

Hon. R. M. Rice

Contents: Candidate for office Representative from
Yazoo County

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HON. R. M. RICE

Candidate for office of Representative from
Yazoo County

TO THE VOTERS OF YAZOO
COUNTY

Ladies and Gentlemen:—

I am a candidate to fill the vacancy in the Legislature caused by the death of the late P. C. Meagher and wish it were possible for me to see, shake hands with, and personally solicit the vote of each and every one of you. However that being impossible because of the announcement of my candidacy at this late date; due to the fact that I considered it proper and appropriate to wait until the election was called before entering the race. The date being Saturday, May 28th, I take this method of addressing you.

In offering as a Candidate I am not posing as a political Moses to lead the "Children of Mississippi" out of industrial bondage, but I do claim to have been a close student of State Government and public affairs generally for a number of years and have some very definite ideas on those subjects, of which I can give you only a brief and general outline in a letter like this.

I am a firm believer in the principles of Democracy and believe that every officer in each branch of our Government, Executive, Judicial and especially the Legislature should ever keep in mind those great principles, never losing sight of the fact that a public officer is a public servant and a public office is a public trust.

I have no panaces with which to heal all the ills that affect the Body Politic, no personal axe of my own to grind and am not a rider of any particular hobby. "This is an age of Progress." "Conservatism is the

part of wisdom," the most successful man is one who can effect a harmonious blending of the two; be progressive enough to use every effort to secure such salutary changes in our laws as are needed and yet conservative enough to firmly oppose the adoption of wild and visionary schemes of experimental legislation.

Factionalism carried to an extreme is unwise and often harmful. As is probably known I am not a blind follower of any faction and never will free to labor for the best interest of the people whom I have the honor to be—I want to go to the Legislature represent, untrammled by political debts, unhampered by political enemies. I assure you the merit or the demerit of a proposition and the wishes of my constituents will be the factors that will determine my position thereon.

I was elected in 1911 by a handsome vote, a fact always gratefully remembered by me, and feel the experience gained in the sessions of 1912 and 1914 will be of material benefit in equipping me for further service. However I am not seeking this position as a stepping-stone to the Governor's chair, or as a round on the ladder that leads to Congress. To represent the people of Yazoo County in the Legislative Councils of our state is the full measure of my political aspirations.

To be elected again will be the fruition of a hope I have cherished for a long time, therefore I urge my friends to go to the polls and vote for me on May 28th.

Respectfully,

R. M. RICE.