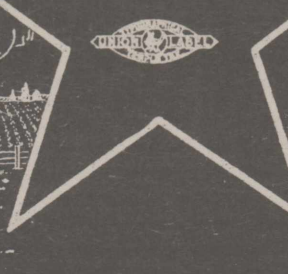


Back to the Schoolroom With the Political Teacher.

The Ferguson Forum

Back to the
Courtroom
With the
Political
Lawyer



Back to the
Pulpit
With the
Political
Preacher

VOLUME I

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200,000 LIARS RUNNING LOOSE IN TEXAS

THE NUMBER INCLUDES MANY POLITICIANS, POLITICAL PREACHERS, OFFICE SEEKERS AND CHURCH HYPOCRITES

PROCEEDINGS IN THE U. S. COURT AT AUSTIN PROVE THEIR STATEMENTS UNTRUE

For the last two months the people have heard nothing but the howl of the political crook that Ferguson got the \$156,000 from the kaiser and that he was therefore disloyal. The Dallas News, The Houston Post, The Houston Chronicle and The San Antonio Express, though pretending to be high class newspapers, printed this lie in some form or another for the last two months in almost every issue of their slander sheets. Quite a number of supposed to be truthful preachers repeated the statements in their pulpits on Sunday. Bishop Mouzon, representing the Methodists of the state, found time to quit his religious and spiritual duties to get on the stump for the Hobby campaign, which was printing and circulating the lie throughout the state.

Dr. S. P. Brooks, representing the Baptists of the state (which church, I am informed believes in the commandment, "Thou shalt not lie"), found time to get on the political stump and tell the people, in substance, that he was supporting Hobby on the loyalty platform and therefore Ferguson was disloyal because he had received aid from a disloyal source, thus giving his approval to the lie that I had borrowed \$156,000 from the kaiser.

The little preachers told their women members that it was all true, and thousands of good, innocent women were deceived into repeating the most outrageous lie that was ever uttered.

Hobby said the charge was true; Colquitt and Campbell, with their arms around each other, said the charge was true; Brigadier Brindle Wolters said it was true, and old Grandma Weinert said it was so, and they even called me a Yellow Hun.

Of course, old Crane said "Amen" to the whole charge, because that was a part of the consideration of his employment.

Following this mob were thousands of little lawyers and little men all telling just how, why and when Ferguson got the \$156,000 from the infernal kaiser. The people well remember that I branded the whole charge as a lie and challenged and dared one of the whole crowd to show just one fact to back up their infamous lies and statements.

I refused to tell the source of the loan because I had given my word that I would not tell. I have kept my word and by so doing I have kept my self-respect even though I have not kept the office.

But as a just rebuke to the preachers and politicians who uttered this lie, now comes the United States government in the Federal court at Austin and through its powers proves in open court that I borrowed the money from Louis Adoue and Colonel Otto Wahrmond and R. L. Autrey, all citizens of the state of Texas. Now, bear in mind the Federal government, and not I, proves that Ferguson received the money from Texas citizens and not from the kaiser. The government goes further and claims that the money was not only made in Texas but that it is subject to tax in this country. In other words, the Federal government has in effect said to this crowd of character assassins who have been after me for two years that the charge of disloyalty against Ferguson and borrowing money from the kaiser, does not even bear the semblance of truth. Mr. Adoue and Mr. Autrey and Colonel Wahrmond are all three citizens of Texas for more than forty years, against whom no charge of disloyalty has been or can be made. They took no active part in the present campaign though the Hobby campaign crowd begged for their support.

But it is said that these men are brewers and therefore Ferguson should be condemned for accepting a loan from them, because liquor legislation might have come before Ferguson as governor. In order to settle the liquor question during my administration, the first as well as the second, I took the people into my confidence by declaring in my platform very clearly that I would veto any kind of liquor legislation that should come before me as governor. The people agreed with me and elected me on that platform. Hobby agreed with me and was blamed glad to be elected with me on the same platform.

Therefore, I was bound to oppose any liquor legislation whether anyone ever loaned me a dollar or not. It was a covenant with the people which I was bound to carry out.

And pray, for God's sake, where did this holier than thou crowd get the right to condemn anybody for borrowing money from a brewer?

Did not Bishop Mouzon declare for Hobby on the moral issue after he knew that Hobby borrowed \$16,000 from Mr. Hamilton, a prominent brewer of Houston? Did not Dr. S. P. Brooks of Baylor University do the same thing?

Did not Colquitt receive \$35,000 from the brewers as a gift? Are not all the preachers now bragging on Colquitt?

Was he not Hobby's righthand man?

Has not R. M. Johnston of the Houston Post for the past ten years received money from the brewers by loan and otherwise? And, of course, he claims the right to run the Hobby regime and he succeeds fairly well. Has not Barry Miller, a Hobby orator, at dif-

ferent times been on the pay roll of the brewers in the past ten or twelve years?

Again this great institution that will claim now the right to run the state, the State University, has Mr. Fred Cook as the chairman of its board of regents. Cook's beer is said by people who know to be the best in the land.

Hobby appointed Mr. John Sealy, the owner of large brewery stock in Galveston, on the board of University regents.

If one Galveston brewer is good enough for Hobby to appoint to run the great State University, then why is not another Galveston brewer good enough for me, Hobby or anybody else to borrow money from?

Did not Hobby overlook everybody else and appoint Jake Wolters to the biggest job within his gift? And did not this same Jake spend the biggest campaign fund ever spent in Texas that was raised by the brewers? And yet, notwithstanding all this, even Senator Morris Shepperd says Jake is a patriot, and before twelve months Jake will kick old Barton and Cullen Thomas off the pro wagon and will be calling them yellow Huns.

One-half the legislature who sought to impeach me spent their time in drinking the brewers' product, and they are going around now with their tongues out, because they say that Bone Dry, Bevo, and La Perla have not got any "kick" to them, and they privately tell you that they long again for the Budweiser days to return.

It might be wrong for me to borrow money from a brewer, but it is not half as bad as a preacher who will tell a deliberate lie against a citizen of his state and ask an innocent lady member of his church to believe it.

Two wrongs never made one right. I had even rather be a brewer and live honestly with my fellowmen, than be a ranting, lying preacher, who in this grave hour of the nation would tell a black lie about the loyalty of even a free nigger.

In this crisis when the unity of our people is so much demanded and when every true patriot is willing to follow one God, and that the God of Truth and Justice, is willing to follow one flag and that the flag of Old Glory, is willing to follow one president and that president is Woodrow Wilson, he who untruthfully charges disloyalty to any man is the meanest, low-down, contemptible, slacking traitor that ever was permitted to run loose in a free country.

The returns from the election when considered with the returns from former elections show that I received a clear majority of the male voters. In the Ball campaign there was a total of 428,490 votes cast, of which I received 237,076. In this election there could not have been over 350,000 men votes cast, because we have sent over 80,000 men to war. Therefore, I would only have had to receive 176,000 votes to have had a majority of the men in this election; while the returns show that I will receive 50,000 votes more than that sum.

In addition I did not receive in this campaign as I did receive in former campaigns many thousand votes that were intimidated and kept away from the polls. For example, I lost 1500 votes in Washington county alone that I received two and four years ago. I lost 5000 votes in San Antonio that failed to vote at all. The men vote in Dallas and Fort Worth was also many thousand short. Therefore, let history be correctly recorded that Ferguson was vindicated by the same voters who elected him; and that over the protest of

all the politicians, political preachers and big corporations of the state.

With the good women who were deceived by the political preachers and lying politicians into believing that I was a bad man and a disloyal citizen, I have no quarrel. They will soon learn not to believe anything that they hear and only one-half they see in Texas politics. That their votes were illegal everybody knows. That they voted for Hobby 10 to 1 cannot be denied.

Even if I were disposed to contest the election the expense is more than I, a poor man, can stand.

As I said more than three years ago, if the women want to vote let them vote. If they want more power we had just as well give it to them, because they are going to have it any way. They may make mistakes, but certainly this election proves that they are no more fickle than men—certainly they will never be as ungrateful as men—some men at least.

While I doubt the ability of both, I would far rather trust Mrs. Hortense Ward than old Rebecca Malindy Johnston in the Hobby cabinet. Every honest person certainly would rather follow Mrs. Nanny Webb Curtis to the jumping off place than go with old Lattimore to a dog fight. I know that the poor hard working girls of this state could never be as ungrateful as the Wolters and the Weinerts, who have fawned at the feet of every governor as long as there were political and official favors to bestow.

So let us make real and legal voters out of the women. Not a summer time voter, not just a Hobby voter, but a sure enough constitutional voter. I now and here favor a change in the state constitution so as to make women voters under the constitution and I want to go further and write in the constitution that the charge for poll tax for BOTH MEN AND WOMEN SHALL NEVER EXCEED TEN CENTS—JUST A THIN DIME TO PAY FOR PRINTING THE RECEIPT AND RECORD THEREOF.

I also oppose registration of women in the country.

I therefore accept the result of the July primary and ask my friends to do likewise. I trust no attempt will be made to oppose or hamper the Hobby program at the state convention. I know that I did not receive this treatment from the crowd who will dominate the state convention, but our friends will do themselves proud by returning good for evil—even if it is casting pearls before swine.

I shall continue to take an active interest in Texas politics. I may or may not run for office again.

For the present, necessity compels me to give some attention to my private business which has so signally suffered while I have been in the public service.

With a heart full of gratitude to thousands of friends everywhere who have stood by me through trial and tribulation, I retire to private life, conscious that I have served my state honestly and conscientiously.

I will not be so hypocritical as to say that I forgive everybody, but I have neither time nor the inclination to spend my time hating or remembering little people, and therefore there will be nothing much to worry or bother me as a result of the campaign.

Let us help Hobby to run the people's government. God knows he needs it.

JAS. E. FERGUSON.

