

FAMOUS PITT JUST PEANUT POLITICIAN AFTER ALL IS SAID

North Carolina College
Professor's Findings Recognized by British Historical Society — Boy Premier Was Toot

Durham, Feb. 10.—Facts which will create a flurry of excitement among historians of the world and necessitate the rewriting of that portion of English history referring to William Pitt the Younger, are contained in "The Parliamentary Papers—documents" by Dr. W. T. Laprade, professor of history at Trinity College here, just issued by the Royal Historical Society of England. Robinson was Pitt's political campaign manager and from the private papers of the manager Dr. Laprade presents facts to show that Pitt, for years played up a paragon of virtue as a statesman and a miracle of ability along government lines, was in reality a very ordinary sort of politician and attained his position by the greatest misdealing. The Trinity professor was today being congratulated by his colleagues upon his honor in being chosen by the famous London society to edit the papers.

Several years ago Dr. Laprade was studying in London when he discovered a mass of unopened manuscripts dealing with Pitt at the British public record office. The Trinity professor was fully conversant with the facts that for a century school histories and the literature of history had been praising the younger Pitt as an astonishingly brilliant man; had told how he entered parliament at the age of 19 and became prime minister of England at the age of 26.

As the Trinity professor opened and examined the manuscripts he recalled the moving and engaging story of Pitt's attainments as told by J. Holland Rose. This biographer had told how the Englishman had saved the empire after the colonies had gained their independence and how he saved Europe from Napoleon. Other writers had followed the facts as presented by Mr. Rose and given Pitt's name a unique place in history.

The Trinity professor became aware that the papers which he was examining in the British public record office had been overlooked by Mr. Rose. A survey of the manuscripts, which had not been previously opened, led Dr. Laprade to the opinion that after all there must have been some elements of rotten politics in Pitt's career.

The volume constitutes an amazing discovery that shows Pitt up as an ordinary 18th century political trickster. His first parliament was not elected by a great popular upsurge. A majority of seats in the parliament were bought and paid for by George III and East India nabobs, who wanted to get an innocent youngster as prime minister, who would do what they told him to do.

The papers which Dr. Laprade has edited show exactly where the money came from, how much was paid for each seat, who paid for the seats and how the majority was packed into parliament by the operation of the regular 18th century "rotten borough" system. Correspondence between Pitt's campaign managers and the various political bosses is published with accurate information as to where the bosses got their money,