LIVELY POLITICS IS IN PROSPECT FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY

W. M. Drennen's Candidacy for State Senate Causes Considerable Comment

FACTIONAL FIGHT SEEMS IMMINENT

Line Will Be Drawn Between Prohibitionists and Antis—Candidates for Sheriff Are All Strong and Making Aggressive Races

By HUGH W. ROBERTS

There is destined to be lively politics in Jefferson county.

There are 10 races—eight in which there are opposing candidates. Each promises to be entertaining within itself. When the entire number is bunched, it is evident that there will be excitement enough to appease the most inordinate appetite.

Discussion throughout yesterday concerned the candidacy of W. M. Drennen for the state senate. It is considered probable that Mr. Drennen has ambition to be elected president pro tem of the senate. He would be then within reasonable striking distance of the governor's chair—four years hence. In the foregoing many found reason for his candidacy. Otherwise, his reason for running—save that he is anxious to serve the people—is obscure. Mr. Drennen is a prohibitionist. He voted for the late proposed prohibition amendment to the constitution. But he is no stronger in the prohibition faith than B. A. Thompson, one of his opponents. And Mr. Thompson also voted for the amendment. And Mr. Thompson has another edge on the Anti-Saloon league vote in virture of the fact that he is supporting the candidacy of R. P. Hobson.

Thomas J. Judge, when seen yesterday, stated that he was surprised when he read in The Age-Herald that Mr. Drennen had announced.

"However," he added, "I am glad that he is in the race. It will make my election doubly sure."

Mr. Judge is a local optionist.

Factional Fight Imminent

In the race for the lower house of the legislature, in which there are 32 patriotic candidates, the prohibition line will be drawn. It is generally understood that the word has been sent down by the prohibitionist leaders that prohibitionists must vote for certain individuals. It is understood, furthermore, that anti-prohibition leaders have sent the word down that anti-prohibitionists must vote for certain individuals.

There is no question but that two slates—tangible or intangible—will be made. This means that 18 candidates will be left "high and dry." These 18, if they continue in the race, will raise the cry of "gag rule," and "ring politics," and thus additional spice will be dashed into the political pudding.

Inasmuch as neither the prohibitionists nor the anti-prohibitionists have displayed sufficient courage to declare in a body for a candidate for governor, both factions have entered into a determined struggle to acquire control of the legislature. The main fight will be in regard to the personnel of the Senate. And thus it will happen, probably, that instead of constructive statesmen, there will be gathered in Montgomery for another four years a bunch of bitter factionists swearing vengeance against each other. Alabama, as a result, may reap a luxurious harvest of peculiarly worthless tares.

Four Strong Candidates

In the race for sheriff, there are four candidates. Of the four, neither is a "lame duck." Each has a chance, because he has already developed considerable strength. Thomas J. Batson of Bessemer will come up from that section of the county with a strong vote, and he will be warmly supported in Birmingham. George H. Bodeker is also unusually strong. There are a great many people in Birmingham and Jefferson county who believe that Bodeker was "railroaded" out of the city hall, not on evidence, but because certain prohibition politicians "went after" his official head. Mr. Bodeker is making an aggressive campaign. Will T. Lathem, who has served the people from behind the cashier's window of two banks in Birmingham, and won, thereby, many friends, has been gaining strength every day. He is the exception to the rule that the man without enemies is the man without friends. No one dislikes Lathem, and a great many people are exceedingly fond of him. Gus Lee is a strong candidate. He is making an active, aggressive campaign. His personal popularity and his happy knack of displaying his strength of character without being offensive is standing him in good stead.

In the near future the race will be less clouded than at the present time. Now, no one can with any degree of accuracy predict the winner.

Three Other Struggles

Owen Gillespy has strong opposition in his race for another term as auditor. He has so many opponents, however, that under the plurality plan, which will obtain, he stands an excellent chance. Will R. Rockett is known throughout the county and is very popular. His friends contend that he will win. W. D. Gunn, James C. Williams, W. L. Trice and D. L. Blake are other candidates in this race.

A pretty fight is being waged for the office of solicitor. Harrington P. Heflin is confident of winning. His opponents are also confident. Z. T. Ruduilph has developed considerable strength. F. D. McArthur has a fine nucleus in his North Birmingham support. Hugo L. Black is making a fine fight and he has many warm supporters who are actively aiding him in his struggle.

For circuit solicitor there are two candidates. They have met before. Once John McQueen was solicitor. Joseph R. Tate defeated him. The two are opposing candidates this year. Each is apparently confident of winning.

There seems to be general satisfaction that neither Judge Henry A. Sharpe nor Judge John C. Pugh has opposition.

CITY IN GALA ATTIRE FOR THE FIRST DAY OF FASHION WEEK

Bands Will Begin to Play in Business District at 9 O'Clock

MISS FASHION NO. 1 WILL BE ON STREETS

Will Have $10 for First Who Discovers Her—Unique Decorations Give Effect of Spring—New Fashions Will Be Shown

This morning will begin a week's showing of the newest and prettiest of spring fashions in Birmingham. The entire city is on dress parade in anticipation of an influx of visitors such as is only seen here during the yearly State Fair. The window trimmers of the city have outdone themselves and never before in this city has there been seen so many different types of beautifully dressed windows, all claiming the attention of passers and each seeming to be prettier than the one preceding.

The Business Men's league, under whose auspices Fashion Week is being held, has been very busy and no expense has been spared to make the streets as pretty as possible. The effect produced is thought to be worth all the money that has been put into it. Sam Friedman, window trimmer of J. Blach & Sons, designed the street decorations and they are perhaps the most unique that have ever been tried out in the south.

All the white way posts of the downtown section have been garlanded with festoons of smilax and wires run from post to post, upon which is suspended a basket filled with Spanish moss and other evergreen. At each street intersection is placed two plaster figures facing each other.

Miss Fashion, too, will be on the streets, in the shops and where the public can view her from many angles. There are six of these young ladies, who were selected by Mrs. J. B. Reid. The first will start on a tour of the shopping district and the first person addressing her, "You are Miss Fashion," will receive from her an envelope entitling the holder to a check for $10 from the Business Men's league. To each subsequent detector she will give an envelope conveying the information, "You are mistaken."

Miss Fashion today is the possessor of beautiful blue eyes; she is slender and just tall enough to be graceful; her complexion is somewhat florid; her manner is the most gracious possible to imagine, and she is ready to meet any and all visitors to the downtown shopping district, according to announcements by Mrs. John B. Reid. She seeks the good will of the people and is ever on the outlook for something that will be of benefit to Birmingham. The Miss Fashion of today is not a seeker of votes for any political aspirant; she said so herself. What she wants is the votes of the people in making Fashion Week in Birmingham the most successful spring event yet undertaken. The young lady will be dressed in the latest of Dame Fashion from the tips of her dainty feet to the crown of her beautiful brown head.

There will be a new Miss Fashion on the streets each day of this week. If Miss Fashion No. 1 is not discovered today she will go forth with Miss Fashion No. 2 Tuesday and so will it continue until all are discovered. On next Saturday afternoon the Business Men's league will give a luncheon to the Miss Fashions at a place yet to be decided.

Bands will begin playing in the business section this morning about 9 o'clock. It is believed by that time that the streets will be filled with visitors and long before 12 o'clock it is thought there will be a crush in the shopping district like that of Christmas time.

Many of the shops have engaged living models, importing them from eastern cities and there will be an exposition of fashion such as will delight not only the feminine element of Birmingham but to the men as well.

"I have seldom witnessed such wonderful co-operation," said R. A. Brown, president of the Business Men's league, yesterday, "as that being shown in this Fashion Week. It indicated to my mind that the mercantile interest of Birmingham are together for the good of the whole city. The enthusiasm that has been manifested through all the preliminaries, I am sure, will continue to the end of the week and will mean big things for the city."

INSPECTION TO BE MADE BY SOUTHERN

Every Rail to Be Inspected Regularly by Track Supervisors to Prevent Rail Failures

Every rail on the Southern railway extending over 7000 miles is to be inspected regularly in order to correct any possible breaks or defects, according to an announcement made yesterday from the executive offices.

The plan which has been evolved is explained in this announcement:

"The system of inspection which has been adopted is believed the most rigid and effective possible. The work is under the direction of the district engineers and division roadmasters and is done by the track supervisors and section foremen who closely scrutinize each and every rail while on their hands and knees and with eyes close enough to the rail to detect the slightest discoverable tendency toward weakness or failure and wherever such are found the rail is immediately removed. Detailed reports are made on each rail left in the track so that comparison can be made at the next year's inspection.

"The management of the Southern railway feels that this rigid inspection of every rail over which its traffic moves embodies every possible step toward the prevention of rail failures, a feature of railway operation to which the officials of leading American railways have been giving the closest study during the past few years."

A VICTIM OF THE DOG TAX

City Commissioner James Weatherly Helps An Old Negro Mammy Out of a Trying Difficulty

By CHARLES H. MANDY

It has been frequently said that the dog is man's most faithful friend, and that once his attachment is formed for his master or mistress it never changes. Too often do we witness a change in the attitude of supposed friends toward a man who has fallen from the heights and lights of prosperity to the depths and darkness of adversity. These human friends desert him at the very time he needs them most. Can this be said of a man's dog? No matter what the changed conditions may be, the dog remains faithful and shows the same affection for his master in rags, so to speak, as he did while clothed in costly raiment. It matters not to him whether his master be prince or pauper, his attachment remains the same.

It should not be forgotten, however, that many times the attachment is returned, and many a man who would not fight for himself has been known to fight for his dog, even to the extent of shedding human blood, as the records of the courts will show. That many of the citizens of Birmingham are fond of their dogs was evidenced by the rush to secure licenses and the accompanying tags which followed the recent edict of the city fathers to the effect that all dogs must be tagged by a certain date. The penalty for a failure to contribute $1 to the city treasury is that all untagged canines will be taken up by the dog catcher—beg pardon, we mean dog superintendent, as that individual is officially known—and converted into that useful commodity used for cleansing purposes only.

As a result of the edict and the further fact that the penalty would undoubtedly be carried out, many people of all creeds and colors assembled at the city hall and in return for the simoleon deposited with Mr. Boggan received the little tin disc that secured immunity for "Queenie" or "Spot" or "Rover," for the time being. A large per cent were negroes, many of them insufficiently clad, yet they willingly gave up their last kopeck in order to retain possession of the "yaller dawg" that every negro is supposed to own.

One day last week an old negro woman of the "mammy" type came to the city hall. She was plainly perturbed and laboring under much excitement. To one of the attaches of the city hall she stated that she wanted to see some one about the dog tax, and as Mr. Weatherly was the only commissioner available at that time, the old mammy was referred to him. She approached the private office of the genial commissioner with considerable misgivings, when to make things easier for her he remarked:

"Come in, aunty; what do you wish."

"Is yo' Mistah Weatherboard," she asked timidly.

"Not exactly," replied 'Sunny Jim,' with a smile; "my name is Weatherly. Just drop the board and add a little 'ly' and you have it."

"Ah ain't gwine ter add a little lie, ner a big one nuther," replied the old aunty, with some show of indignation; "I'se gwine ter tell de truf, fer de truf don' hurt nobuddy. Hain't you' de board."

"Hardly, though some people seem to think I am from the demands that are made upon me from time to time. I have the honor to be a member of the board of commissioners, if that's what you mean."

"Does yo' know anythin' 'bout dis yere dog tax bizness?"

"I know that if it is not paid your dog will be taken up and destroyed."

"Dat's de pint; dats what Ah wants ter know. Yo' see, hits disaway: Ah done paid er dollar for ma dawg and is got one uf dem taggs, which is on ma dawg at dis minit. But lo an' behol' dat dawg done had eight puppies dis very mawin' an' 'for de Lawd, Mistah Weather-er-not, Ah isn't got no eight dollahs ter pay fer 'em."

Mr. Weatherly laughed long and loud at this recital, much to the uneasiness of the old negro, who related: "Ah sho' isn't got no eight dollahs ter pay fur dem dawgs," to which she added: "Arter all, Ah is done fur dat dawg, hit done went an' had eight purps."

"There is a way out of your difficulties," said the commissioner, "and one that won't cost you anything. Drown the puppies."

"Doesn't Ah have ter keep em, bein' as how ma dawg is licensed."

"Certainly not."

The old mammy's ebony face visibly brightened, and in that brightening the fate of the puppies was sealed.

LONG CLAIMS THAT REPUBLICANS WILL NOT VOTE IN WALKER

Thinks W. B. Bankhead Was Done Injustice—Arguments Set Forth in Age-Herald Upheld by Facts

BY HUGH W. ROBERTS

Tom Long says the statements of newspapers that a large majority of the republicans of Walker county intend to vote in the democratic primary does the republicans a great injustice.

Mr. Long, complaining that a certain paragraph published some days ago in The Age-Herald, "grossly misstates the situation" in Walker, issues a formal card. The paragraph in question was one among many which tended to explain why Walker county will cast a majority of its votes for R. P. Hobson as against the leader of the democrats, Oscar W. Underwood. The argument was to the effect that but for local fights in Walker county the situation would be reversed.

Mr. Long seems to think that the paragraph does William B. Bankhead, a candidate for Congress, an injustice. While this is laughable, it might be stated in reply that no intentional injustice was done. In the article in question Mr. Bankhead was decidedly a secondary consideration.

Argument Was Correct

As regards the tenor of the article as a whole that tenor was correct. But for the local fights in Walker county—which fights have overshadowed the senatorial contest—Hobson would have no more chance to poll a majority of the votes of Walker county than the late and lamented amendment had a chance to win there. There is a truce all down the line. But for the truce, Underwood's friends in Walker, all of them, would be as active in his behalf as his friends are elsewhere. There is no need to call names. The facts are too well known for comment.

Mr. Long's argument in regard to "true republicans" is par excellence. If only "true democrats" voted in Walker county Underwood would win by a handsome majority. If no man who has ever bolted the democratic ticket—national, state or local—voted for Hobson, Underwood would win overwhelmingly in Walker. As a matter of fact, if reports are true—and Mr. Long can verify these reports—the democrats have had a difficult time in the very recent past in electing a probate judge in Walker county.

The Long Statement

Inasmuch, however, as Mr. Long wants his statement published, it goes:

"I notice in The Age-Herald of Tuesday, March 10, the following statement:

"'The bars will not be raised in Walker. Local campaigns have overclouded the senatorial campaign. Bankhead is a candidate for Congress. The nephew of L. B. Musgrove and of Thomas L. Long, men who differ sharply on the senatorial campaign, is a candidate for sheriff. There seems to be all down the line a truce.'

"This statement grossly misstates the situation. In the first place the bars were raised by the state committee and have not been let down by the county committee. As a member of the state committee I voted to raise the bars, and I am in full accord with the enforcement of the qualifications fixed by the state committee.

"There is little disposition among the true republicans of Walker county to vote in the democratic primary. The leaders and the rank and file of the straight republicans in this county could not be induced to participate in a democratic primary. The newspaper talk that a large majority of the republicans of this county are going to vote does them, in my judgment, an injustice and is also an improper reflection on the democrats of this county.

"I am a strong supporter of Will Bankhead for Congress and believe he will win. His friends are appealing only to the democrats. This county has about 6000 qualified white voters. There are not more than 1500 republicans in the county. A few of their candidates have received a larger number of votes in recent years, but that was due to local trouble and dissatisfaction with democratic nominees.

"The statement that the host of republicans will vote in Walker will necessarily prejudice democrats in the Sixth district against W. B. Bankhead whether intended or not, and is a great injustice to him. The reference to a truce between L. B. Musgrove and myself on account of a nephew of mine and Mr. Musgrove's being a candidate for sheriff is ridiculous to the people of Walker county. They know my position in the Underwood and Hobson race. While I am for Buck Long for sheriff, I have said all the time that if he could not win with democrats that he ought not to win. I have not taken as much interest in Buck Long's race as I have in Mr. Underwood's and all my friends here understand that fact. My anxiety for Underwood's success would not permit me to enter into any truce that would lose him a single vote.

"The Age-Herald in the past has been very kind to me, and I know that no intention to do me any injury inspired the article about which I complain, but the facts remain that the statements are unjust and I want the facts set before the public.

T. L. LONG.

"Jasper Ala., March 14, 1914."

AN ORGANIZATION IS FORMED BY HEBREWS TO AVOID LITIGATION

Birmigham Hebrew Court of Arbitration Proposes to Settle Differences Without Resort to the Courts

The Birmingham Hebrew Court of Arbitration, the third of its kind in America, was organized in this city yesterday. The other two branches are located, one in Boston and one in Baltimore. The purpose of the organization is to take up differences that occur from time to time among the Hebrews of a community and settle them without the necessity of appealing to the courts and avoid the subsequent expense.

A representative of every Hebrew relief, fraternal and congregational organization in the city was present.

It was announced yesterday after the meeting that the organization is headed by J. Cartus, as president, with M. Hersch, as secretary. There will be only two officers. The court will be composed of five judges, three of whom will be regular judges and two supernumerary, to take the place of any one of the judges temporarily absent. It is planned to disbar from the position of judge any lawyer as the arbitration will be based not so much upon legal technicalities as upon the matter of merit and justice without the beclouding effects of strict legal interpretations. The announcement was made that the work of the board would, for the purpose of arbitration with the old Hebrew and Mosaic laws as the guiding tenants of arriving at decisions.

One of the rules of the court will be that both parties to a difference shall subscribe to the holdings of the court and that both shall be in honor bound to abide by any decision that is made by that court. This measure of administering justice, it is believed, will free the courts of this county of much litigation.

In the handling of differences it is stated that no criminal cases of any kind will be taken up.

The application of the old laws which are not recognized in the administration of local justice will be the principal difference between the justice of this board of arbitration and the regular courts.

BLAKE GIVES FACTS ABOUT CANDIDACY OF MR. UNDERWOOD

Refutes Charge He Was Brought Out to Defeat Captain Hobson

SOME HEFLIN-HOBSON DIFFERENCES AIRED

Underwood Had Practically Announced Before There Was Hope That Clayton Would Retire—Hobson's Telegram to Heflin

Dr. Wyatt H. Blake of Sheffield, a kinsman of Congressman J. Thomas Heflin, in a letter to the Roanoke Leader, a newsppaer, replies to an editorial in that newspaper in which the oft-repeated contention was made that Oscar W. Underwood was brought out by certain Alabama politicians for the specific purpose of beating R. P. Hobson.

Dr. Blake gives of his own knowledge the facts in the case. For sometime, as is known, there was a probability that Congressman Heflin would run for the Senate. Interested in his kinsman, Dr. Blake made efforts to learn the intention of Mr. Underwood. And he learned that Mr. Underwood practically announced even before there was hope that Henry D. Clayton would retire.

In course of his letter Dr. Blake gives some interesting facts regarding the differences which have existed between Mr. Hobson and Mr. Heflin. He charges that Mr. Hobson was the only Alabamian in Congress who failed to sympathize with Mr. Heflin when, in attempting to protect a lady from offensive negroes on a street car, he accidentally shot and desperately wounded a bystander. He also reminds that when Mr. Heflin in a speech made in Tuskegee took Roosevelt to task for having dined with a negro—thus giving the south an object lesson of his ideas of social equality—Mr. Hobson sent a telegram to Mr. Heflin suggesting that he resign his seat in Congress.

Facts in the Case

Dr. Blake's letter, addressed to the Roanoke Leader, follows:

"There are some facts in this connection personally known to the writer which I wish you to know, hence this letter. Your congressman, Hon. J. Thomas Heflin, attended the burial of Senator Joseph F. Johnston. I met him there. Mr. Heflin was being urged by numerous personal appeals, by telegram and by long distance telephone, to announce for the United States Senate. He was considering these appeals, and the next day I met him at the home of his brother, where Mr. Heflin discussed the matter with some of his friends. The governor was holding a conference in the Hillman hotel. To this conference Mr. Heflin was not invited. The belief prevailed that Mr. Clayton would be appointed. But there were others to be considered, among them Mr. Underwood. None of us knew what he would do. Mr. Heflin returned to his duties in Washington, still undecided, and on reaching there he wrote me further concerning the matter.

"Realizing that Mr. Underwood would be a formidable candidate should he enter the race, I was anxious to know his intentions before answering Mr. Heflin's last letter. I had only a few days to wait. Judge Joseph H. Nathan of Sheffield, who is a friend to Mr. Underwood, was in Washington on business, and while there saw Mr. Underwood and urged him to make the race for the United States Senate. Mr. Underwood's reply was substantially this: That he would become a candidate; that he had not intended to run against Senator Johnston, but no reason now existed why he should not enter the race. He also said that he would not announce until later; that the tariff bill, which so vitally affected the revenues of the federal government, was then under discussion; that his party had entrusted to him its management in the House; and that to announce at that time might impair his own efficiency at a critical stage of this important measure. Mr. Clayton had been appointed only a few days before. When asked by Judge Nathan if this appointment would affect his own candidacy, Mr. Underwood replied that the governor had not consulted him on this matter, nor had he consulted any member of the state administration before deciding to become a candidate himself, and that he relied on his record for promotion at the hands of his people.

"This statement was made to Judge Nathan on September 9, a little more than a week after Senator Johnston's burial. The tariff bill became a law on October 13, more than a month later.

"I would remind you that my interest in this matter was primarily in behalf of my kinsman, Mr. Heflin. Judge Nathan, who is my neighbor, knew this, and on his return from Washington told me that Mr. Underwood would later announce as a candidate. In the meantime Hr. Heflin had decided not to run.

"Before closing this letter, I beg to call to your attention a few other things.

Hobson to Heflin

"Soon after your representative, Mr. Heflin, entered Congress he introduced a bill to require separate street cars for whites and negroes in the District of Columbia. As a consequence he began to get anonymous letters threatening his life. His friends advised him to go prepared to protect himself. A few nights later, while attempting to shield a white lady from the insults of two negroes, a shot from his pistol accidentally wounded a white man named McCreary. McCreary developed lockjaw from this wound, and for a long time he lay in a hospital in Washington in a desperate condition. Even his physicians could scarcely hope for his recovery. Imagine Mr. Heflin's anxiety as the newspapers would announce morning after morning that McCreary could last only a little longer. In the midst of this terrible ordeal, nearly every southern congressman, and every one of the Alabama congressmen except one came to Mr. Heflin and expressed his sympathy. The one exception was Congressman Hobson, from Mr. Heflin's own state.

"When Roosevelt saw fit to dine with Booker Washington, your congressman, Mr. Heflin, made a speech in Tuskegee, in which he censured Roosevelt severely for prostituting his high official position in order to serve on the south an object lesson, setting forth his own particular type of social equality. This so displeased Mr. Hobson that he went out of his way to telegraph Mr. Heflin that he ought to resign from Congress. Where were Mr. Hobson's sympathies in this case?

"We should not forget that the one issue paramount to all others with every southern democrat is race preservation. The dining room opens into the parlor, and the parlor is on the way to the bridal chamber. Respectfully,

"WYATT H. BLAKE."

"Sheffield, March 10."

ST. PAUL SERVICES VERY IMPRESSIVE

Forty-Hour Devotion Began at Close of High Mass

SERMON IN EVENING

Father Coyle Preaches on "The Sacrament of Faith and Hope and Love"—Attendance Is Large

A 40-hours' devotion began at St. Paul's church yesterday at the close of high mass. The Rev. Father Carroll was the celebrant. He read the notices for the week and the epistle and gospel in English as usual but owing to the length of the services there was no sermon.

After the mass the Sacred Host was borne in procession through the aisles. It was perhaps the longest procession ever seen in St. Paul's. In addition to altar boys and first communion children and large girls, the junior and senior branches of the Holy Name society were represented. There were many banners in the procession and the scene was impressive. The services concluded with the litany of the saints, intoned by Father Carroll. The Rev. Father Coyle acted as master of ceremony.

The host, in a golden monstrance, was placed above the tabernacle on the high altar for the adoration of the faithful. Scores of Catholics visited the church during the afternoon for adoration.

Last night's services were largely attended. Father Coyle preached a sermon on "The Sacrament of Faith, Hope and Love." He said:

Father Coyle's Sermon

"Our glorious church, the grand old Catholic church, of which you and I are members, contains many wondrous treasures. It is rich with the gifts of her founder, the Eternal Son of God, but, Ah, it contains one gift, surpassing all, one treasure of inestimable worth, a gift, a treasure, than which heaven itself can show no greater; it contains under sacramental veils, beneath the lowly forms of bread and wine, the living Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Himself, true God, true man.

"Our holy church, a loving mother, gives us many an aid and many a help to work out our soul's salvation. To save our souls we must practice three great virtues, that are the warp and woof of Christian life, faith, hope, love. No wonder then that this sacrament of sacraments, the Holy Eucharist, is the heavenly bread that nourishes faith, sustains hope, invigorates love. It is in very deed, the sacrament of faith and hope and love.

"It is the sacrament of faith. Aye, it is the very test of faith. Was it not so from the very beginning? On the very day when the Savior promised this gift of gifts, when He told the multitudes that had partaken of material food miraculously given, in the multiplication of fishes and loaves, that another bread would be given, a heavenly bread, His flesh to eat, His blood to drink; from that day onward, through all the centuries since then, it became the touchstone of faith. Then many failed. 'This,' said they, 'is a hard saying and who can believe it.' So they walked with Him no more; they cut themselves away from the living vine; they became withered branches.

"Today, looking out over the world, we see the same. The faithful, with Peter's successor believe, 'Lord, to whom should we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life.' Ah, what an immense gulf there is between us and those churches that have not on their altars the sacramental presence, the source of life, of light, of joy. Unhappy they, and thrice happy we, who know that the promise, the glorious astounding promise recorded in the sixth chapter of the gospel of St. John, found fulfillment, when on Holy Thursday eve, seated with the 12, as Calvary's clouds were gathering fast, He took bread and wine and changed them into His body and blood. 'This is My body. This is My blood,' and, more, gave His apostles and their successors the power to do so forever. 'Do this for a commemoration of Me.'

"'Ah, words of the olden Thursday,
Still holding creative sway.
Ye have brought us the Friday's victim
And priest. In His own sweet way
'Neath veils His glorified body
Himself He offers this day.'

Sacrament of Hope

"The eucharist is also the sacrament of hope. In it we find our strength, our consolation when all the world is dark and drear; when, as happens to all betimes, life's burdens press heavily, when our spiritual energies are benumbed, when, weary and disheartened, the path onward and upward seems rugged and hard. Then, if we remember the words of the Savior, 'I will not leave yo uorphans.' 'Lo, I am with you all days, even to the end of time,' will we not be encouraged and strengthened? God with us, who can hurt us. We are safe in His protecting care.

"Sometime ago a ship was caught in a furious storm at sea. The waves rolled mountain high, the vessel rocked and reeled. The passengers, pale and terrified, huddled together, expecting destruction each moment. One boy was calm and collected and unafraid, and they asked him in wonder if he felt no fear. 'No,' he said calmly, 'my father is at the rudder.' So it is with us. Our Father is with us on our earthly voyage, and though waves roll high and dangers lower, still the Sacred Host, the sacramental presence, will be our ship, our strength, our certain hope and stay.

"The holy eucharist is the sacrament of love. Ah, here words fail. God, only

(Continued on Page Eight)

EACH HAS SPECIAL DUTY TO PERFORM

Rev. Bell Preaches on "The Christian's Inheritance"

LITTLE THINGS COUNT

Faithfulness, He Says, Weighs Most With God—No Technicalities About Inheritance of the Christian. Title Is Clear

The Rev. Robert L. Bell, pastor of the Handley Memorial Presbyterian church, last night delivered a sermon on "The Christian's Inheritance." Mr. Bell's theme was taken from the third chapter of Paul's letter to the Corinthians and his text, "For all things are yours," from the twenty-first verse of that chapter. His sermon in part follows:

"Is not the text just a little stimulating? Deep down in your heart has there not been times when you wanted something and you had a haunting delusion that everything would be complete if you could get it? There was something lacking about you that it seemed could not be filled.

"If I were permitted to fashion things according to my own conception it is highly probable that I would change my material condition in life. No doubt you have thought along the same lines. You have doubtless thought that if you could sing, how glorious it would be; how sweet life would be if you could only hold enthralled in the power of the melody of your voice multitudes. You have doubtless thought how good it would be if you could deliver addresses in such a manner that you could sway the passions of men; could hold an audience thrilled as you talked; could hold the world spellbound with your words you uttered. I have thought that way. I have dreamed day dreams and it is very probable you have done the same thing.

"I suspect that if you could look back over the range of years you would liken your life unto a graveyard, wherein are buried all our fondest hopes, all our ideals and many of our cherished desires. You would stand tonight looking back upon the graveyard of your buried hopes, but let me tell you tonight that your life is largely just what God intended it should be. We all have a special province in this world. The most humble servant has his own special duty to perform and it is faithfulness that is the big thing in the final count up yonder.

"You have relationship with God. You are a child of God, and that relationship can never be broken. We are the sons of God and the heirs of the lord. I am a child of God, a relationship that means just as much as does my relationship to my own son and I will be protected and cared for by the Lord as a child.

"We have a righteousness that nothing can tarnish. What a glorious asset is this that we can become holy with a righteousness nothing can disturb!

"We have a peace that can never be disturbed. Peace, the perfect quietness of a soul the perfect accord of a faculty, the poise, the completeness, the glory of peace with God. There is nothing between me and Him.

"We have an inheritance that will be of service here and will finally bring us through the golden gate; we have a title that can never be disputed. There are no technicalities about it. He that believeth in the Son of God shall never die, nor shall any man ever pluck him out of our hands. It is a guaranteed title; it is absolutely unquestioned. God is the giver and Jesus Christ the great lawyer in the affair.

"Now, leave this church tonight with the calm conviction that you are worth something. You are God's child. Walk into the world with the conviction that you are the son of a king and comport yourself with kingly grace."

TWO CANDIDATES OUTLINE PLATFORM

Huntsville, March 15.—(Special.) Capt. John W. Grayson and Ed. D. Johnson, candidates for the state legislature, have opened their campaign with a series of speeches in which they declare themselves for local option in the regulation of the liquor question and also for the repeal of the county road law and abolition of the office of road supervisor.

Supporters of Capt. R. P. Hobson in this county are making engagements for his fourth tour of this locality of the present campaign. He is billed to speak in Huntsville again on March 28.

John McKinney of Maysville has captured in a steel trap one of the largest eagles ever seen in this section. The big bird measures six feet from tip to tip. He was caught in a steel trap that was set for small animals and was not injured at all, being held by only a toe.

The rear part of the residence of Mrs. Rosalie Chapman on East Holmes street was damaged by fire last night. The fire started in the kitchen.

To Have Luncheon Friday

The regular weekly luncheon of the Birmingham Furniture Dealers' association will be held Friday at the German cafe of the empire hotel. Mrs. Mabel F. Leake is secretary of the association.