

Thank you, fellow democrats, for that round of applause. I assure you I would rather have it now than take chances of getting it later on. Applause coming at just that stage of the game reminds me of the trades we used to make when I was a kid, trading right unseen, nine times out of ten I always regretted the trade.

Of course I understand it is just courtesy and kindness that prompts it, but nevertheless it gives a fellow a sort of feeling of confidence that permits him to get his senses together. I never made a speech in my life, and I have made thousands of them, that I wasnt scared to death when I started out and my mind a total blank. I am as confused as a woodpecker in a petrified forest. I feel like the three cross eyed prisoners up before a cross eyed judge. The cross eyed judge said to the first prisoner, "What is your name?" and the second one said "John Smith." " I wasnt talking to you," said the judge; " I didnt say anything," said the third prisoner.

But I want to take this occasion to thank you young democrats for the invitation to speak to you. It is great to see so many young men of our section on hands to take up arms for the doctrine of democracy. Fight the common people's fight and strive to keep democrats in office. It shows you are interested, like the Chicago man who got a black hand letter from a black hand gang saying: "If you dont send us twenty five thousand dollars we are going to kidnap and steal your wife." The man wrote back and said: " I havent got the twenty five thousand dollars, but I'm interested in your proposition." So I know you are interested in the proposition here.

Now, I am an old democrat. I never knew anything else but democracy and some of my friends say I dont know that. But I am an old democrat, as old as Lish Brown said his father was. E.J. Brown was the founder of Newoka, he lived to be a very old man, and had long grey beard Lish was a cowboy and learned to express himself in the vivid language of the cowcamp and trail herds. He made himself understood

in any old company. His father died back in 1914 and his estate was administered upon in the county court of Seminole county and Lish was called as a witness, sworn to tell the truth, and took his seat in the witness stand. The lawyer asked him a few preliminary questions and then asked: "Lish, how old was your father when he died?" "Oh! he was purty old." said Lish. That kind of an answer made the lawyer mad and he said, rather testify, "Well, how old was he?" " Oh! he was as old as hell." said Lish. And that is how old I am as a democrat.

Of course we are here to work out plans keep our offices and cuss out the republicans. But we musent be too rough on those fellows, we have got to keep some of them for seed. We dont want to be like Bill Murray when he was governor. A group came in one day to plead with Bill to commute a death sentence of a young fellow who had cruelly murdered a woman down in Garvin county, and one of the committee in commenting upon the reason for a commutation stated that "the death penalty is cruel, and it ought to be abolished and the death penalty repealed." It damn sure wont as long as there is a live Republican in the state." quoth Bill. But he was all wrong about that, that's too rough. You know we have got to keep those fellows encouraged some so, they will work hard and pay our salaries. Somebody has got to pay the taxes and lend us money.

You see this is the first time we have been in all the places for a long time and we dont want to do anything to breakit up. This is what we have been praying for all these years. Like the Ministers parrot whom he had taught to pray. A sailor came along with a parrot that he had had for a number of years and the Minister suggested that they put them together. The sailor very redily consented but admonished the minister that in the travellers of

his parrot it had learned much bad language. The minister regreted this very much for he said his parrot had only learned to pray. Any way the birds were placed together and the sailor's parrot fluttered his wings and bowed and ducked a few times and then edged over close to the preacher's parrot and said: "How about a little lovin, baby?" "thehell
" What/you think I've been praying all the years for" answered the minister's bird. And so have we been praying for all these good old democratic jobs for a long time.

Well, those birds didnt have it on the two old maids who had been in an insane asylum for about four years. One day they were sitting there knitting away, when one of them spoke up sudden like and "Mary, do you know what I would rather have than anything else in all the world?" "No, what," asked the other one. "I would like to have a great big, strong man come right into this room and grab me and hig and kiss me until I was almost dead." "Now you are talking sense," said the other old maid, "you'll be out of here in two or three days."

Now you seemed to have enjoyed all that fall-de-roll and I am glad of it. Why did I tell them to you? Because I wanted to. Like the old grand mother who was sitting in the sun shine knitting and her little granddaughter asked: "Why do you knit, grandmother?" "Oh! justfor the hell of it," answered grandma.

But now let me speak to you seriously for just a few minutes. It will not be long. There is another here whom you are waiting to hear and I do not want to pilfer of his time, neither do I want to bore you. But this government of ours, if it is to remain useful and accomplish its purpose, and provide that liberty and protection which it is calculated to do under a written constitution, requires and demands eternal vigilance. It cannot be lightly regarded nor slightly neglected. It requires eteranal vigilance.