

Colbert County Reporter

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W. B. Ware

"Thirty-Six Years of Community Service"

States' Righters Continue To Gain

Jackson, Miss.—States' Rights Democrats, fighting for the South's entire 127 electoral votes, this week forged ahead in Texas, Arkansas, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and several other states.

Late developments in states north of the Mason-Dixon line brought forth optimistic statements from States' Rights leaders.

The bid for Tennessee's 12 electoral votes was strengthened following a state-wide rally in Somerville. Twelve electors pledged to Gov. J. Strom Thurmond, States' Rights presidential nominee, and Gov. Fielding L. Wright, his running-mate, were selected. Chas. Stainback of Somerville, chairman of the States' Rights in Tennessee, immediately certified the names of Thurmond and Wright for a place on the Tennessee presidential ballot.

In Arkansas, John L. Daggett, Marianna attorney and member of the States' Rights Executive committee, predicted that the state's electors would vote overwhelmingly for Thurmond and Wright. Arkansas has nine electoral votes.

In Texas, 23 electors have been named by the States' Rights group and an aggressive state-wide campaign now in progress. At the same time, Judge Merritt H. Gibson, national campaign director, called upon Texas Gov. Beauford Jester to exert his influence in behalf of the States' Rights Democrats or repudiate an agreement made in Washington with other Southern governors on March 13.

"In that agreement you unequivocally promised to use your influence in your state to the end that the electoral college votes of Texas would not be cast for any nominee of the Democratic party who advocates such an invasion of state sovereignty as is proposed in the so-called civil rights program," Judge Gibson advised Gov. Jester. "Everybody knows that Truman was nominated on that program. Will you, as you promised, use your influence to oppose candidates running on a 'civil rights' platform, or will you repudiate your solemn agreement by supporting a candidate who have described as stabbing the South in the back and lynching the Constitution."

On Sept. 25, Gov. Thurmond opened the States' Rights "Klan" campaign at a state-wide rally in Madisonville. State chairman of the Thurmond-Wright group is Orval W. Baylor, editor of the Woodford Sun, Versailles. Baylor notified Judge Gibson that thousands of Kentuckians were rallying to the party, despite the fact that Senator Alben Barkley of Kentucky is President Truman's running mate.

In Georgia, the States' Rights bid for electoral votes was bolstered by a hand-bitting campaign spearheaded by Augusta by Gov. Thurmond. The States' Rights leader called upon all loyal Georgians to fight for their constitutional liberties and warned that the Truman Democrats sought to destroy the American way of life.

Meanwhile, Gov. Thurmond planned campaign addresses in North Carolina, Kentucky, Maryland, Virginia, and Tennessee.

He will be in Washington Sept. 30 for a press conference with capital news, followed by an invasion of Maryland for speeches in Baltimore on Oct. 1, and at LaPlata on Oct. 2. Next come two days of hard campaigning in North Carolina with major addresses at Asheville and Raleigh on Oct. 4 and 5. On Oct. 6, he will campaign across Virginia on a special train and deliver an address the following day to the Atlanta Rural Exposition at Richmond. He then swings into Kentucky on a special train, covering the 13th and Covington on the 14th, followed by an address in Memphis on Oct. 21.

Gov. Wright plans a swing through South Carolina, home state of his running mate, the first week of October, followed by a Florida invasion around the middle of the month.

TABLES-FOR NEGROES HELD CONSTITUTIONAL

Baltimore.—The federal district court has upheld the "Jim Crow" policy in the dining cars of the Southern Railway System.

Federal Judges William C. Coleman and W. Calvin Chestnut ruled that the line's practice of turning off one or two tables for negro passengers in the dining car provides "substantial equality of treatment."

EDUCATIONAL GRIST

It is predicted that the current shortage of high school teachers will be soon over and that there will be an over-supply in certain lines of instruction. There is little hope though, for help where there is a lack of grade school teachers. This said that if Junior gets well-trained grade school teachers, within the next few years, Junior is fortunate. With the influx of youngsters into the elementary schools, the well-trained teachers to be found, are less than in 1941. Frequently, emergency certificates are issued where the regular teacher's requirements are lowered and applicants have had little or no instruction in their training. Teachers' salaries are higher, in many communities, but in too many instances, the salary level has no connection with the teacher's qualifications.

THEY NEED EMPLOYMENT

"Employ the Physically Handicapped," is observed Oct. 3-9. Those physically disabled, often feel there is no room for their services, where fitness seems to be the keynote. Physical fitness is necessary in many trades but there are occupations where such handicapped persons might be employed, to the satisfaction of the one who hires and for the morale of the handicapped man who wants to prove his worth. Given the right job, they become self-supporting, contribute to the economy of the community, add increased output of goods through service. They try especially hard to be capable, and those who have positions open here might well consider such an applicant. The physically handicapped are examples in courage, and we benefit through finding them jobs, economically and spiritually.

FIRE PREVENTION

A week is set aside to remind us to organize against fire loss, through laws and ordinances, co-operative effort in broadcasting the need of safety, the stressing of intelligence and carelessness. A successful fire prevention program must include the children. Traffic safety has been taught in schools and fire safety is equally important. If we had started 25 years ago to present the facts, children might have suffered less from this cause. There are simple ways to picture the devastation to the very young. In advanced grades the subject might include the fire laws and ordinances, standards of fire mechanical inspection, and deals with the more complex ones. It is our duty to make fire prevention a business and public priority.

Why is it that certain pro-Truman newspapers continue to mislead readers by stating the people of Alabama will have no chance to vote for him? They conveniently overlook the fact that the people did have the opportunity last May to register their votes for or against the president, and they decided overwhelmingly that they would have none of Truman and his so-called "civil rights."

Monday night it was our privilege to attend the dinner given by the Decatur Junior Chamber of Commerce at the beautiful Country club, and to state that we were impressed with this body of young men only mildly excited over their enthusiasm. The members of this organization are an asset to Decatur that can never be measured in mere dollars and cents. They appeared to have everything that it takes to make a great city, as Decatur is destined to be some day and so distant. We congratulate Decatur on having such a fine and promising organization. It was a real inspiration to us to see demonstrated such fine community spirit as exhibited by these young citizens.

IT'S A GOP YEAR, VARDAMAN CLAIMS

It's a republican year and the South should realize it, according to Claude O. Vardaman, chairman of the GOP committee in Alabama.

Speaking before the Young Men's Business club in Birmingham Monday, Mr. Vardaman attributed the ills of the South to its one-party system. He blasted "poor, old stumbling Truman" who puts his "foot in his mouth" up to his kneecap. He accused the "buckle-brained bureaucrats" now in power of bringing Communism to power in America.

"Even the smell of a red herring can't wipe out the stink of Communist rule," he said. "The South is still occupying positions of high influence in our government," Vardaman asserted.

He argued that the States' Rights Democrats by saying persons who vote under the rooster won't know who will get their votes.

Whether electors can vote for Thurmond rather than Truman will be decided by the United States Supreme Court, he added, "and there's not a man here who doesn't know that that group will decide."

As for the candidate, Thomas E. Dewey, the speaker said: "The South is going to have a friend in Governor Dewey when he moves in and takes over down there on Jan. 20."

Calling for a two-party South, Vardaman declared: "Once let the Southern states become politically independent... being counted in the bag for nobody... then you'll see lots of the problems we have today... fade away like the mist in the moonday sun."

LINE COACH JOHN BRIDGERS (AUBURN '47) WILL HAVE A HARD TIME SAYING 'NO' TO RALPH REDD, OF ALBERTVILLE, ALA., 210-POUND TACKLE WHO HAS BEEN A WORKING JAY STEADILY RECENT TO THE START OF HIS SENIORITY.

Others of the 17 Alabama boys who will probably make the trip to Tusculumbia are Mickey Poe, end, Birmingham; Bill Stonecy, of Anniston, who has moved from guard to end; Jim Pratt, a solid citizen of 210 pounds from Birmingham; Bobby Clark, guard, of Bessemer; and Dick Simmons, guard, of Birmingham.

In the backfield, besides those mentioned, are Little Jim Mullin, the lightest man on the squad; Sonny Hall, Montgomery, blocking back who saw a lot of action last year as wing-back, and Frank Alford, a scabback from Albertville.

IN THE SERVICE

Thomas W. Copeland, chief engineer, USN, of Barton, Ala., is serving aboard the submarine tender USS Orion which has just been awarded the Battle Efficiency pennant and "E" for her general excellence throughout the fiscal year July 1, 1947, to July 1, 1948.

Letter To The Editor

N. B. WARE IS AGAINST PURCHASE OBSOLETE PLANT

Editor, Reporter:

It has come to my attention, thru inquiry, of the plans of financing the acquisition of the old antiquated water system in Tusculumbia from the City of Sheffield.

I think the citizens of Tusculumbia are entitled to full facts in this matter, and for this reason I am writing you, without any criticism of anyone. I rather think the whole matter is one of ignorance of facts.

The City of Tusculumbia proposes to issue \$500,000 revenue bonds at 3 1/2% and 3% interest, \$200,000 of the proceeds to go to the City of Sheffield for the purchase price, and the balance to be used in building a filtration plant.

This would not leave any money for rehabilitating the old, antiquated water system in Tusculumbia, some of it thirty to forty years old and all of it, in my opinion, inadequate. For instance: there are some 100,000 feet of one inch wrought iron water mains in Tusculumbia that have been added on like the house that Jack built, and without proper thought for expansion. Also, engineers reports show that some 35% of the water system is in such a state of decay which indicates underground leakage from rotting mains and leads.

How much money will be required to rehabilitate the piping system in Tusculumbia is not known. If the citizens are entitled to full knowledge of this, and to be told that money required, other than the \$350,000 set out before, will force the City of Tusculumbia to raise the water rates. As an engineer, I think the whole matter is a bad deal for the City of Tusculumbia, and as a citizen, I don't like to be taxed without a voice in the matter, and we will be taxed a higher water rate, surely, if this proposition goes through.

S. B. WARE, Sept. 29, 1948.

Washington.—The first chapter of the American atom spy case was unfolded this week and the house-un-American Activities Committee promised the indictments it recommended against four Americans are only a beginning.

More witnesses, reports and recommendations for indictments are to come, the committee's first report on atom spying said.

The list of intended defendants under the 1917 espionage act was started Monday with the names of Steve Nelson, Western Pennsylvania Communist leader, two U. S. atomic scientists and the ex-wife of one. It will grow longer in the weeks to come, house investigators said.

In its report the committee referred to five New York residents as possibly making up a "higher echelon" than the top leadership of the "open Communist party" in the United States—"perhaps a part of the leadership" of the "international conspiracy."

Release of the report followed three months of investigation and three weeks of secret hearings. It charged flatly that "several" spy organizations directed by Soviet diplomats and helped by domestic Reds penetrated the various atom bomb installations and succeeded in getting "vital information" out of them.

The report stated: "It has been established... that certain vital information was transmitted to the Russian government, and this information has been used by the Russians in their development of the atomic bomb."

The next phase will deal with the Pacific coast branch of the Red espionage apparatus.

The committee stressed that its report concerns only a small part of the story of the Russian spying. It claimed President Truman's freerider denying access to government files is hamstringing the investigation. "The committee has received an intercept of 16,000,000 Americans may have had their lips sealed thereby."

The case presented was built around the missing Arthur Adams, whom the report identified as a Russian agent assigned to get the dope on the A-bomb.

In addition to Nelson, whom it charged with collecting information on the atomic bomb with scientists at the Berkeley, Cal., radiation center and delivering it to Russian consular officials in San Francisco, the committee recommended legal action against the following for conspiracy to divulge government secrets:

—Dr. John H. Dunning, an atomic scientist working for Manhattan project in the Chicago Metallurgical Lab in 1944 and charged with being in close contact with Adams.

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MOVIE PROGRAM

- STRAND—Tusculumbia Sat., Oct. 2 Zane Grey's WILD HORSE MESA—with Tim Holt.
 - Sun. Mon., Oct. 3-4 PANHANDLE—with Rod Cameron, Cathy Downs.
 - Tues. Wed., Oct. 5-6 EMPEROR WALTZ—in Technical or, with Bing Crosby, Joan Fontaine.
 - Thurs. Fri., Oct. 7-8 THAT HAGEN GIRL—with Shirley Temple, Ronald Reagan.
 - COLBERT—Sheffield Sat., Oct. 2 BLONDIE WITH A BOUGH—with Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake.
 - Sun. Mon., Oct. 3-4 Robert Louis Stevenson's THE BLACK ARROW—with Louis Hayward, Joan Blair.
 - Tues. Wed., Oct. 5-6 EMPEROR WALTZ—in Technical, Thurs. Fri., Oct. 7-8 THAT HAGEN GIRL—with Shirley or, with Bing Crosby, Joan Fontaine.
 - RITZ—Sheffield Sun., Oct. 3 THE SECRET LIFE OF WALTER MITTY—in Technical, with Danny Kaye, Virginia Mayo.
 - Mon. Tues., Oct. 4-5 THEY WON'T BELIEVE ME—with Robert Young, Susan Hayward.
 - LOST HONEYMOON—with Fanchette Young, Susan Hayward.
 - Wed. Thurs., Oct. 6-7 Walt Disney's FUN AND FANCY FREE—in Technical, with Edgar Bergen, Charlie McCarthy.
 - Fri. Sat., Oct. 8-9 THE HAGGERS GO GUNSHIGHT—with Johnny Mack Brown.
- Pack summer clothes away carefully this fall so that they will be in good condition for wear next spring.

First Chapter Of Spy Case Unfolded

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SOUTHERN ASSESSMENT MADE \$1,250,000

Montgomery.—Circuit Judge Walter B. Jones Tuesday had set the final 1947 tax assessment for the Southern Railway Co. in Alabama at \$1,251,498. Jones' ruling came on the rail line's appeal of a \$25,000,000 assessment set by State Revenue Commissioner Philip J. Hamm.

The figure set by Jones is \$5,000,000 above the property value assessment of the 1945-46 tax year. It is approximately the same as an original evaluation for the 1946-47 year by Hamm. The revenue commissioner was to be R. E. Hyde, J. E. Delony, James E. DiRago, Robert B. Harris, Thomas Bickley, Dewey Wilson, L. E. Hamlett, and J. E. Burton.

Honorary pallbearers were Jesse Bowers, J. M. Bathers, J. John W. Johnson, Dr. E. S. Gregory, Harry Sevier, Frank DiRago, E. J. Henninger.

White shoe polish makes a good cleaner for venetian blind tapes.