THE CARLISLE MERCURY

Entered at the Carlisle Postoffice as second class matter

Warren Fisher, Editor
Grimes Caywood, News Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year (in advance) $2.00

MEMBER
KENTUCKY PRESS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER
NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1935

For The Best Interests Of The Party.

After as heated a primary campaign as the Democratic party has ever seen in Kentucky, Thos. S. Rhea, of Russellville, was declared the victor on August 3 by a popularity of more than thirteen thousand votes over his nearest opponent, A. B. Chandler, of Versailles. Under the new election law these two will face each other in a run-off primary on September 7.

As The Mercury sees it the people are tired of verbal promiscuity, tired of personal abuse and in the humor now to decide more calmly on the merits of the two candidates and the superior fitness of one or the other to represent his party in November.

The Mercury is a Democrat—a partisan Democrat, if you will—and now, as always, interested in the success of the party to which it gives its allegiance. Success in November, as we see it, is the paramount question, and even more important is Kentucky's stand in the Presidential election of 1936 which stand is largely dependent upon the result of the September primary.

Weighing these matters calmly and in the most kindly spirit; pledging our hearty support to the nominee, whomsoever he may be, The Mercury unqualifiedly urges the nomination of Thos. S. Rhea, of Russellville, for the best interests of the party, now and in 1936.

As we see it, Mr. Rhea has given abundant proof of his superior qualifications during the first campaign. He has advanced a constructive program; he has indulged in no abuse; he has made no reckless promises. Early and late, in his campaign addresses, he has pledged himself to accept the decision of the voters and to work loyally for the success of the ticket in November. Mr. Rhea's past record has demonstrated his devotion to the Democratic Party and there has been nothing in the record of his campaign utterances to indicate that he places personal ambition above the success of his party in November. In his campaigning he has proved himself to be the man, of whom we have heard for many years as always loyal, always clean-cut in his service, when a friend, or a his party called.

Mr. Rhea is a man of mature mind, experienced in problems of practical government. As Governor of Kentucky he would be more able than any man we know to accomplish constructive legislation, to carry out his platform. It is one thing for a Governor to announce a program; it is quite another thing for him to persuade a Legislature to carry out that program. In this regard Mr. Rhea's ability would be unquestioned.

Do not let anyone convince you that he would not make a gallant leader in November; do not for a moment believe that he will fail to win if nominated; or that he will not have the full influence of the National Administration behind him. That is the merest campaign twaddle. Tom Rhea can and will win in November.

Plate Tom Rhea in the Governor's chair and Kentucky is assured that schools will stay open; that her credit will remain good; that warrants of the State will continue to be sufficiently par, thus effecting a tremendous saving on purchases that the State must make. Under Rhea as Governor the small home and farm owner may expect $7,500 tax exemption, the buyer of necessities will be relieved of the payment of sales tax—should the Legislature repeal that law, which automatically expires next July—and Kentucky, in the opinion of this newspaper, will be given what she has long sought: a real business administration.

Will Rogers—Eminent American.

Jester, philosopher, typical American, Will Rogers meets his death through the crumpled wing of an airplane. An eminent American is gone at the hands of a science, for which he did more—with the exception of Colonel Lindbergh, perhaps—any living man.

How often we have thought—as have hundreds of others, no doubt—as we are definitely of the horse and buggy days—that this man tragically fate too often in the Grantland Rice. That death came at the hands of a pilot peculiarly expert, a record-breaker in the center of the globe, adds its touch of bitter irony.

The writer remembers hearing Will Rogers lecture some years ago in Lexington and something he said that night that is somehow typical of the man comes back to us:

Some of you in this audience may fall into the error of thinking you were placed here to lead. You get all puffed up with the idea that you are a Man of Destiny. To tell the truth, you were "just born, like anybody else." Your being born was being done that day.

Unlearned in books, yet possessing a sense of humor a kind that, man, who was a descendant of Cherokee Indians and who was accustomed to say, with his amiable chuckle: "My ancestors did not come over on the Mayflower, but they met the boat," won himself a place in the hearts of the people a place that will be difficult to fill.

The Kentuckian-Citizen Endorses Rhea.

The Kentuckian-Citizen warmly championed the cause of Frederick A. Wallis in the August primary. In its issue of last Wednesday, however, it magnanimously carried the following editorial endorsing the candidacy of Thos. S. Rhea in the September primary:

RHEA OR CHANDLER, WHICH?

One of the hottest political campaigns in Kentucky's history has come to the end of its first phase in the Saturday's primary. The greatest interest centered in the race for Governor. The Democracy of Bourbon county presented one of her favorite sons in the person of Hon. Frederick A. Wallis to whom we gave our loyal support. The Democrats of the Wallis returns Thomas S. Rhea leading by about 15,000 over A. B. Chandler, with Mr. Wallis third. A run-off primary under the law to choose between the two receiving the largest number of votes, will be held on September 7th. The Kentucky-Citizen herewith endorses Mr. Rhea, with no intention of attempting to dictate to the reader friends whom they shall support, but to give our reasons for preferring him over Mr. Chandler. Mr. Rhea is a man of mature mind and seasoned by experience. For thirty-five years he has served faithfully and the Democracy faithfully and well. He has demonstrated a constructive mind in public affairs and has presented a constructive program. He makes no rash promises that cannot not be fulfilled. He is qualified by training, ability and experience to carry out a constructive and progressive program. Among the vital issues he proposes $7,500 tax exemptions for farmers and home owners. The moral of sales tax on foodstuffs and other necessities, adequate funds for schools, a constructive highway program.

Our State Government, as others, has been through the disintegrating influences of the depression. We must reconstruct. We must face and meet responsibilities. State institutions must be maintained, educational standards improved, obligations met, credit maintained. It can be met only with a man of courage who recognizes responsibilities and unflinchingly shoulders them. We believe that man is Thomas S. Rhea.

The Tax-Ridden Farmer.

For years the farmer has borne the burden of taxation, on his farm and indirectly upon his tobacco. Hundreds of people in the cities—people who own not a cent's worth of taxable property—and they are not all poor by any means, for some own non-taxable securities—have enjoyed all the benefits of free schools for their children, police protection, good streets and roads free. Upon the occasion of an emergency, in order to raise funds to match Federal funds for Relief, many states found it necessary to resort to a sales tax. Kentucky was forced to pass such a law, expiring next July. For the first time, some people paid taxes. Most of these are city folk. They don't like it.

The Cynthiana Democrat points out what farmers may expect, if the Chandler forces are victorious in September. Says the Democrat:

"Folks in the rural communities where property taxes hurt most, may take into consideration September 7 that in cities such as Louisville, Lexington, Newport and Covington, the population is made up mainly of voters who own no real estate and under the sales tax act, for the first time, contributing their share to the operation of state government, earmarked and don't like it a little bit. They, and their children have shared in the benefits of public schools and other institutions for years and properties have been paid into the State Election of Chandler presages a return of taxes to the property owners. The run-off may resolve into a rural-urban fight on the sales tax."

Social Security Bill

(Released by Dr. A. T. McCormack, Chairman, The Kentucky Social Security Advisory Commission)

The Social Security Bill has been finally enacted into law by the Congress and signed by the President. The vast social reform that will result from this act time will affect the lives of every citizen of the United States now living and every one to be born. Under it, the Federal and State Governments have embarked on a social program embracing old age pensions, unemployment insurance, pensions for the blind, pensions for needy child welfare and maternal and child health programs, assistance for the rehabilitation of the crippled, vocational rehabilitation of those suffering from industrial injuries and a vastly broadened public health program.

Kentuckians will take a special pride in the fact that the present public health and child health and crippled children programs will require no change in the State plans and make necessary very slightly increased State appropriations, though they will require some new additional money for the counties and the cities of the first and second class in the State. Under the wise leadership of its medical profession, Kentucky is already in the forefront of the States in these important activities. The new Federal legislation merely enables the public health authorities so to carry on the full-time services in the county and city health departments that they can enable our people to take advantage of the great scientific advances made in the public health and medical services. Seventy-four of Kentucky's one hundred and twenty counties already have effective full-time county health organizations with the additional Federal funds, the other counties may develop these services for their people, if they desire to do so.

In Child Welfare, the purpose of the new law is to enable the United States Government to cooperate with the States in extending and strengthening especially in predominantly rural areas, child-welfare services for mothers and children, and particularly, dependent and neglected children, and in protecting and caring for homeless, dependent and neglected children, and children suffering from mental delinquency. The amounts allotted will be expended for such services as may be developed by local services in areas predominantly rural, and for demonstrations of methods for the encouragement and assistance of adequate methods of administration child-welfare organization in areas predominantly rural and other areas of special need. Under this section, ten thousand dollars is allotted to the States. Provided that the Federal appropriation will be approximately one million and fifty-four thousand dollars for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1936, and for each fiscal year thereafter such sum as shall be specifically appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this section. The Federal appropriation will be apportioned among the several States which have submitted plans for such services which the Federal Board finds will be effective to carry out the purpose of this section. The Federal Board is authorized to cooperate with the State Board of Health in the administration of this section.

It is important also to call the attention of the public to the fact that while the Federal bill has been enacted into law it is not effective except where state laws have been enacted. Twenty-five Old Age Pensions will not be available until the Legislature has made provision for them. This cannot be done unless the pending Constitutional Amendment authorizing old age pensions shall be approved by the people in the November election. This amendment was submitted by the last General Assembly, in order to make the passage of the Federal law.

The Commission will be glad to have the advice of any interested citizens or organizations in regard to any of its activities. Such advice and assistance as they may find necessary will be welcomed. The Public Health and Maternal and Child Health sections of the Commission has requested the Council of the Kentucky State Medical Association and its Committee on Public Relations to sit with the State Board of Health in the administration of these sections