

# The Punta Gorda Herald

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PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THURSDAY OCT. 12, 1916

All "true blue" Democrats should now rally to the support of Wm. V. Knott and all the other Democratic nominees.

Brother Millmore of the Stuart Messenger, has put this scribe in a stew by accusing him of putting "stew" in Stuart. Must have been our Atlanta editor who did that.

The voters will have the chance to vote for both Catts and Knott in the general election.—Crawfordville Breeze.—But they'd better not do it if they want their votes counted.

The Tampa Tribune is supporting Wm. V. Knott for governor. We felt sure it would do so as soon as it was convinced that he was entitled to the nomination. The Tribune is a Democratic newspaper and an able one at that.

"Particular fits" is what Editor Russell of the Palatka News, gives Editor Milton Smith of the Tallahassee Democrat. The latter certainly needs a good journalistic chisel, and to the sound of Editor Russell's lash The Herald cries encore.

Amongst the "Times-Union Boomerangs," we have not yet seen an answer to our question, "Who the dickens is the Times-Union supporting for president?" Is it possible that that esteemed journalistic luminary favors the prohibition ticket? At any rate, the Times-Union says nothing severe against it.

The Ocala Banner is going over its exchange list and saying very nice, but deserved things about various Florida newspapers. The Banner is edited by a real Southern gentleman, a "true-blue" Democrat who is an ornament to the newspaper business, and he is also a candidate for elector on the Wilson-Marshall ticket. Long may he live and prosper!

We are surprised at the unkind remarks the Punta Gorda Herald made last week about the Tampa Tribune. Real friendship such as the Tribune has shown towards Editor Jordan should not be treated lightly simply because that paper differs with him in regard to the gubernatorial candidate.—Wauchula Advocate.—Jordan assuredly did not make any unkind remarks about his valued friends of the Tribune. He merely exercised his privilege (and duty) as a friend to chide the Tribune in a jocular manner. He would not swap the friendship of Stovall and Lambright for that of a million Catts.

Elsewhere in this paper we print Brother Goolsby's answer to Brother Jones and also a communication from a very observant friend, which communication is a better answer to Brother Jones than either Brother Goolsby or The Herald has made. After reading it, Brother Jones will realize that he is wasting missionary work upon the editors of Wauchula, Zolfo and Punta Gorda as long as he fails to convert Commissioner Wells of Arcadia, and County Attorney John W. Burton, also of Arcadia. We think that, if he will convert those two gentlemen it will open the way to the achievement of his wishes.

Maybe, Friend Jordan will want some support again four years hence.—Trilby News.—Gee! Don't put it off that long. He wants some support right now. But if you mean political support, nay, nay, Geraldine; never again for him. It costs too much in cash and gratitude. If you once support a man for office, it gives you a right on the ground of gratitude to seal his mouth for ever about any devilry you may do.

### Great Roads Discussion

When The Herald and the Wauchula Advocate undertook to correct briefly the published impression of Rube Allyn of the Sarasota Sun, that, in the matter of building good roads, DeSoto county is in the "slacker class," we did not imagine that the effort would lead to the consumption of acres or even columns of newspaper space in a highly interesting discussion of the matter, especially from the view-point of the Arcadia News that the two papers first named had "slammed" Arcadia by "innuendo." Brother Jones, the able, indefatigable, courteous and admirable (we are in earnest in the use of all those adjectives) editor of the News, after printing many columns urging that the Arcadia district and parts of adjoining districts be bonded for good roads, thereby misleading Rube Allyn into putting the whole county in the "slacker class," now, in his Saturday's issue, reprints all that Editor Goolsby of the Advocate has said, gracefully pleading guilty to the charge of having been the unintentional cause of Rube Allyn's unjust reflection upon the county, says lots of nice things about the editors of Wauchula, Zolfo and Punta Gorda as well as the progressiveness of their districts, and calls upon those three editors to use their influence to induce Commissioners Whitehurst, Skipper and Whitten to support the proposition of the News for bonding the Arcadia district. At the same time, Brother Jones intimates that his own commissioner, Maj. Wells, is opposed to his proposition.

Well, well! The Herald is a strong advocate of local self-government. It believes that, if the people of any given territory wish to issue bonds for good roads or any worthy object, and if they have the necessary taxable property, they should be permitted to do so; and if anything this paper or its editor may say can help along the good cause, it shall be said gladly. But, mind you, Brother Jones! bonds should not be forced upon any unwilling people, particularly those outside of the Arcadia commissioner's district.

Let the people have their own way. If they wish to establish a special road district or a new county (!!!), let them have it. Vox populi, vox dei!

### A Merited Tribute

The Eustis Lake Region pays the following deserved tribute to Wm. V. Knott, the Democratic nominee for governor of Florida:—"Trained in statecraft, in government, in law, in accounting, in agriculture, in the growth of the state; familiar with her history, her people, her products; personally known from one end of the state to the other and by no one ever accused of a shady act, why on earth should Florida turn away from one such and yield homage to a total stranger to all

those things that constitute a governor of all the people; whom by temperament, training and desire he would serve with the same efficiency that led them in the past to promote him step by step thru his long career of rectitude, capacity and eternal fitness to serve the state—KNOTT!"

### The Contest Settled

On Saturday, the contest for the gubernatorial nomination was definitely settled by the highest authorities, viz: the state supreme court and the state Democratic executive committee. That should be enough to indicate to any loyal Democrat what his duty is. All are in honor bound to support the nominees of the party among whom are Wm. V. Knott for governor, R. Fenwick Taylor for supreme judge and Frank Clark for congressman from the second district. A persistent effort is being made to defeat these three loyal Democrats, who have been duly nominated, and this calls for extra activity on the part of all who believe in majority rule, good government and fidelity to the teachings and rules of the Democratic party.

The fiercest opposition, as is well known, is against Mr. Knott. This is the most unjustifiable political conduct of which this writer has any recollection. He has personally known Mr. Knott for over thirty-five years and has always regarded him as a man of singular integrity. Never until this idiotic primary was thrust upon the voters, was a word of suspicion or an injurious aspersion directed against him. It should not, therefore, be surprising that we reject any and all the injurious stories told about him, which were and are being told solely to put some other man in the position for which he has been nominated.

Mr. Knott has been trusted implicitly by every administration from Governor Bloxham's first term until the present administration of Governor Trammell, and not one of all the noble governors with whom Florida has been blessed during that time has ever dreamed of questioning either the integrity, the fidelity or the efficiency of Wm. V. Knott.

The campaign which he conducted prior to the primary was characterized by the most high-toned conduct, as all the state knows. He did not vilify his opponents and seek to rise by crushing them. And since the primary, which forced him to go into the courts to establish his just claims to the nomination, he didn't abuse any one for mistakes, he did not charge that fraud was being used to defeat him, he did not impugn the honesty of those whose errors caused him all the trouble and expense of proving him to be the real Democratic nominee.

On the other hand, his opponents, those who were and are seeking to disrupt the Democratic party, printed pages of abuse about him, persisted in the cry of fraud and even sought to bring into contempt of the people any and all the judges chosen by the people—to arouse the hatred of the people against the courts that dared to do their duty and render justice. Now, they are supporting an independent, a bolter, who has done more than any other man in forty years to disturb the peace and good will existing among our people, to stir up discord and strife and set neighbor against neighbor and sow seeds of discord that will be bearing evil for years to come.

Can any man who loves Florida and sincerely wishes her people to dwell in peace and happiness and enjoy the prosperity now coming to them, hesitate for a moment in choosing between Mr. Knott and the man who is guilty of causing all the dissension and ill feeling that have been aroused during the past six months?

### Anger Upsets Catts

Whom the gods would destroy they first make mad. They say that Catts has a temper he cannot control and that he completely loses his head when he becomes angry. One of his good friends, a prominent politician in West Florida, told the Record recently that the way to beat Catts was to "get him mad." And he is ruffled some, gentlemen, he is ruffled some. Desperate under the fire of criticism precipitated by his insult of every high school girl in the State, he hits in the dark and lands a club on the withered cheek of the Confederate veteran when he declares that "the Confederate veterans are lined up

solidly with the whisky bunch and railroads to elect Mr. Knott."—Tallahassee Record.  
Catts permitted himself to become ridiculously wrathful when he last spoke in Punta Gorda, and used some pretty coarse language. He talked like a bully.

### RANDOM RAPS (Kanned)

The Hughes campaign is one of Mexicanization.

Somehow or other we felt confident that Dobruja would be the place where Von Mackensen would be stopped.

St. Louis reports a shortage of nickles. Taking a leaf from the baker's books, why does not St. Louis use dimes as a substitute?

If Hughes should be elected and appoint negro postmasters it will then be too late for Democrats to contribute to the Wilson campaign fund.

It is understood that recent enormous purchases of iron and copper do not contemplate a reinforcement of the golden rule abroad.

Thanks are due to the coal barons because this year they raised the price of coal without compelling the public to listen to any elaborate excuses.

### Dental Preparedness

What is the most important attribute of a soldier?  
Good feet?  
No.  
Good eyesight?  
No.  
Good brains?  
No.  
What then?  
Good teeth.

A soldier may have good feet, good eyesight, and good brains, but if he has bad teeth he can't eat. If he can't eat he can't march near enough to the enemy to see him and use his brains to fight him.

How does a soldier get good teeth?  
By having good teeth in childhood.

How do children keep good teeth?  
Through being taught by their mother how to keep their teeth clean and having their teeth looked after while they are growing. This makes good teeth for future soldiers.

It would seem then as though the first patriotic duty of a mother is to keep her children's teeth in good condition.

### Pay Your Subscription Promptly

Newspaper is costing today three times as much as it cost a few months ago and there is no relief in sight for the publisher.

It is imperative for newspapers that expect to continue existence and pay bills to discontinue all free copies, most exchanges, and all delinquents. All who have not paid their subscription or made arrangements with the publisher to do so, may expect to be discontinued at once. Many subscriptions statements have been mailed out recently from this office and they must receive prompt attention. Mail your check today.—Plant City Courier.

Leesburg Commercial.—Punta Gorda, noted for many years as one of the most backward towns in Florida, despite a natural advantage possessed by few, has awakened and has bonded for \$206,000 for street paving, sidewalks and a bridge across Charlotte Harbor. Punta Gorda will now proceed to grow by leaps and bounds.

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