

"PART 4"

"Fear the Negro Campaign"

The chief editor, Marion Butler, of the Caucasian newspaper on November 3, 1898, publishes several articles on the front page in support of the Populist Movement. He positioned the paper in direct opposition to the hypocrisy of the white supremacy campaign and the false alarm being spread about negro domination.

The first issue raised was to clarify the real purpose of those who hold the top 10% of wealth in this country, saying this, "those who own the property should rule. The "how the wealthy millionaires and monopolist the 10% control the remaining 90%"? Those in power who have made the "dollar more important than mankind." This money power, are a small group using their money to gain the benefit of unjust legislation, by successfully robbing and bleeding on hundred even thousands of men in order to use their wealth to gain more political rights and power than thousands of whom they robbed.

The beautiful games of these millionaires ran for over thirty years as the wealth of the country has been rapidly- accumulating into a few hands. As thousand of men create more wealth, millions become poorer each day in order to make a few men rich. But these millionaires and railroad corporations are becoming terribly uneasy for the fear of the of these poor millions joining their votes together and elect a man like Bryan president and elect people into Congress that will stop this scheme dead in its tracks. Their only defense is to create a great divide and weaken the power of the masses to cast just one vote.

Next the Butler pens two articles to further build his case by first addressing the real intention behind the call for white supremacy and the constitution convention by Tillman. Butler then in another article addresses the false alarm of the fear of negro domination, which he adds his signature.

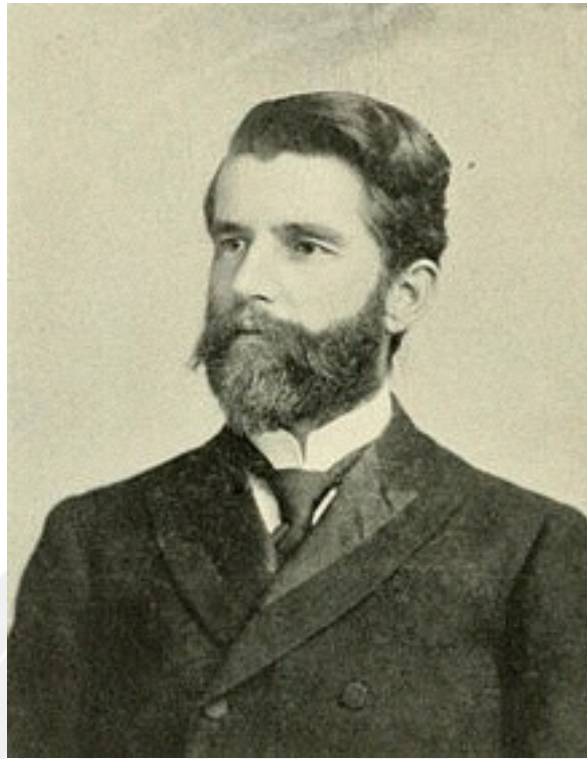
The first article is for "every voter to read and draw their own conclusion. His questions is straight and clear right upfront, he writes, "Is there any more danger of negro domination now (in 1898) then there was six months ago? Has anything new happened in these few months to justify such a fear? And the answer is "No. Yet six months ago one hadn't heard anything about any danger of negro domination." He speaks clear and plain to those who have been worked up, which had only just started after the Democratic State Convention. The convention was called that as a call to action to those silver voters who stood together for Bryan a few years ago, to stand together for silver and against monopoly this year. Yet these Democratic bosses where apart of the sham and was at the heart against Bryan and silver and having secretly gone in partnership with the railroads and monopolies. They couldn't afford for the thousands of silver voters to stand together. So it became necessary to raise the scarecrow of the negro and appeal to the lowest and bases passions and prejudice of mankind in order to frighten the people and call their attention from the hypocrisy and base treachery of these Democratic bosses.

The second article on the same page, is a "open letter from Senator Butler. It is hear he is calling the attention to the silver voters who joined hand to carry the state for Bryan by twenty thousand majority in 1896:

He reinforces his concerns and speaks honestly about the effect of the revolutionary conditions that exist from inflammatory speeches and newspaper articles that has caused section of mankind bad blood and fraction making violence inevitable. Making this campaign the most shocking and disgraceful of the state of North Carolina. He asked a fair question, "Was this kind of campaign necessary? If there is negro domination is this campaign the effective way to getting rid of it? It is here Butler, takes a stand and explains that what the state is now cursed by and is now threatened with is not negro domination but monopoly domination. Butler makes a striking reminder to, "those who stood for silver in 1896 to make a white majority for silver by twenty thousand, remember this proposition made victory for white supremacy without the bad blood and threatening danger of violence.

Butler, keeps everything in focus explaining plainly the core motive of the opposition:

"The campaign in 1896 was to be a certain peaceable means to put an end to the gold standard ad monopoly domination. Which is in direct opposition of what is now being pushed as a party opposed to Bryan and silver and in the interest of the railroad more than they love the interest of the people and more than they fear the negro. Now, if white supremacy was the supreme issue with them, if the fear of negro domination was the overshadowing issue with them they have deliberately adopted a method of campaign that leaves victory in doubt and makes violence and blood shed inevitable? This cry against negro domination is not sincere, there is a more powerful motive and incentive behind these actions, which is that the controversial love for gold and monopoly is more then the interest of the people and more then they fear negro domination."



("Marion Butler")

Editor's Note

The thirty something Marion Butler, acquired the Caucasian newspaper as the chief editor of the paper. Within a decade he had transformed the paper into the dominant voice for farmers and maintained a strong political presence. At its peak, the Caucasian had more than 10,000 subscribers from across the nation. Ironically, the Caucasian was comparatively liberal on racial issues. (<http://www.ncpedia.org/caucasian>)

Click links below to read the full articles:

Reference:

1. Butler, Marion (November 3, 1898), *"Their Real Purpose Revealed."*, *"Let the Voter read and Answer for himself."*, *"Open Letter From Senator Butler"*. The Caucasian, page 1
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