

## Unique Political Convention

[The Atlanta, Georgia, Journal of October 20, gives the following report of a unique political convention in which William D. Upshaw was placed in nomination for congress by his friend and pastor, Rev. C. A. Ridley.—Ed.]

William D. Upshaw was formally nominated as democratic candidate for congress from the fifth congressional district at the democratic convention held at 12 o'clock Saturday in the senate chamber in the state capitol.

Mr. Upshaw went into the convention with twelve of the sixteen electoral votes to which the district is entitled. At the general primary of September 11, he carried three of the five counties, and his nomination Saturday was a matter of formality as the delegates from Fulton, DeKalb and Campbell counties constituted an overwhelming majority.

Rev. Caleb A. Ridley, pastor of the Central Baptist church of this city, of which Mr. Upshaw is a member, made the nominating speech and placed Mr. Upshaw's name before the convention. It is unique in the history of Georgia that the candidate's pastor and spiritual advisor placed him in nomination for office. Dr. Ridley paid splendid tribute to the intellectual and moral qualifications of Mr. Upshaw. He spoke touchingly of the natural glory and beauty of Georgia, and of the strong fiber of its men.

"Man is the crowning gift of divine handicraft," said Dr. Ridley. "When the spirit of darkness lay upon the deep, a hand moved and the mountains lifted their heads high in the fading distance, the seas began cradling themselves into their channels and the great sun leaped forth in broadest glory; but when all the suns and moons and galaxies were lit, God said: 'Let us make man.' Man is the key to everything!"

"The fifth district has long been represented by men of fiber. The retiring congressman is one of the most brilliant and most approachable men of the entire south. Born beneath her skies, cradled in her arms, nurtured from her bosom, he has proven unflinchingly loyal to all her interests. But the man I'm about to nominate today is the equal of any man who ever shared this honor from the fifth district. True, he has no political record; but that also may be in his favor! He has a record of loyalty and patriotism and benefaction that reaches back for a quarter of a century of public life and is undimmed by a single stain.

"To struggling, aspiring youth he has brought education; to the helpless he has been staff and crutch; to the sinking sailor he has been a lifeboat; to the drifting mariner he has been a lighthouse, and to the sick and dying he has been an evangel of life.

"He is the son of a Confederate soldier who asked no higher privilege than of laying his life on the altar of his state. He has to his credit the most notable campaign ever waged beneath southern skies. He began without a dollar and won without a campaign committee. His only assets were an empty purse, a clean character and the unbounded confidence of the people. The people know he could be trusted.

"His good name proved a greater asset than all the political experience and money of his opponents. And what made him congressman this time will keep him there for years to come.

"Like the immortal Alex Stephens, he has been forced to live in a broken body, but through the shattered walls he, too, has caught clearer visions of duty than those of us who know nothing of such handicaps. And now that the people have called him forth with a mighty voice, I predict that, like Stephens, he will carve his name high up among the notable names of history.

"As his friend in college in days now dead, his pastor now, and as his comrade in a long battle for good government, it gives me a very rare order of pleasure to place before this convention the democratic nominee for congress from the fifth district of Georgia, the Honorable William David Upshaw, of the county of Fulton."

Mr. Upshaw, in accepting the nomination, delivered an eloquent address, in which he pledged himself to loyalty, faithfully and sincerely represent the fifth district, and expressed his gratification at the result of the primary.

"All that is within me responds with deepest emotion to the beautiful and generous speeches

of nomination, and to the splendid vote that made these speeches possible," said Mr. Upshaw.

"To be called by such an emphatic voice to represent the chiefest district of the south in the halls of national legislation is an honor which overwhelms me with gratitude and challenges me to a passionate sense of consecration. And this feeling of responsibility deepens with every passing hour as I recall how this honor has come to a man hitherto untried in the realm of personal politics.

"But if any of my loyal supporters who honestly wished and earnestly sought the best for me are not quite satisfied with the twelve county unit votes out of a possible sixteen, that are here to assure my nomination, permit me modestly to remind them that this is my very first effort at vote-getting, and if they will just stand by me in congress as they helped me in my campaign, I will try to do better next time.

"If someone should think it a bit unusual that the next congressman from the fifth district should have been nominated by a preacher, who happens to be my pastor, I confess that this is a fancy of mine, based on a long-time rule of action. In my work, both on the platform and as an editor, I have rejoiced to crown the preacher citizen as a living hero in the great battle for the betterment of the world. Side by side with the preachers of the gospel I have fought for a stainless flag, a spotless ballot and a regnant political conscience. So I somehow felt that on this, my natal day politically, I should like to give new emphasis to my admiration for the preacher citizen—in this instance the preacher who was a man before he was a preacher, by having him make my nominating speech.

"In pledging my loyalty to the fundamental principles of government, to a square deal always to labor and capital, and to every measure and every movement that makes for real democracy and human betterment, I recognize the fact that I have had set for me a high standard of attainment in the superb legislative record of Congressman William Schley Howard, whose successor I am to be by the providence of God and the grace of the people. With a record which the Athens Banner declared to be a hundred per cent pure in loyalty and effectiveness, I can hardly hope to equal what Mr. Howard has done as a representative of this great district; but with the assurance that I do not expect to have any post-mortem examination of ballot boxes to find who voted for me, I expect to do my best to be everybody's congressman, forgetting what the future may hold and crowning always the present hour of duty—duty to the God we worship—duty to the district I represent—duty to the state of my birth and to the flag of the country which we love so well.

"With this sacred pledge, gentlemen, I accept your high commission."

### HIGH TRIBUTE TO PREACHER-CITIZEN

The Atlanta, Georgia, Constitution of October 21 carried the following report:

"One of the features of the fifth district congressional convention, which on Saturday formally nominated William D. Upshaw as the democratic candidate for congress, was the tribute paid by Mr. Upshaw to the preacher-citizen as represented by Dr. C. A. Ridley, his pastor, who made the nominating speech.

"Mr. Upshaw also paid a tribute to his predecessor, Congressman William Schley Howard, whose record in congress, he said, was 100 per cent efficient.

"The congressman-to-be left no doubt in the minds of his hearers that he was going to stand by the President in the winning of the war and making a 'strong' peace with Germany.

The speaker also made it clear that while not neglecting all other legislative duties he was going to devote his time to all forms of legislation which 'primarily make for the betterment of humanity.'

### MR. UPSHAW'S ADDRESS

"In accepting the nomination, Mr. Upshaw, after thanking the convention and the district for the honor conferred upon him, spoke in part as follows:

"If some one should think it a bit unusual that the next congressman from the fifth district should have been nominated by a preacher, who happens to be my pastor, I confess that this is a fancy of mine, based on a long-time rule of action. In my work, both on the platform and as an editor, I have rejoiced to crown the preacher-citizen as a living hero in the great battle for the betterment of the world. Side by side with the preachers of the Gospel I have

fought for 'a stainless flag,' a spotless ballot and regnant political conscience, and I somehow felt that on this, my natal day politically, I should like to give new emphasis to my admiration for the preacher-citizen—in this instance the preacher who was a man before he was a preacher—by having him make my nominating speech.

"And this fellowship which I as a layman have had with the preachers idly over America, battling for clean government and the general problems of Christian citizenship, causes me to emphasize two things. First, that preachers as a class are the most unselfish, the most fearless and faithful set of men I have ever known, and the second is this, that it will be natural for me to follow in my legislative career in Washington the practical bent of a life time. Some men in congress give themselves especially to the tariff, some intricate questions of finance, some to navies and navigation and some to foreign relations and problems of diplomacy. I expect to neglect none of these economic and patriotic questions as I face them in the path of my legislative duty, but as humanity has always been my hero and as all other questions touch by legislation absolutely lose their value unless humanity sustains a proper relationship to them, I expect to give my special attention to all forms of legislation that make primarily for human betterment.

"The glory of the first four years of Woodrow Wilson's administration is the fact that its aggressive legislation touched humanity at every angle. Indeed, so practical and fundamental was the applied statesmanship that farseeing business men of commanding genius and patriotism like Henry Ford and Thomas Edison, who had been lifelong republicans, supported Wilson heartily for his second term, because they said, he had done more good, had put on the statute books of the nation more laws that touched humanity with consideration and freedom than the republican party had done during its whole existence.

"And common gratitude should cause us not to forget that the major part of this humanitarian legislative progress was the dream and plan of that great Apostle of Jeffersonian democracy, William Jennings Bryan, who is the acknowledged father of that political renaissance which crowned the moral ideal as the supreme thing in all legislation."

Our knowledge of geography would have been immeasurably extended by the war if it were not for the fact that one small mind can not contain all that has been dumped into it. Thus we hear of white Russia and darkest Russia and little Russia and great Russia, and all it explains to us is what was meant when the one-time emperor was referred to as the czar of all the Russias.

In putting dry zones around camps and war plants congress and the President were actuated by a desire to add to the efficiency of the soldiers and the workers, and knew that the only way to insure it was to banish the saloon. The same economic reason is a sufficient reason for the entire nation going dry. That is why national prohibition will win.

### THE BOY-LOOK

Bud, you are against the hardest game  
That ever a man may buck.  
I want to call you the old chum-name  
And I want to wish you luck.  
It's just plain hell you'll be going through,  
But if you outlast the muss,  
There's something, Buddy, I'm asking you—  
A something to bring—to us.

It isn't a feat of arms I ask;  
It is more of the heart and head;  
It's sort of a token to show your task  
Is the work of a thoroughbred.  
So when you have triumphed by sword and gun,  
And our proud cheers ring like mad,  
Bud, bring me back not the head of a Hun,  
But the heart of a Yankee lad.

I have seen men march to the wars, and then  
I have watched their homeward tread,  
And they brought back bodies of living men,  
But their eyes were cold and dead.  
So, Buddy, no matter what else the fame,  
No matter what else the prize,  
I want you to come back through the flame  
With the boy-look still in your eyes!

—By Edmund Vance Cooke.

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