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SUPPORTERS OF "RING" TICKET HOLD LOVE FEAST IN OPERA HOUSE

(Continued From Page One.)

the mayor and city council in legal matters; Van C. Wilson, brother-in-law of Adrian Pool; Park Pitman, who has inherited the office of county clerk; B. E. Major, who likes to hear preachers and politicians talk and for once left his office at home; U. S. Goen, Republican county chairman; genial Dave Sullivan, assistant city assessor; J. B. Badger, once chairman of the Populist party in El Paso, who attends all political meetings; James Clifford, one time alderman and who 14 years ago was a Republican; F. A. Mayhew, clerk in the health department of the city; Freddy Bartlett, assistant building inspector; Tom Nealon, "Joe's brother;" Manny Turner, city treasurer, who handles all the school warrants; A. T. Samworth, who pulls the wires in the office of city electrician; J. W. Leighton, deputy city assessor; Bob Holiday, who practices at law in Turney & Burgess's office; Charles Clark, who buys jury script around the courthouse; Billy Smith, former city detective and willing to be again; C. W. Fassett, who recently failed in business and was appointed city clerk; Dr. I. J. Bush, a friend of Joe Nealon; Dr. C. E. Race, who has an office in the Kelly building; R. A. Harris, city park commissioner; Col. Lou Gilbert, W. E. McGraw, W. I. Watson, Frank Higgins and other members of the Wild Cat political club.

D. C. Booth wasn't there.

What the meeting really amounted to would be hard to say. The eternal question, "What are we here for?" was popping up at every turn of the oratorical road. As a political meeting

it was a failure. What few voters there were present were either employees of the "ring" officers, active workers in the ring cause or aspirants for political office.

No Need to Talk Politics.

There was no need to talk politics to them in support of the trustee ticket. They would vote right without it. Frank and Ike Alderete's Mexicans were represented by only one row in the back of the theater so there was no occasion for a "mi amigos" speech by Judge Harper or anyone else. As was said half a dozen times during the meeting, the men on the platform were cock sure that the "ring" ticket would be elected on May 7, so there was no campaigning to be done there.

A "Tony" Affair.

There was nothing of the "unwashed" about that meeting Friday night. It was the "collar a day crowd" this time. There were no votes to be made there and the "ring" politicians were smooth enough to see it. It was therefore turned into an apologetic session for the old school board and a jolting bee for the teachers who were out in force. There was where Hon. W. W. Turney got in his keynote work. Dressed in his best bib and tucker, Mr. Turney sounded the keynote, good and loud. It is the teachers that the "ring" is protecting—these teachers, the finest in the state, than whom there are no better, etc. As the question of the teachers and their salaries had never entered into the campaign before, the teachers who were present were taken a bit by surprise, but they responded nobly and applauded everything the senator had to say. His colleagues in the cause said, the applause being led each time by E. Atneistan Ross, superintendent of manual training in the schools.

The chairman was Adrian Pool, at present understood to be a candidate for Tom Lea's place as city judge. Adrian was busier than a bird dog, before the meeting opened. In Judge Eylar's best style Pool introduced the speakers of the evening as if their names had just occurred to him when in reality they had all been handed to him by Louis Behr, city collector and the ringmaster behind the scenes. All day Friday, Adrian had been in constant communication with Henry Kelly, et al, and the meeting was more or less in the nature of an Adrian Pool meeting since he had worked it up among the school teachers and assisted in rounding up the "ring" crowd to make a showing.

The Jackson Episode.

It was in the middle of the meeting that Adrian's great coup came—or rather was to have come. Seated out in front, third row back, left side to be exact, was Dan Jackson and his brother-in-law. Dan and Gunther were there for a purpose. Dan was due to make a speech and Gunther to start the applause. That was plain, but just how it was to happen was the question. Right in the middle of the meeting Pool arose, planted one foot in front of the other and, looking at a perfectly blank envelope, announced that as he did not have his glasses he could not read the name. This was Dan's cue and before anyone had even whispered Dan-Jackson, the faithful out in front began to look in the direction of that third row back on the left side. But Dan had read the handwriting on that blank envelope and had got out in the center aisle, where the lightning could strike. Henry Kelly, Dr. Brady and the others who had gone out in front of the theater to smoke while things moved along inside, came in and nudged each other. But some way Dan did not get his wind machine to working good and Pool's pet plan fell pretty flat. Of

course Dan got a lot of applause as he always does, but it was no ovation.

Harper Speaks First.

Jorn H. Harper, who has been a member of the school board so long that some people think he has a lease on the job to life, was the first speaker of the program. He delved into the mysteries of the financial situation and laid the blame on the mayor for all the extravagances during the past year, although the mayor went out of his way to defend the board in his message. Harper stated that the school board was simply a suppliant child bowing before the majesty of the mayor of the city and the council, and begging for the crumbs of finance wherewith to support the schools and the 5500 children educated therein. He stated that the mayor, "our mayor," he called him, had explained the school situation thoroughly in his annual message.

Then for the enlightenment of his friends he said the mayor signs all warrants and these warrants show where the money has been expended. Then they go into the hands of the city treasurer, for beyond this amount of the warrant by the president of the school board, that body has no control whatever over these expenditures.

During the past year, he said \$150,000 had been expended for the conduct of the public schools. Of this amount \$128,000 has been paid to the 175 teachers engaged in the education of the 5500 pupils. During the year, the attendance at the schools has increased by 400, which has necessitated the construction of 19 new classrooms and 10 percent of the money was expended for that purpose. A great deal was spent for manual training.

A good deal was spent for furniture. A great deal was spent for cement. The schools had to pay for paving around the four schools and so 95 percent of the expenditures was made for these purposes.

The other five percent was spent for janitors and other employes around the schools, and for fuel, at least \$25,000 being spent for this last mentioned item.

Turney's Keynote.

W. W. Turney, looking like he might have stopped on his way to a social function, followed Harper with a talk which consisted mostly of telling about how the school funds are raised and excusing the way they have been spent. He sounded the keynote of the meeting as it was intended to be sounded by those who had planned it, by making a strong talk about being against "any cut in the teachers' salaries" and lauding the teachers for their work.

"The issues were originally these," Mr. Turney said. "First, whether or not a certain man should be elected mayor. Second, whether the people of El Paso are paying too much for much for educating their children. Whether forcibly or not, I do not know, but one issue has been removed. (Applause from the teaching contingent). That man removed himself without the help of anyone. There is no ill feeling on my part. It is time to pity people who bring about their own destruction."

Applaud to Teachers.

Then, reading from The Herald, Mr. Turney, who prefaced his remarks by saying that he had agreed to come down here and talk but failed to say with whom the agreement had been made, talked at length on the cost of conducting the schools in El Paso as compared with other east Texas cities, to the advantage of El Paso. He told the teachers for his talk was addressed more to the groups of four and five school teachers scattered through the theater than it was to any voters who

might have happened in, how he had taught in east Texas under Gov. Campbell and how much he made there. As a "keynote" sounder, Mr. Turney got away with his part of the program with his usual success and left the field open for Joe Nealon, ready at all times to talk about anything under the sun. Joe is a flower that blooms most beautifully when basking in the warm sunlight of an audience composed largely of women.

Joe to the Teachers.

"They're trying to charge the teachers with that \$170,000," Joe said in that plaintive manner he has when addressing a jury in behalf of the defence in a criminal case. "It's not fair. It's not right. They ought to be careful about making those charges." (Joe was sure making good). Stealing some of Turney's thunder in the form of an awful roar, beyond the speaker, a flash of light on a pair of innocent reporters who were hovering in the borderland of outer darkness in the wings earning their daily stipend.

Withdrawing his fire for a moment to the first balcony, where the enemy was supposed to be entrenched, the expected district attorney started a flank fire on a pair of innocent reporters who were hovering in the borderland of outer darkness in the wings earning their daily stipend.

"Would you have spent that money for manual training or would you not have done it?" he thundered.

Having nothing to do with the money in question, the reporters refused to answer.

"Get that in The Herald, mister reporter," he cried in his best Patrick Henry tone.

It was immediately got.

"Do you favor cutting salaries?" he again "asked to know" of the overworked scribe.

"Get up and say it."

There being no effort on anyone's part to get up, the honorable near district attorney of the "ring," continued his bombardment of the upper balcony. He romped on Judge Goggin for quitting the bench to earn more money, drawing the applicable parallel that the teachers were only doing the same thing. He also took a shot at Julius Krakauer for saying, or claiming that he said, that this talk of high living was all bosh.

Joe to Vote for Opposition.

Once he came dangerously near getting wound up in his own logic.

"What are we going to vote for them (the opposition) for?" This was the most interesting bit of news that broke at the meeting, for no one supposed for a minute that anyone on the platform had even fostered such an idea—but Joe has evidently made up his mind to do so.

"Have they any experience in conducting schools?"

It suddenly occurred to the boy-on-ear that two of the three men on the "ring" ticket had had no experience. He grasped at John Harper as the drowning man's straw. "Harper has had experience in school board matters. As for the others, they have had as much experience as the opposition," which was a very logical conclusion and apt to impress the intelligent voter.

Joe Finds the Gauntlet.

With considerable talk about taking up the gauntlet that had been thrown down, Nealon quoted from a Herald editorial and said "if you are satisfied with the school system as it exists today, the greatest in Texas, etc., etc., then vote for these men for trustees. If not, don't vote for them. The schools are recognized as the greatest advertisement the city has to send forth to the world, and if the people do recognize this, then the election of the 'good schools' ticket cannot be doubted."

Dan Jackson Talks.

When Joe Nealon had finished delivering his address to the jury, Adrian Pool suddenly remembered that he had failed to bring his glasses with him and could not make out the next name on the program. Then some of the faithful in the body of the theater called out "Jackson" Jackson". Dan M. was seated in the rear, but, being ever ready to make a speech on any subject

at any time, just like Nealon, he came forward with a happy smile and said: "I have never tried to evade an opportunity to make a speech. This is said to be a meeting called in the interest of the 'ring,' and the ring candidate, and if I feel like a rose among thorns, I have but to look over here at my friend, Joe Nealon, who was a mass rose in Georgia, and has come to Texas. 'If there be an overdraft, I know nothing of it, but then I am not supposed to know anything of overdrafts. However, if there has been an overdraft, those who come after us will be benefited thereby. I don't care about overdrafts, we can point with pride to our schoolhouses whenever a stranger comes to town.'"

Eylar on the Job.

When Dan had finished Adrian Pool again arose in all his majesty and with a Bull Andrews expression, remarked: "I am now going to introduce to you the best county judge in Texas."

Judge Eylar, who has been reading up a bit and securing figures from some of his school teacher friends, assumed his Doctor Munyon attitude with the index finger outstretched and said: "I am now going to introduce to you the best county judge in Texas."

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we can point with pride to the fact that El Paso spent \$5 per annum per capita, while Dallas spends but \$36, and the chamber of commerce could not do anything better for El Paso than to publish these figures which were given in The Herald.

"In making comparisons why did they not go back to Ohio (Eylar is an Ohioan), where they spend only \$15 per year, or to the swamps of Arkansas, where they spend only \$9 per year, and they would find that the dishwashers out here get better pay than the school teachers back there."

Winter Heeses Teachers.

W. H. Winter told what he would do when elected to the school board, asked God to bless Miss Jones, Mrs. Bailey, Mrs. Patterson and Miss Townsend, who used to teach his boy, and said: "if we have a teacher and she does good work, let us not turn her out on account of politics, and if you elect

me I shall see to it that she is not. I do not think any teacher has ever been discharged for politics, and I believe she had been I would have heard it, and you would have heard it."

Dr. Irvin Makes a Speech.

Dr. E. H. Irvin walked the boards in true Shakespearian style, flung a word here and there, and declared he was not going to make a speech. His family has been in El Paso 30 years, most of them being born here, and he now has children in the public school. He wants to be a school trustee and will do everything to advance the schools. He said so.

Capt. Brack Introduced.

Capt. Brack introduced as being the personification of "the best saved for the last," made a speech that was a sort of "Rally round the polls, boys" effort, told some stories, intimated that he was sleepy, and went home.

The End.

After Capt. Brack had made a "rally boys" speech to wind things up, Pool remembering that judge Eylar had used the expression in closing a south side meeting, arose majestically and said: "The meeting will now adjourn to meet at the polls on May 7." Adrian had either failed to take into consideration the crowd of young women teachers present or had publicly announced himself in favor of suffrage for women. Then the orchestra played a waltz and the school teachers, principals, politicians and ring followers in general went home, happy in the knowledge that they had done their duty.



Special Notice To Out Of Town People

In past years, we have been favored during Anniversary Sales with a large amount of out-of-town business both by mail and customers coming to El Paso. We feel sure that our present sale will be no exception. We extend a cordial invitation to all out-of-town people to take advantage of Anniversary bargains. Come to El Paso, if you can, and shop in person. If not, send us your order by mail. It will be carefully filled and promptly forwarded. Express and freight prepaid on all purchases amounting to \$5.00 and over—this excepts heavy staple merchandise.

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