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UNION, S. C., AUGUST 22, 1902.

THE ROAD LAW.

The question of the road law seems to be the question of most prominence in the county and every candidate for the legislature, House and Senate, devotes a considerable portion of their time to the discussion of the present road law which requires road duty from the age of 18 to 50 with \$1.00 commutation tax, or 8 days work on the roads, if so much be found necessary. Those who are in defending themselves as to the passage of such a law and explaining how it was a compromise that they had to accept or have no road law. Having fought it almost to the hour of adjournment. The outs get on to the law with both feet and declare it is the most infamous law on the statute books. Taxation without representation, etc. But we have so far failed to hear any of them suggest a feasible plan for road work, or in fact any plan at all. We agree with the outs that it is a hardship to force the 18 year old boy to pay road duty, and we agree with the ins that as the lower counties were fighting tooth and toenail to make the days for work on the roads 12, it was better to arrive at a compromise than force the calling of an extra session for the sole purpose of enacting a road law. This would have been very expensive to the taxpayers.

We believe that this is a tax for road working. Let a law be enacted making a levy of 1 mill, if so much be found necessary, for working of the roads. Let the tax be collected as other taxes are collected. Then let competent men be employed who understand road construction. Let them employ day labor at so much a day and work the roads with this method, we firmly believe that more and better work can be done on a road with half a dozen hired hands in one day than a dozen white men who are warned out to work the roads will do in two days. No overseer has the inclination to force a lot of his neighbors and his peers to hard and earnest work on the road like he would a gang of wage hands, and it would not amount to a row of pins if he did. It would only make him enemies. The wage hand could be made to work to earn his pay—not so with the present plan. The present system is wrong and there will be confusion and bad roads as long as it exists. With the wages system and the help of the road machine, we believe we would soon have roads equal to any county in the State, and the whole county would be the gainer.

What is the matter with Gaffney? It seems that there must be blood on its political moon. Here is where most of the political confusion and scrapping has originated. First Tillman and McLaurin became so wrought up during a speaking that they both tendered their resignations as Senators, an action without a precedent. Then comes Jim Tillman and Editor DeCamp, at another speaking, when DeCamp faced Tillman and told him he was responsible for the editorial that charged Tillman with being a falsifier, gambler, drunkard, blasphemer and defaulter. And last comes a personal encounter between Messrs. Hemphill and Latimer. There must be something in the air or water at Gaffney that sends fighting blood coursing through men's veins.

Next Tuesday will be the day for casting your ballot for the State and County officers. Go to the polls like a man and cast your ballot for the best man in your judgment for the various offices. Help to put men of spotless character in office, that they may reflect credit upon the State and the citizens who put them there. If you know a man's character to be questionable vote for some one else, though the one of unsavory reputation may have been your personal friend. The matter of electing officers is not a personal thing, but the object should be to put men in who are honorable and upright, and who will do the greatest good to the greatest number. Do this and you will never have cause to regret your vote.

The County Campaigners.

(Continued from page 1) qualification. Paid beautiful tribute to the ladies present, also to the old soldiers, those who have gone and those who are still with us. It is a sad picture to see the negligence on our part as to educating our children. The white children told in the m'ls, the negro child told to school, if he has to pick blackberries and plums along the road to eat. C. H. Peake for Master and J. M. Greer for Probate Judge are without opposition.

THOS. J. BETENBAUGH for re-election as County Supervisor was on his merits and record. Had faithfully and conscientiously discharged every duty. Had nothing to hide from public inspection. Did not think chain gang camp should be on poor house farm. Those people, poor but good people, don't want to put convict camp there. Mr. J. F. Belue had been an efficient keeper of the county home.

The office of County Supervisor is one of the most responsible and the most thankless in Union county, there is always some one to find fault, no matter how much is done. The board has done everything in its power with the funds at their command for the improvement of roads. Is as anxious as any man in Union county to see the roads of Union equal to the best county roads in the State, and would like to see them macadamized, but it can not be done without money to do it with. The roads have been greatly improved, however. They are in better shape on general average than they have ever been in Union county. I leave this to the candidates and those traveling over the roads. With the road machine and the chain gang we have been able to do this and to build permanent roads in some places where they used to be so bad. To build permanent roads takes money by the thousands. Regarding the article in The Union Times from Santuc, it was on account of ill feelings between the correspondent and the road overseers, but was at the same time intended as a stab at me, I will show the matter up and what is lying behind it. I will reply to his article. I think I will be able to crack his up. The rails speak for themselves. You who travel over them know whether I have done my duty or not. The article refers to conditions in Mr. Mobley's township and he will speak for himself. I am always held responsible, however, it seems, by some. Complimented the ladies for their presence, and said it was a good sign to see them present. Cheers.

T. J. L. LINDER of Gibbs, announced his candidacy for County Supervisor, and said that he had been styled, since the campaign started, as being the millionaire of West Springs, but am only a common, plain farmer, and the talk about gold and his land is all rot. Has no political record, but will, if elected, try to make a good one.

DR. T. B. BATES. He elected would do his duty as to the road law. If law was off it was not his fault. He got unduly excited at Santuc and caused some amusement by his reference to the charges that he had sold out to the green back party. The green back party had nothing to give themselves, what the devil could it give him. His name was put on without his knowledge. Said J. L. Strain had joined the Republican party and that he was elected County Commissioner on the fusion ticket. Charley Bolt and Jim Vinson had also gone over to help the people out. Referred to the retrieval of the party by Hampton. Needn't run about here telling tales on me. By the eternal Gods they cannot bulldoze me. I am going to be your next County Supervisor. Mr. Bedenbaugh should have been a preacher, might now have been a missionary to China. Howze was a good horse trader, and would stop on his way to a torn up bridge to make a horse swap if it took him all day. As to Linder, that rich man whose land is teeming with gold, why Opir and the Klondyke is not in it beside him. Vanderbilt has his place named Biltmore, but Linder is going to name his "Getmore". He has civil engineers now laying out his gold producing land. I believe I'll close.

E. C. HOWZE. Was his third attempt to win this office. Did not expect to get it first time, went round to get acquainted. Was born in Chester. Gave his record in assisting to redeem the State in '76. Thinks road overseers should be appointed from the roads they oversee. Good roads, good schools, good churches and good mail facilities are essentials to progressive country. Thinks convict camp should be on poor house farm. Don't want cotton raised on the farm, but everything for home consumption. Referred to his horse trade with Dr. Bates in which he, Howze, got badly stuck.

FOR AUDITOR—JNO. G. FARR, for re-election. Is still the beardless boy, though had tried hard to sprout a healthy moustache, couldn't do it and gave it up in disgust. His good looks had stood by him in former races and he would stand by his good looks and praise the bridge that carried him safely over. He was the best looking candidate of the whole 29, and if it was not for the ladies being present he would feel awfully lonesome in the meetings. Got the crowd to laughing, the first demonstration up to that time. He had made a faithful officer and wanted to be returned.

If in your best judgment you think I have made you a faithful and good officer, I ask you for your suffrages. If you think there is a better man out vote for him. As to the promise that I would not run again, I said that I wanted to perfect myself for the ministry and if what I make in the office was enough to go to college and do this I would never be in politics again. It has not been sufficient and I have studied hard for this end at home, but as yet have not succeeded in perfecting myself as I wish. I was earnestly solicited to make this race, and if you voted for me the last time solely on the ground that you understood that I would not again appear before you for the office, then vote for some other man. I am before you on my record. Even the candidates opposing me are kind enough to admit that I have made a good and efficient officer, and I have never yet heard a word to the contrary. I leave the matter with you. Cheers.

J. D. EPPS, of Goshen Hill, second appearance for this office, and was glad to see the ladies present. Hoped to be taken from the ranks of the defeated candidates' association this time, and was going to make a clean race. Was not here to condemn any one, but know I am qualified for the faithful and intelligent discharge of the duties of the office if elected. Like all the rest of the candidates I want the office for the salary there is in it. Did not want to be considered so very old. Gave his war record but was not running on that. Would be faithful if elected.

Was simply 'touting his own skillet.' Knows he is qualified for the office, and wants it for the salary that is in it, same as all the rest of them do. Cheers for Epps.

T. C. JOLLY, competent, 20 years' service in the Supervisor's office and 2 years in the Treasurer's office as clerk.

Would use best efforts to make good officer if elected.

JNO. W. GREGORY, feels qualified, competent and peculiarly fitted for the duties of the office, will run a clean, fair race, was no speaker, but if elected guaranteed to give satisfaction as an officer.

J. B. LANCASTER.

Thanks for vote received in last race, would thank them for their vote in this race when he came again, had no intention of giving up. Got into the war in time to get shot, but was glad didn't kill him, as he could now be their auditor. His joke on himself got the crowd jolly again. Is competent to fill the office and needs it.

"It is an easy thing to vote for Lancaster. Just leave that name unmolested and make the old man feel good and you will feel good too."

COUNTY TREASURER—J. H. BARTLES, for re-election. Had heard of no complaint against his management of the office, why displace him. It was a place that required an experienced man. Gave some history of the office and the losses that had occurred.

Was present at one settlement, when a Treasurer was short \$3,500, and he wept like a child. His plantation and home was sacrificed and he and his family were homeless, and he was an honest man.

Had saved the county in interest that will amount to enough to pay his salary 20 years, by a plan he had got through legislature.

It was the only office for which the Surety Companies would not bond a man. It was considered too hazardous by them.

R. W. HAMILTON said might as well just elect Mr. Bartles for life. That was wrong, should not our boys have a showing to try for office, if not why educate them. Believed in rotation, thought he was competent and was not afraid of it.

Gave his experience in a clerical way, and had no doubt had influential friends and could give as good bond as Mr. Bartles. He knew many 18 to 20 year old school boys who could fill the office.

B. B. BETSILL, announced himself as a candidate, first time to offer for office. Was no speaker but would discharge his duties faithfully if elected.

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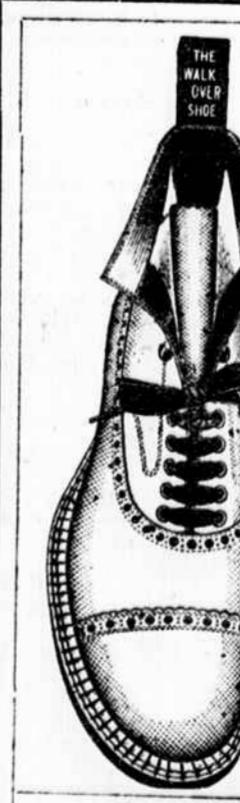
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