

Okeechobee

Okeechobee, May 11.—The political pot in the new county of Okeechobee has reached the boiling point. After several weeks of house-to-house, man-to-man canvassing, the candidates and citizens have launched a movement for a big free barbecue and basket dinner with public speaking at the baseball park in Okeechobee, May 21. Invitations are being extended to all candidates, county, state and congressional to be on hand and participate in the speaking. A day of social good time is promised all who attend. All who can do so are asked to bring baskets of picnic dinner to supplement the barbecue with plenty of Irish potatoes, roasting ears, tomatoes, peppers, all kind of vegetables and anything else good to eat, except wheat, Okeechobee county having recently adopted resolutions in mass meeting putting a ban on the use or sale of wheat until the 1918 crop comes in. But the committee takes pains to emphasize the invitation, but, if you haven't got a basket, don't fail to come anyway, and a square deal is assured for everybody and his candidate.

Okeechobee county, the youngest in the state, has cause to be proud of herself and she wants to show all the candidates that she appreciates them, even if she cannot elect them all to office the first time.

The invitation is extended to everybody so that all the candidates may be represented by friends on the ground, even if they do not care to take part in the speaking.

All refreshment stands on the grounds will be under the auspices of the Red Cross, and those desiring concessions are referred to Mrs. H. J. Van Poll and Mrs. J. D. Bird, committee. It is reported that nearly \$500 in cash has already been raised, and the committee is still at work with the understanding that any surplus subscriptions are to be turned over to the local chapter of the Red Cross.

The committees in charge of arrangements are: J. E. Lovvorn, master of ceremonies; C. S. Simmons, chairman speakers' stand committee; W. E. Underhill, chairman finances and barbecue committee; W. A. Hunter, chairman water and ice committee; Thos. B. Owens, chairman entertainment committee.

The new county has developed an array of candidates that would do credit to an older and more experienced bailiwick. The list to date, with entries not yet closed: For representatives, H. H. Hancock and W. L. Coats; county judge, J. A. McCollum and G. C. Durrance; clerk circuit court, R. P. Fletcher, C. E. Simmons and C. R. Bibb; sheriff, S. J. Drawdy, Wm. Collins and Wm. Knight; county superintendent of pub-

lic instruction, R. T. Hamrick, Cliff J. Clements, G. F. Parker and T. B. Hilliard; tax assessor, D. R. McNeill, J. H. Walker and W. E. Holmes; tax collector, R. E. McLaughlin, C. R. Alderman, H. L. Chandler and V. W. Surrency; surveyor, J. L. Anderson and R. E. Willis; county commissioners, district No. 1, J. L. Parker and S. H. Hair; district No. 2, A. L. Thompson and L. T. Durrance; district No. 3, W. W. Potter and John Raulerson; district No. 4, D. E. Austin and D. S. Hilliard; district No. 5, R. Upthegrove and W. H. Douglass; board of education, district No. 1, J. M. Lee and J. J. Webb; district No. 2, W. W. Chandler; district No. 3, L. E. Davis and R. B. Trask; supervisor of registration, James Franklin and M. S. Holmes.