# The Mountain Advocate.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY IN KNOX COUNTY

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HON. M. G. HIGNITE

**To the Voters of Knox County:**

I am being encouraged by a good many people to enter the race for County Attorney, most of you know me and are acquainted with my private and public life. If I enter this race, I will do so at a sacrifice financially as I am making more money than the County Attorney's office will pay, but when I realize that Knox County is now in debt about a quarter of a million dollars, I am aroused to a deep feeling of duty and responsibility. These debts must be paid. The credit and good name of the county must be sustained. You can't guess off your next set of officers, neither can you afford to select any man to give him honor or to provide his bread. If these debts are ever paid, you will have to think seriously, decide slowly and be sure you act wisely in selecting your county officers. It well take the best men you can get, they will have to put forth their best efforts, and still the county will be loaded to its capacity. The County Attorneys office is very important. If you think I am the man, you can let me know. There is plenty of time to consider.

Very respectfully,

M. G. HIGNITE.

**To The Citizens of Knox County.**

The annoucement of my candidacy for the Republican nomination, for the office of County Attorney, which appeared in the Mountain Advocate of the 22nd day of December 1916, was the result of encouragement of solicitation from a great many citizens and taxpayers of the county and apart from my own desire, for opportunity, to render service to the people of the county.

I am not unamindful of the responsibilities devolving upon the incumbent of this office. This is the most important of any office, not only to the people in general, but to taxpayers, in particular. Especially, will it be so, for the term for which your next County Attorney will be elected. The County Attorney must be the legal representative and adviser for all law abiding citizens of the county, in criminal and civil cases. He must be the legal adviser of all the official officers of the county. He must see that official duty is properly performed by county officers. He is required to be present at all meetings of the court, and vigilantly guard the interests of taxpayers in all cases that court and see that illegal claims are allowed, and that the members of the Fiscal Court keep strictly within the provisions of the law, the fiscal agents of the county. If I shall be elected to this office it is my purpose to devote my time and energies conciensiously and industeriously to all the duties. And especially shall it be my aim to protect the taxburdened people of the county. I shall endeavor to assist the members of the Fiscal Court to adopt and operate a system of handling and disposing of the funds of the county in a way that each member of the court, and any citizen or taxpayer of the county may know, at any and all times, where and how we stand as to the county funds. And such a plan as will clear up the deplorable state of the fiscal affairs of the county. I am convinced that much of the complication of the fiscal affairs of the county due to the absence of such system, and I am also confident that a practical plan can be adopted and enforced which will result in the members of the court having before them at all times the amount of claims allowed and the amount of taxes received out of which to pay such claims. And it is easy to see with these facts before us we begin to see we need reform the handling of our finances and that ultimately we

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## WHAT ARE THE STRONG POINTS OF A BANK?

By J. M. ROBSION, President
First National Bank of Barbourville, Kentucky.

We are often asked the question by persons not engaged in the Banking business as to how they may know whether or not a bank is a strong, safe, bank. This question often occured to us before we were connected with the banking business.

Every person, whether rich or poor, who makes a deposit in a bank wants to feel sure that he is putting his money in a strong, and safe institution, and in a place where he can get his money at any time he may desire. He feels that it is not safe to keep his money on his person or about his house and puts it into the bank for protection and safety. Now how may he know that the bank of his selection is a safe place for his money?

Every citizen of the community is interested in the banks of the community being perfectly safe. While the stock of a bank is held and owned by private individuals, a banking institution is in the nature of a public institution. A bank cannot fail without doing incalculable injury, not only to its stockholders and depositors, but to the whole community. It therefore stands every citizen of a community in hand to help make the banks safe.

Nearly all nations that have fallen in the centuries past and gone, have been destroyed by internal foes, and not by enemy nations. This is true of banks. The failure of most banks is due to their inside workings and management and not to outside influences We would therefore say that the first and strongest points in favor of the safety of a bank is to have sober, experienced and careful men at the head of it, and men who have made a success of their own private affairs. Men who are living within their income and getting ahead in the world.

Second:—One of the most fruitful sources for the failure of banks from our observation in the past has been the "overdraft". What we call "overdraft", is for a bank to pay a check drawn on it by a person who has not money in the bank to meet it. For instance Mr. Brown has no money in the bank, he gives checks on the bank, and the bank pays these checks. There is no money in any bank and no fund in any bank with which to pay an "overdraft." When a bank pays an overdraft it must pay it out of the other depositor's money. Anyone can see that is not fair. If Mr. Brown has no money in the bank in the first place he should not give checks on the bank, and if he does give checks and if he does give checks it is not fair to Mr. Jones and other persons who do have money in the bank, for the bank to pay Mr. Brown's checks out of Mr. Jones, and other depositor's money. If you have ten thousand dollars in the bank, it is your money, and the bank should be managed so that you can get your money at any time, and so that no other person can get any part of your money. You can readily see how a bank can fail by paying out money to people when they do not have money in the bank. The overdraft has caused so many banks to fail that the largest as well as the smallest well managed banks of the United States have entirely eliminated the overdraft, and the United States Government which has supervision of all National Banks, recognize the great danger in the "overdraft" and about two years ago the Treasury Department ordered all National Banks of the United States to cut out the "overdraft", and any National Bank that now pays an overdraft does so in direct violation of the orders of the Treasury department and the laws of the United States. The United States Courts have held that the payment of an overdraft by a bank is a misapplication of the funds of a bank.

You can readily see this. You know that the fellow who has no money in the bank has no right to have his checks paid out of money which you have deposited in the bank. The First National Bank of Barbourville will do all it possibly can to accomodate its friends and costomers, and to aid the legitimate business and interprises of the community, but it has eliminated the "overdraft." Its management desires to operate the First National Bank within the law, and so as to remove any element of danger to its depositors and make it perfectly safe, so that every man who has a dollar in the Bank, ean get his dollar or dollars, at any time he wants them, and so that the fellow who has no money in the bank cannot get the money out of the other fellows'. Any careful banker will advise you that the overdraft is as element of danger in the bank, and that for a bank to eliminate the overdraft argues strongly for its safety, and it is one of the strongest points by which you can determine that a bank is safe. We have not eliminated the overdraft because we desire to be harsh to any of our customers or friends. Often good men overcheck by mistake. By the new posting machine installed by this bank, any person can at any time learn the amount of the balance that he has in the bank. Many other banks have adopted the same system. If it were for the best interest of the community and the bank to pay overdrafts, we would do so, but we know that it is a violation of law, and not to the best interest of the community, or the bank to do this. We have in the past so managed the First National Bank that every man who has had a dollar in the bank whether in good times or hard times could get his money at any time he wanted it, and we expect to maintain this policy in the future. You can rest assured that no person other than yourself, can check out or draw out the money you have intrusted with us.

There are some several other points to be considered, in determining the safety of a banking institution, and these we will take up and discuss in next week's issue of the Mountain Advocate.

READ P. BLACK

**To the Republicans of Knox County:**

I am a candidate for the office of Sheriff subject to the will of the people as expressed through the Republican Primary next Aug. 4, 1917.

Since early boyhood it has been my ambition to fill the office of Sheriff of my county, and this opportunity for my friends to thus honor me will be given them before the next regular county primary election for Republican nominations for county offices.

The only speech that I have to make is that I stand upon my public record as an official and my private record as a friend to man, and whether in office or out of office I shall ever be found ready to help those who need help, to comfort those who need comfort. Nominate and elect me Sheriff and you will never have just cause to regret it.

READ P. BLACK.

**Notice For Bids Road Building**

By order of the Knox County Fiscal Court of December 16th, 1916, bids will be received, opened and considered, on January 6th, 1917, for the grading earth crowned roads only, from the fork of road near cemetery to the river bridge above Artemus, Ky.; from the fork of road at old Flat Lick, to the mouth of Road Fork of Stinking Creek; from the corporate limits of Barbourville, Ky. to the mouth of Helton Fork on Indian Creek, about fifteen miles in all.

Certified checks of $400 must accompany bids as pledge of good faith of bidder.

Read P. Black, Clerk, K. C. C.
12-29-3t. Barbourville, Ky.

**Efficiency In Campaign Management**

Presumably, and in reality, members of the national committee are selcted because tney are recognized as men of demonstrated party loyalty and political judgment. At their head they need and should have a man of not only deep seated convictions upon party principles but of such general executive ability and political experience as will assure his sucess as a campaign manager. In the selection of a chairman, there can be no more competent authority than the committeemen themselves. It is to be hoped that hereafter they will perform that duty and relieve the country of the consequences of bad campaign management.


H. B. CLARK, Cashier W. R. LAY, Acting President

THE NATIONAL BANK OF JOHN A. BLACK.

"A Roll of Honor Bank"

Capital and Surplus More Than $65,000.00

Cash Reserve, $120,144.34

Stockholders Worth More Than $2,500,000.00

A checking account with this institution gives you a standing in your community.

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