these must be maintained. Our great trouble now is that our road policy is not systematized, and a good road is frequently allowed to go to pieces. Our road methods must be improved. We need better roads to cheapen transportation of farm products, to make easier, pleasanter and cheaper our moving about in the country, to make schools and churches more accessible, to enable our rural population to have more social intercourse with each other and their neighbors and to bring about those social pleasures which remove the isolation of those living in the country, and make life more pleasant and attractive.

**Drainage.**

Drainage is one of the leading questions demanding our attention, both from a sanitary point of view and also to make productive thousands of acres which now in an undrained state are of little value. The plans for this work, and offered by the federal government offer opportunity heretofore denied us, and we must direct our thought and attention to them to bring about that improvement in health and productivity which is within our grasp. While urging this work we must be careful to preserve our sacred State rights and guard against the danger of vesting too large and unlimited powers in the federal government.

**Confederate Veterans.**

I have always supported and voted for appropriations for those grand old men, our Confederate veterans. Their services to our State and to the South richly deserve this recognition and we of the younger generation who were too young to take part in that war must see to it that these patriots are cared for and that their latter days may be made easy and without work.

**Militia.**

I believe in a strong, well maintained, and well disciplined militia, for a powerful influence is exerted on a certain class by the knowledge that these zealous and efficient young men are in easy call. In my legislative experience I supported liberal appropriations to support the militia. Under existing conditions the need for an efficient militia cannot be denied. I shall endeavor to urge increased efficiency and such support as will encourage our active young men to enlist and to take a pride in the organization.

**State Hospital for the Insane.**

I favor liberal support of the Hospital for the Insane, and most efficient management.

**Tubercular Hospital.**

I favor support of a well equipped and maintained hospital for tubercular patients.

**Enforcement of Law.**

I believe that the most fundamental defect in our State government today is the non-enforcement of law. There should be on the part of all our right thinking citizens the most active and aggressive co-operation in impressing upon all of our people the highest respect for law and order, obedience to law because it is the law. This respect for law will be determined largely by the attitude of the governor to the enforcement of laws. If elected governor I promise you that I shall not forget that I have sworn to uphold the constitution of South Carolina, and shall do everything in my power by precept and by example to promote the cause of civic righteousness, and to inculcate a love for the law and respect for the majesty of the law.

**Factionalism.**

Several months ago I publicly declared that I should not, unless forced to do so, recognize the existence of two factions in this State; the people of South Carolina and the welfare of South Carolina are greater than any man in this State, be he who he may. I have many friends who voted for Bleese, and many who voted for Jones. Neither Bleese nor Jones is a candidate for the governorship, and this fact should eliminate both of them from the race. Since, however, some of the candidates have already injected Bleeseism as an issue in this campaign, I wish to say now definitely and unequivocally that I have never been a follower or supporter of Governor Bleese; that I have not approved and do not now approve his course.

**Closing.**

Permit me to say a few words of a personal nature. I served my county four years in the house of representatives and eight years in the senate. I am now serving the people of the State as a life trustee of Clemson College. I have endeavored throughout my life to faithfully serve my county and State wherever opportunity offered. I believe I am familiar with the needs of the State and of her people, I have attended to my private affairs and have been blessed with reasonable success. I have the desire, ambition if you choose, to serve my State as its governor. If you entrust this charge to my hands I will promise to be the governor of all the people and endeavor to unite them in upbuilding the State, to do justly, to love mercy, and to maintain and uphold the dignity and honor of South Carolina.

**Where Mr. Richards Stands.**

The Hon. J. G. Richards, of Liberty Hill, was reared on the farm, and has been a farmer all his life. For twelve years a member of the South Carolina legislature from Kershaw county. For six years floor leader of the house of representatives. For four years a member of the board of trustees of Clemson College. Has served four years as member of the South Carolina Railroad Commission and is now chairman of that commission.

**His Platform.**

To the Democracy of South Carolina: It is impossible, of course, at this stage, to give my platform in its entirety, but I desire to state in unequivocal terms what my position is upon some of the more important questions that are of vital interest to the people of the State.

My position upon the educational question is known wherever I am known, and I shall continue to advocate equitable support for our higher educational institutions. Our public school system is the vitalizing force that supplies our colleges and the main foundation of our republican institutions. I shall advocate the fullest and most unstinted support of our common school system, with particular attention to the development of our rural schools and education. We are now making great improvements along educational lines, but this question is of transcendent importance and demands our very best effort. I am in favor of enlarging our free school system so that it will offer to every white child in South Carolina a good common school education.

I am in favor of erecting convenient and comfortable school buildings and furnishing all necessary text books free of cost.

I am in favor of paying our teachers, both men and women, salaries commensurate with the dignity and importance of their positions.

I have always opposed compulsory school attendance and shall continue to do so. We should provide every necessary facility and enlarge upon our impelling system, rather than resort to compulsion. Such legislation is fundamentally wrong; besides it is inexpedient and unnecessary and therefore unwise.

**For Roads.**

The building of good and permanent highways will add more to the value of our State than any other public utility.

The effect of good roads throughout the State would be felt in every walk of life, but such improvements would be a special blessing and a great economy to those of our people who live in the country districts. I shall stand for the permanent improvement of our highways, such improvement being made under local self-government in the various counties.

Farming is the chief and greatest of all our industries; it is the bed-rock foundation of our economic life. I shall stand for legislative and administrative policy that will give vigorous support to all agencies which make for the full development of our agricultural interest, and for a policy that shall foster all other business interests, and shall tend to induce capital to come into the State for the purpose of developing to the fullest extent our splendid resources.

In the campaign which I made for governor in 1910 I advocated State-wide prohibition. I am still a prohibitionist by practice and from principle. In my opening speech at Sumter, and in many places throughout our State while discussing the whiskey question and submitting my opinion as to its solution I used this language: "This question is an issue before our people, their voices should be supreme. I believe in the right of the people, and when they have spoken upon a given question, it is trenchery upon the part of their representatives not to heed that will as expressed at the ballot box."

The people of South Carolina have expressed their will at the ballot box.

I believe in trusting the people. Their will when expressed is supreme. Therefore, I shall not op-

and have declared for local county pose local option but will favor the principle of allowing the various counties to determine this question as seems proper to them, with, of course, a strict observance of constitutional limitations.

**Opposed to Restrictions.**

I am in favor of honest elections and a strict enforcement of our laws against violators of the same, but I shall oppose any legislation either by the Democratic party or by the legislature that will deprive the humblest white Democrat of his right to vote.

During the 12 years that I was a member of our legislature, I contended and voted for biennial sessions. I held then and hold now that annual sessions are not only unnecessary, but that they are a positive injury to the best interests of the State; therefore, I stand for biennial sessions of our legislature.

I am in favor of a 2-cent rate for passenger travel over the three trunk line railroads in this State and their branch lines, and a 1.2 cent rate for the independent short lines.

I shall advocate, as I always have, liberal support of our ex-Confederate soldiers.

A well organized, well disciplined, State militia is essential for the protection of the State and the proper enforcement of her laws; therefore, I favor a sufficient appropriation by the State for the proper maintenance of its citizen-soldiery.

I think the general principle of working the convicts upon the highways of the county in which they are convicted is a wise one and therefore I favor it, but am unalterably opposed to working white and negro convicts together or forcing terms of social equality in the camp or stockade.

I shall stand for a strict enforcement of the law with fairness to all our people and without partiality to any. I believe, however, that justice should be tempered with mercy.

**Economy One Plank.**

I shall stand for an economical administration of our State government, with, of course, a proper regard for the protection and development of the various interests of the State.

A reckless expenditure of the public funds is a crime, and I shall oppose all extravagant appropriations for whatever purpose they may be made. The people of this State are too heavily burdened by taxation and it shall be my purpose not only to prevent an increase of that burden, but to reduce it.

I shall advocate a complete revision and readjustment of the tax laws of the State and the adoption of a system of assessment that will make all property bear its honest and just proportion of the burden of taxation. No system of taxation can be just that does not bear upon every class of property equitably.

I believe in keeping separate the three coordinate branches of the government; they are God-ordained and constitution made and I shall so regard them.

If I am elected governor of the State I shall endeavor with the ability and strength at my command to keep in constant touch with the working force of all our public institutions and branches of the government, and shall endeavor to so inform myself in regard to our public affairs as to intelligently recommend to the law-making power of the State those things that the public weal and the needs of the hour demand.

In making the race for governor it is my purpose to make the issues plain and to the point. I will go before the people upon a platform every plank of which shall stand for what I believe to be the people's good and for the development and upbuilding of our State in all her interests. I will go before them with the firm determination that if I am elected I will be the governor of the whole people.

**Outline of J. T. Duncan's Speech.**

Citizens of Sumter County:

Four years ago, two years ago, I came, and again today I come asking the voters of South Carolina to make me governor.

I might cover the field by saying I am a Democrat, thoroughly progressive, in favor of whatever is for the betterment of mankind and so thoroughly do I sympathize with the needs of the masses that I am willing to experiment largely in their behalf, and in withholding and withdrawing from the privileged classes those special privileges that have robbed the masses to enrich the classes.

Society today is largely in debt to the submerged strata and for the good of all, should aid in its betterment.

There is much time wasted in dealing with particulars when the trouble lies higher up.

Let one but point at the System, and at once the System's agents divert the attention of all by raising an issue.

Last campaign saw the System working both ends of the line with Jones to fool the Christians and

Bleese to catch the sinners, and the newspapers feature the dog fight between the two and thus caught you voters going and coming.

The papers shaped the public choice before the speakers reached them and on every side Duncan was told that he was the man who should be elected but seeing no chance to elect him he had to vote for one to beat the other of the two men backed by the System.

The people were divided, but the System was winner in any event.

If unable to pick them out, just watch the dailies on tomorrow. Their reporters doubtless are already instructed which two to play up.

While the System has the list crowded, yet it will soon be evident which are dropped as squeezed lemons, and which two are to work the ends of the line.

As long as our prejudices blind us, just so long will the System prevail, but a clear understanding will enable the voters to smash the system.

Send free men to your legislature. Select judges and solicitors who are honest and independent, and select as governor Duncan, who the System fears above all men and "let the people rule."

Shall we again see the System defeat the will of the voters?

(Other parts of Mr. Duncan's platform are an attack on W. A. Clark and the System, of which Mr. Duncan says Mr. Clark is the head.)

**Charles A. Smith.**

Charles A. Smith, Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, in brief stands for economy in government. No extravagance. No waste of the people's money. No appropriations beyond the State's income. No increased taxation, except as towns, townships or counties vote special levies for schools or local necessities. A business system that will insure economical expenditure of appropriations.

Favors a flat two-cent passenger fare on our railroad systems and no freight discrimination against South Carolina points as compared with adjoining States. The railroads have had a large share in the prosperity that has come to the State, and do not, as public service corporations, show proper appreciation of obligation to the source of their income.

Favors the submission by the legislature to the voters of the State of the question of outlawing the sale of intoxicants within its borders; a measure which would insure the benefits of the Webb law, uplift public morals, and promote temporal prosperity.

Favors legislation that there may be no discrimination against the poor man for violation of the criminal law. For the same offense one man pays a fine within his means and goes free; another because of inability to pay goes to the chain gang or penitentiary.

Favors proper legislation to secure honesty and freedom in elections; but is opposed to any qualification that will deprive an honest white citizen of the right of ballot.

Believes implicitly in an educated citizenship and in placing adequate facilities within the reach of a rising generation; believes that the cultivation of love and pride and public opinion will as readily banish illiteracy as mandatory legislation, and is for compulsory education only should the people so declare after the submission of the question to their suffrage.

Believes as a matter of economy and public interest in a restriction of local and special legislation by the general assembly, that more time may be devoted to matters of State-wide importance.

Believes earnest consideration should be given the demands of the farmers of the State for rural credits and for agricultural and industrial education in our public schools.

Stands loyal to democracy, which means government by all the people, for the best interests of all the people, and not government of the many by a preferred class.

**John G. Chinkscales.**

The platform of John G. Chinkscales, candidate for governor, follows:

He stands for peace and harmony; for the common good and welfare of all Carolinians; for a faithful enforcement of laws; and for universal education.

He stands for less criticism, more charity, a get-together spirit, and a pull altogether for those things that make for material, intellectual, and moral prosperity.

He advocates a radical change of our whole tax system, and to that end believes that a commission composed of intelligent, patriotic citizens should be appointed, whose business shall be to study thoroughly the whole subject of taxation, and formulate a plan that shall more evenly and equitably distribute the burden.

He knows that a lawless people can never become a great people. He believes that much of the lawlessness with which Carolinians are charged is due to the delay and miscarriage of justice in our courts and to the la-

administration of the laws. He stands, therefore, for a rigid, prompt, fearless enforcement of all laws on the statute books—good, bad, and indifferent.

He believes that the vote power and the pardoning power should be very cautiously, but conscientiously, used, and that every case should stand on its own merits.

He believes that the governor of a commonwealth should be the governor of all the people, without regard to class, creed, or condition.

He believes in a persistent, unremitting effort to develop with the least cost to our citizens the thousands of acres of swamp lands in our State; and would foster any enterprise that makes for the development of his native State along any line.

More than all else, he would work for the development of our noblest possession and the State's greatest asset—the boys and girls around our hearthstones.

The vast majority of our children can never go to college. They finish their education in the common school. He believes that for this reason the common, county school, should be made the best educational institution in the land; and that the indifferent parent should be required to send his child to school.

His slogan is: Every child a chance.

**L. J. Browning Presents Views.**

In response to your invitation of some days ago, I herewith present my views as to the most important issues that now demand solution by our people. These issues are new; our State has stood still along many lines, while other States have made great progress, and are reaping wonderful benefits therefrom. I would put South Carolina in step with these enlightened ideas along some legislative lines. Her past history shows that she was a leader on the road of progress and honor; the same blood is here today, and she can again occupy her old position if she will.

The more important principles I shall advocate are as follows:

First: I believe in honest elections in which every white Democrat may vote one time at each election and no more. What we must do is to preserve the high character of our citizenship. A foundation polluted at its head, is corrupt throughout. The foundations of our government are laid in the honesty, patriotism and high character of our people; allow these to be destroyed and our government inevitably becomes corrupt.

Second: The gross irregularities in the funds available for the education of our children, should be remedied. This can be partially accomplished by making the three-mill tax a State, and not a county tax. All our children are the children of the State, and not of one particular county; therefore it is the duty of the State to give all the opportunity of obtaining at least a common school education. A far better plan, however, would be to abolish the three-mill tax and let the constitution declare that the general assembly shall annually provide sufficient funds to run each school a specific number of days. This would not in any way affect the poll or the dog tax, or any special levies made by individual school districts. To show some of these irregularities, a negro child in one county receives more for its education than a white child receives in eight of the other counties of the State and practically as much as the white children of five other counties receive. Of course this would not entirely equalize all school terms but either of these plans would forever do away with the 60, 80 and 100 day schools. The latter plan would be greatly superior to the first, but even the first would be a great improvement on the present arrangement.

Third: Our system is 50 years behind the times, and to meet the demands of modern thought and an enlightened civilization will have to be made over almost entirely. We will have to repeal that provision of our constitution which declares that all property shall be taxed in proportion to its value.

The personal property tax is the most unjust and the hardest to collect of all taxes. No state should tax a citizen's household and kitchen furniture, a mechanic's tools or a farmer's implements of agriculture. In fact, I take the position that this personal property tax should be done away with for State purposes. In its stead let us substitute a graduated income tax, somewhat as follows: Allow each individual so much for his own support, so much for his wife, and so much for each dependent child. All income over this exemption, up to \$1,000, to pay a very moderate tax of 1 per cent., the next \$2,500 to pay 1.2 per cent., the next \$6,500 to pay 3 per cent, all above \$10,000 to pay 6 per cent; the greater the income, the higher the rate. I shall advocate an inheritance tax along the same lines.

These are both just taxes; the greater the income, the greater the need of good government and the greater protection does than man re-