

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

MONEY AND NO WAY TO SPEND IT

Part of Bond Forfeited by Late Banner Held by Board of Education, Which, Due to Change in Law, Has No Legal Right to Spend

The Watauga county board of education has \$7,892.65 and doesn't know what to do with it.

The question came up Monday at the board meeting when Superintendent Hagaman called the matter to the board's attention. The money was originally set aside as a loan fund to be lent to the townships for building purposes, but, because of a change in the state law, the townships no longer have any means of repaying the loans. Hence, since no other provision is made for the disposal of the money, it is merely drawing interest.

The fund originated in 1908 when Luther Banner forfeited an \$8,000 bond after his trial on a charge of murder. Mr. Hagaman who was then in the legislature, obtained the passage of a bill giving the money to the school board as a loan fund.

About the same time, Captain W. W. Lenoir willed to the school board some land on Beech mountain. Uncle Robert Farthing, one-armed Confederate veteran and school teacher, had charge of administration of the land, and he sold it for \$3,892.65, which was added to the loan fund. Because of the failure of the townships to pay, the original \$8,000 has shrunk to \$4,000.

The case recalled the sad story of Lute Banner, who was tried here in 1907 on a charge of killing Cline of Shelby. Banner, it was said, shot Cline from within a doorway, but he was able to prove self-defense on the ground that Cline had threatened him.

Banner's attorneys obtained a verdict of second degree murder, and was released on \$8,000 bond. Shortly afterwards Banner decamped. The Banner family, however, paid the entire \$8,000, so that the bondsmen would lose nothing.

PRICE OF NEW FORDS

RANGE FROM \$395 to \$610

Prices of the new Ford car, given out in Detroit last week, show a range of from \$385 to \$570 for the various types of pleasure cars and \$480 to \$610 for the various truck types.

The various types and their prices, f. o. b. Detroit, follow:

Tudor sedan,	\$495.
Fordor sedan,	\$570.
Coupe,	\$550.
Phaeton,	\$395.
Roadster,	\$385.
Model with pickup body,	\$395.
Chassis,	\$325.
Trucks: Truck and chassis,	\$460.
Truck chassis with cab,	\$545.
Truck chassis with cab and express body,	\$600.
Truck chassis with cab and stake body,	\$610.
Truck chassis with cab and platform body,	\$595.

JUDGE HAYES' APPOINTMENT NOW BEFORE THE SENATE

Washington, Dec. 6.—President Coolidge today transmitted to the senate the nomination of Johnson J. Hayes to be judge of the newly created middle district. Senator Overman, ranking member of the judiciary committee, says all the information that has come his way has been favorable, that Mr. Hayes is making a good judge and that he will be confirmed by the senate without delay. Similar information emanates from the office of Senator Simmons.

5,000 AMERICAN TO RETURN TO PRIMITIVE LIFE IN OLD CITY

San Francisco, Dec. 2.—Five thousand American men, women, and children plan to move to an ancient Egyptian city by the Nile and prove they can live there harmoniously and progressively without benefit of modern conveniences. This was the announcement made by Dr. Spencer Lewis, national president of the Rosicrucian Order, a philosophical cult. Dr. Lewis declared plans were being made to have the expedition sail next year.

FIND FOURTH VICTIM OF RECENT STORM IN STATE

Lumberton, Dec. 5.—A fourth victim of the storm that visited North Carolina the past week-end was found in Robeson county, six miles from Lumberton last night, a negro, about 65 years old.

The Bank of Ayden, a state institution, failed to open for business Thursday, officers announcing that "iron oxen" and dwindling accounts forced the suspension.

70th Session of Congress Convened on Monday

Gets Away to Fighting Start, With Vane and Smith's Right to Seat in Senate Challenged

Washington, Dec. 5.—The seventieth congress began work on Capitol Hill today with a political tumult in the senate that promises to echo throughout the session and far into next summer's presidential campaign.

Hardly had the bang of the gavels called both houses to order before the long impending Smith-Vare election battle broke in the senate and shoved into the background the consideration of a host of legislative tasks that the new congress will be called upon to tackle.

Even in the house, where stricter rules call for more regular procedure came an indication of discord and political confusion ahead. After some debate a resolution was adopted to investigate the eligibility of one of its new members, James M. Beck of Pennsylvania, elected to fill William S. Vare's seat and chief counsel for Vare in his senate contest.

Despite these first minute eligibility disputes congress got its machinery into shape to receive President Coolidge's annual message at noon tomorrow. After that has been read by the clerks of the two houses, the house will make a start at its huge legislative task. The senate will plunge into the Smith-Vare fight, which may occupy its attention for days and perhaps weeks.

Reorganization of the senate was deferred until later in the week by arrangement between the Republican and Democratic leaders.

President Delivers Annual Message

Washington, Dec. 6.—Firmly reiterating the administration's policy of economy but suggesting a moderate expansion of the national defense, the annual message of President Coolidge was received today by the new congress.

Transmitted to Capitol Hill by special messenger, it was read simultaneously in both houses and then ordered printed as a public document.

The message, one of the longest Mr. Coolidge has ever written, touched upon practically all the issues that face the new congress. It set forth clearly that the president was prepared to back up the positions he has taken on such subjects as farm relief, Muscle Shoals, the development of the Colorado River, tax reduction and a host of others.

Following are the highlights in the message:

Policy of rigid economy but with moderate expansion of defense and natural resources.

Opposes McNary-Haugen farm relief bill with equalization tax feature.

Addition of cruisers, submarines, airplanes and carriers to navy.

Recommends that flood control be confined to lower Mississippi this year.

Favors construction of dam at Boulder Canyon on the Colorado river, and sale of Muscle Shoals to private interests.

Reiterates belief in high protective tariff.

Both public and officials should observe the prohibition laws.

Indorses railroad consolidation.

Defends administration's policy in foreign affairs.

WILKES SCHOOL WANTS NO. 60 KEPT IN SHAPE THIS WINTER

Miller's Creek, Dec. 8.—The school at Miller's Creek, one of the best in Wilkes county, is looking out for the winter. After the snow of last week the soft condition of the Boone Trail Highway rendered traffic difficult in that neighborhood and the school has memorialized Mr. A. S. Hanes to put another maintenance force on the road this winter so as to prevent any stalling of school buses. A stretch in time saves nine is the opinion of Principal Bumgarner and his corps of teachers.

AT THE NORMAL

The recent cold spell stopped work on the Normal power plant for a few days, but the storm has passed and the sun is shining beautifully, and it looks as though the work may be able to be resumed in a short time and pushed on to completion, which is the desire of the school authorities. This plant is intended to be a heating and power plant combined, and thus make the furnishing of these two important elements more economical. The plant is well located for the purpose, being on a lower level than any of the other buildings and yet near so that the extra equipment to reach the buildings will be less costly.

The best Christmas present for the farm housewife this year would be running water in the home, says one farm woman.

NEWS OF WEEK AT BLOWING ROCK

School Committee and Board of Commissioners Fail to Reach Agreement on Financing Program For New School Building

By RUPERT GILLET

Blowing Rock, Dec. 8.—The Blowing Rock school board and the county commissioners failed this week to reach an agreement on financing the completion of the consolidated school building here.

The commissioners offered to lend the consolidated district \$3,800 of the Banner loan fund, but declined to accept the local board's proposal that the county bear half the expense of finishing the building.

Members of the local board said they had not reached any decision on the matter, and therefore, they could not make any statement whatever in regard to it.

G. C. Robbins and E. G. Underdown of the Blowing Rock School board presented the matter in detail Monday afternoon to the county boards of education and commissioners. It was explained fully to the commissioners that the Blowing Rock board has used the utmost economy in erecting the building.

With only \$32,000 at their disposal, they bought a site for \$6,000, and erected the building with the remaining \$26,000, although the gymnasium wing had to be left off to be added at a future time. This gives the building a top-sided appearance.

It was then proposed to the commissioners that the county and the consolidated district sign a note, each responsible for half of the amount needed to complete the building. This note would be in force only until another loan can be obtained from the state.

The commissioners took the matter under advisement Monday afternoon and consulted with the board of education. Then action was deferred until Tuesday.

A hard cold rain and slippery roads did not prevent the Blowing Rock dramatic club Friday night from filling its engagement to present the comedy, "Merry Moon," which was so well received in Boone, in the auditorium of the Newland consolidated school.

The play was as well received in Newland as it was at its first performance in Boone. Before the play the Blowing Rock Band gave a concert in the auditorium.

Although the troupe did not get back to Blowing Rock until the early morning hours Saturday, all reported an excellent performance and an appreciative audience. The cast was the same as in the first performance. Grayson Story entertained the audience with banjo stunts and "non-sensical" entertainment. Prof. J. Warren, director of the play and of the band, appeared in musical notes.

H. C. Hayes, who suffered a severe heart and stomach attack last week, was back at business this week apparently as hearty as ever. He for a few days he was seriously ill.

Harry Cooper, who was injured in an accident last week, is not doing so well, according to reports from the Watauga Hospital. At one time last week it was feared that it would be necessary to take him to Statesville for treatment.

A man named Hoke did not wait on the usual process of Pasteur examination when he was bitten by a dog here. Ed Starnes killed the dog, and Hoke started at once with his head to Raleigh to have it examined.

Blowing Rock had lights Sunday night, but only because S. J. Stuts, manager of the light company, and his crew of linemen spent Sunday climbing over ice-covered mountains, shinning up poles that were like rods of ice, and climbing trees, every twig of which was encrusted with more ice, to repair the wires that had been broken under the weight of icicles after the heavy ice storm of Saturday and Sunday.

Mrs. Thos. H. Coffey was hostess on Wednesday evening to a large number of Blowing Rock's young people, who were merrily entertained at the Coffey home with games, music, contests and radio. The entertainment of the evening was planned by a committee, including Misses Helen Coffey and Louise Isenhour, representing the Baptist Young People's Union. Punch and cake were served.

The Juniors of the B. Y. P. U. were entertained at Mrs. Coffey's home the preceding week and reported an equally enjoyable evening.

Newton C. Greene, member of the town council, who has been in the hospital at Boone for some time suffering from an infection, is re-

o. Commissioners Cancel Bond Interest

\$6,502.47 in Interest on County's Interest on Bonds Paid by Board Monday

The county board of commissioners, in session here Monday and Tuesday, canceled \$6,502.47 in interest on the county's bonds. The figures were divided as follows: Road and bridge bonds, \$4,085.19; jail bonds, \$1,002.50; school bonds, \$1,414.78.

ASSIST IN INSTALLATION OF NEW BOOKKEEPING SYSTEM

Mr. O. O. Hewlett of Raleigh has been in Boone for the past several days, looking after the installation of a new set of books in the offices at the courthouse and giving the county officials a working knowledge of the county government acts as passed by the last general assembly. Under the new plan the county auditor can at any time ascertain the condition of any department of the fiscal system, thereby eliminating expensive audits. An accountant will check the records at intervals but no long drawn-out audits will be necessary.

Mr. Hewlett will remain here until everything is running smoothly under the new system. He is sent here by the county government advisory commission at Raleigh at absolutely no expense to the county, regardless of how long he may be engaged in the work.

TAYLOR MOTOR CO. EXPECT NEW MODEL CAR NEXT WEEK

Mr. J. B. Taylor of the Taylor Motor Company, local Ford dealers, returned Tuesday night from Charlotte, where he went to look over the new Ford car. Mr. Taylor said his company would in all probability have one of the new models for demonstration early next week, and hoped to have one or more of each model before the first of the year. It is announced at the Detroit office that the Ford Motor company will be turning out the new Lizzie at the rate of a thousand a day by the first of January.

Friday and Saturday of last week, full details of the car were explained at the local agency, and several orders were placed for cars as soon as they can be delivered.

LAST LEGION MEETING OF YEAR FRIDAY NIGHT

Watauga Post, American Legion, will hold its last meeting of the year Friday night at Legion Hall, at which time activities of the past year will be reviewed and a program of endeavor for the coming year outlined.

All members of the post are urged to be present. Attention is called to the fact that all applications for the soldiers adjusted compensation must be filed before January 1. Many ex-service men have failed to make application and it is useless after this month. Blanks and any information desired may be had at the Friday session.

REV. R. L. ISBELL AT THE ADVENT CHRISTIAN SUN.

Rev. R. L. Isbell of Lenoir, will occupy the pulpit at the Advent Christian church here next Sunday morning at 11 o'clock. Mr. Isbell has a large number of friends in the county who will be delighted to have the opportunity of hearing him again.

A German court for the first time has made a decision based on the determination of the parenthood of a child by blood tests. A woman in the case was charged with perjury for describing as the father of her child a man who denied paternity. All three persons involved underwent blood tests by the state medical board at Wurtemberg. The doctors reported to the court that the man was not the father of the child. The woman was convicted of perjury and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

Mr. J. P. [Name] near Morganton, N. C., has been the guest of her daughter, Mrs. D. P. Coffey of Blowing Rock.

Cyrus C. Babb, consulting engineer, has returned to his home in Granite Falls, following the discontinuance of work on the sidewalks here.

Little Ernestine June Banner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Banner, is recovering from a near attack of pneumonia. Her small neighbor, Gertrude Moore, also barely escaped pneumonia.

Preparation for a Christmas program by the children of the Presbyterian Sunday school is under the direction of Mrs. E. G. Underdown.

CHRISTMAS EDITION TO BE ISSUED NEXT WEEK

With the mailing of this issue of The Democrat it will be necessary for the force to start immediately on the laying out of the Christmas edition which is to be issued on Wednesday afternoon of next week. Indications are that more pages will be required for the holiday advertising and feature matter than at any previous time and the management respectfully solicits the co-operation of the business men of the city in the undertaking. Some of the ad copy is already in the shop and likely one section will be printed this week. Those desiring space will do well to let their wishes be known this week, or run the risk of being disappointed. Advertising cut and copy service will be furnished free of charge and every reasonable assistance rendered in the preparation of copy.

President Coolidge Will Not Be Candidate

Washington, Dec. 6.—President Coolidge tonight absolutely eliminated himself from the Presidential campaign next year.

He declared that his famous "I do not choose" statement meant and still means that he will not run again.

His positive and final declaration was made by him tonight in a speech to the members of the Republican national committee in the East room of the White House.

The president eliminated himself from further consideration as a possible candidate for president in the following words:

"This is naturally the time to be planning for the future. The party will soon place in nomination its candidate to succeed me. To give time for mature deliberation, I stated to the country on August 2nd that I did not choose to run for president in 1928."

"My statement stands. No one should be led to suppose that I have modified it. My decision will be repeated."

"After I had been eliminated, the party began, and should vigorously continue, the serious task of selecting another candidate from among the numbers of distinguished men available."

NO CHRISTMAS MONEY FOR COUNTY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Watauga county school teachers are likely to be without Christmas money, and some of them who would like to go home for the holidays may have to remain in the mountains.

The county board of education on Monday ordered that teachers' vouchers be not paid until the corrected report is received from Raleigh. The county treasurer's figures and the corrected report, it was pointed out, must agree.

Smith Hagaman, county superintendent of education, said the corrected report would probably be received about January 1.

CONLEY WOODRING IN JAIL ON STORE BREAKING CHARGE

Conley Woodring, who is more or less familiarly known in superior court circles in Watauga county, was placed in jail here last week on a charge of breaking into the Moretz store on Meat Camp. It is stated that he obtained several suits of underwear, shoes and other clothing. He was arrested by Deputy Sheriff Linney Greene and is in the county bastille in default of \$500 bond.

New York, Dec. 4.—Mining and agricultural states of the far west, led by Nevada, show the greatest per capita wealth, while the industrial states of the east hold the largest total shares of the nation's resources, a survey made public today by the National Industrial Conference Board shows. Nevada with less than 80,000 inhabitants and with the smallest total wealth of any state in the union, 565,000,000, holds first place with a per capita figure of \$7,299. Next is Wyoming, South Dakota, Iowa, Oregon, Nebraska, California and North Dakota in the order named, the survey shows.

North Carolina's road fund increased by almost a million dollars during November as gasoline tax and title registration fees continued to pour into the coffers. Figures made public last week by the state department of revenue disclosed collections during November of \$913,051 as against collections during November last of \$73,000. Total collections for the five months of the present fiscal year are \$7,345,353.

LINNEY WILL BE DISTRICT ATTY

Boone Man Said to Feel That Party Hasn't Given Him Cold Shoulder; Mr. Gavin May Cause Trouble in Camp

Greensboro News, Sunday

Frank A. Linney of Boone will get presidential and congressional approval as attorney for the United States court for the middle district of North Carolina.

Judge Johnson J. Hayes of Greensboro, holding a recess appointment by President Coolidge, will face no opposition when his confirmation comes up before congress.

Mr. Linney will hold office only a few months, until an experienced successor can be secured and made thoroughly acquainted with the duties of the office. He will resign, satisfied that the Republican party has not turned its back on him because he was unsuccessful in his fight for the middle district judgeship.

After resigning, Mr. Linney will, in the event Al Smith is nominated for president by the Democrats, run for governor of North Carolina on the Republican ticket with a slogan of "Intoxication by Prosperity, not Booze."

GAVIN SAYS JOB SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HIM

Sanford, Dec. 4.—The news items appearing as a local interview in the Greensboro Daily News of Sunday and in other state papers bearing a Greensboro date line, stating that Frank Linney expected to be appointed United States district attorney for the middle North Carolina district and then retire after a few months and run for governor in case Al Smith is the Democratic nominee for president, has attracted much interest here.

Hon. E. L. Gravin of Sanford was unanimously indorsed for this appointment at a meeting of the state Republican executive committee held a few months ago and he is expected here to receive widespread indorsement of judges, lawyers, doctors, ministers and many other individuals.

In the Sunday article it was suggested that Mr. Gravin might consent to the arrangement and be made first assistant district attorney and upon the retirement of Mr. Linney in a few months be appointed as his successor. When interviewed on the subject today Mr. Gravin said:

"Having been unanimously and officially indorsed by the Republican state executive committee for district attorney for the middle district, I regard this as a final binding party mandate, that I am not at liberty to disregard or waive by any private arrangement or agreement and I have promptly declined to consider any suggestion in this respect when made to me."

"I consider Mr. Linney and myself both bound by the party's action. His present candidacy is without party sanction and is at variance with his former statement that he was a bona fide candidate for judge and would not consider or accept the district attorneyship."

"It is not quite clear to me just how party harmony is to be subserved by disregarding a unanimous party indorsement, as is suggested to be one reason for his candidacy."

DOES NOT DESIRE OFFICE

The Greensboro News of Wednesday carries this statement from Mr. Linney: "I am not now and have not been a candidate for district attorney in the middle district of North Carolina. I have never 'swapped horses' and am getting too old to start now. Any mention of my name in connection with the place has been without my approval, but know a fellow cannot always control his more ardent supporters."

McLEAN BEING TOUTED FOR THE PRESIDENCY

Raleigh, Dec. 5.—"A potential presidential candidate and most certainly a potential vice-presidential nominee" is the characterization of Governor McLean included in a letter from a Washington correspondent to a New York newspaper to a capital city citizen today.

Governor McLean smiled when the letter was shown him but made no comment.

SENATOR WILLS OF OHIO, ENTERS PRESIDENTIAL RACE

Washington, Dec. 6.—Senator Wills of Ohio tossed his hat into the presidential ring tonight immediately after President Coolidge told the Republican national committee that he had eliminated himself from the 1928 presidential situation.

This puts two avowed candidates in the field, the other being Senator Curtis of Kansas.