

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK

Highlights of Political Activity of Both Major Parties Summarized From Recent News Dispatches From Over the Country

### Standing of the Candidates

A total of 979, or about 110 of the 1,089 delegates to the Republican convention have been selected, with a majority of 545 required to nominate.

Of these Hoover claims 523 1/2, of which 20 1/2 are in dispute; Lowden, 261 1/2 with 89 in dispute; Curtis claims 46 with 22 in dispute and Norris 5 1/2, of which 16 are claimed by other aspirants.

Of the 1,100 delegates to the Democratic convention, 870 had selected up to Sunday, leaving 230 still to be named. But since then Oregon, New Mexico and Colorado have held either primaries or conventions.

Governor Smith's friends are claiming 618 for their candidate, exclusive of Colorado, where most of the 12 delegates are pledged to the New York governor. Only 76 of the delegates claimed by Smith are in dispute. Should he hold the 518 now claimed and get the votes of Ohio, he is pledged to Pomerene, and Indiana's 30, he will be in striking distance of the 750 1/2 required to nominate.

### Will Simmons Bolt?

Washington, May 18.—Senator Heflin, after making another long and vigorous attack on the candidacy of Al Smith for the presidential nomination in the senate today, told a Greensboro News representative that if Smith is nominated the south "will walk out of the convention and reorganize the Democratic party." Heflin said that anti-Smith leaders, headed by Senator Simmons, had not made definite plans for any such eventuality, as it is inconceivable to them that Smith can be nominated, but "if that calamity should befall the party and country," the Alabama senator said, "he had heard enough to know what would be done by the anti-Smith wing of the party."

Senator Heflin went on to say that Senator Simmons had some very definite information not made public about the possible number of votes Smith would receive at Houston, and the persistence and staying power of the opposition. He declared this information was correct, and according to it, Smith would never get a "majority" of the convention, which the Smith people already and confidently claim.

### New Mexico and Oregon for Smith

The New Mexico Democratic convention Saturday instructed its six delegates to the Houston convention to vote for Alfred E. Smith for president but in their argument they should not otherwise.

In the Democratic presidential primary in Oregon Sunday, Governor Smith picked up a commanding lead over Senators Waite and Reed. Incomplete returns from the primary gave Smith 15,550, Waite 9,550 and Reed 5,705. Fred E. Kidd, Hoover's campaign manager in Oregon, won a place among the seven delegates at large to the Republican national convention. Hoover was unopposed for the Republican nomination, however, in the agricultural districts. Frank O. Lowden's name was written on a number of ballots.

### No Preferential Primary in N. C.

By a vote of 70 to 30 the Democratic state executive committee, which met in Raleigh Saturday night in opposition to Governor Smith, voted against the proposal of Zeb Vance Turlington, manager of Corbett Hull's campaign in North Carolina.

Never after the first mention of Governor Smith's name was there a doubt of the outcome. Feeble applause of lobbyists and non-voters in the big hall at times indicated there was a flickering flame among the die-harders, but the Smith folks were too powerful. They carried the committee without apparent effort.

Hot as the speaking was there was no fury among the orators. Frank Hobgood of Greensboro, most piously the die-harder who apparently has no plan to stave off Smith. Mr. Hobgood branded the Turlington proposal as a fight on Smith and an effort to beat him when he has won.

### Governor Smith's Record

A few of the outstanding achievements of Governor Alfred E. Smith as chief executive of New York are submitted to the Hickory Daily Record by a subscriber at Newton. The Newton man has the world beat for "boiling down" a subject and his concise synopsis of the high spots of Governor Al's gubernatorial career follows:

"While he was increasing appro-

## News of Week in and About Blowing Rock

Eight Motor Tours Through Western Carolina Will Visit Resort Town During Summer; Fire Department Gives Delightful Dance

By RUPERT GILLET

Blowing Rock, May 21.—The eight motor tours through western North Carolina, being arranged by the Motor Tours of Greensboro, will make stops in Blowing Rock it has been announced by those in charge. The tours will leave Greensboro on the following dates: June 3, June 17, July 1, July 22, August 5, August 13 and 26, and September 16.

As the tours are to be of eight days each, and as Blowing Rock is the last stop on the itinerary, the tours will reach here one week after the date of starting. The route will be through Chimney Rock, Lake Lure, Elk Mountain, Asheville, Vanderbilt estates, Mount Mitchell, Mount Pisgah, Cherokee Indian reservation, and Blowing Rock.

Preparations are being made in all of these resorts to receive the visitors.

Principal A. E. Mercer of the Blowing Rock school asks that all pupils who borrowed books from the library and have not returned them, leave the volumes with Mr. Prevette at the postoffice. Some of these books were borrowed by the school from the Normal library at Boone and must be returned.

The Blowing Rock fire department entertained a large number of guests on Friday evening in the Mayview Manor annex. The affair was planned as a picnic but when the inclement weather forced a change of program the evening was spent in dancing, with lively music and a big supply of sandwiches, cake and punch, while an enormous open fire made the attractive room still more cheerful. This was one of a series of events in which the fire department has acted as hosts, showing the organization to be one of the most active in Blowing Rock. C. S. Prevette, president; C. G. Underdown, chief; George Robbins, captain, and other officers and members of the organization helped to make the evening a success.

Miss Dorothy Hayes assumed the position of bookkeeper at the Bank of Blowing Rock last Monday, having returned the day before from Raleigh where she has been in school during the past term.

Mrs. Stewart L. Cannon and little son, Stewart L., Jr., have gone to Knoxville, Tenn., where they will spend two weeks with Mrs. Cannon's sister, Mrs. R. V. Norman.

### GOVERNMENT WILL OPERATE MUSCLE SHOALS POWER PLANT

Federal operation of the government's first private and power project at Muscle Shoals in northern Alabama was voted last Wednesday by congress. The decision to commit the government to this undertaking came with passage of the revised Norris-Murray bill to create a Muscle Shoals corporation to be charged with operation of the project. The bill also provides for the sale and disposition of surplus power not needed in such work.

The house adopted an amendment by Representative D. Carol Reese to provide \$2,000,000 to start construction of the proposed Cove Creek dam on the upper water of the Tennessee river.

As passed, the Norris-Murray bill in addition to providing for the construction of Cove Creek dam, also would assume operation of Lam No. 2. It also would transfer to the proposed corporation, jurisdiction all of the federal properties including the Waco lime quarry connected with the shoals project.

### TIME FOR REGISTERING FOR JUNE PRIMARY ENDED SAT.

Books for the registration of those who wish to vote in the Democratic primary in the county on Saturday, June 2, closed last Saturday evening. No new registration was required, those who voted in the general election of two years ago and who had not moved since that time being eligible to vote without having their names placed on the books again. So far as is known, there were but few names added to the list at the 14 precincts in the county. There were five names added in Boone, which is probably a larger number than at any other precinct.

Voters in the primary will select one of three candidates for lieutenant governor and one of three contenders for the position of commissioner of labor and printing.

### CLEMENT SUCCEEDS JUDGE DEAL IN 11TH DISTRICT

Governor McLean Thursday appointed John H. Clement of Winston-Salem, as judge of superior court in the 11th district, effective May 26, to succeed Judge Roy L. Deal, resigned. Judge Clement, who is the Democratic nominee for the judgeship, will hold his first term of court in Jackson county.

## Farm Relief Is His Platform



FRANK O. LOWDEN

Frank Otten Lowden has a distinguished public record. He is an advocate of the McNary-Haugen bill. He is himself a farmer's son and he worked on the farm until he was nearly of age. Today he is the owner of a 5,000-acre farm, scientifically managed at Oregon, Illinois, and he owns and operates extensive cotton plantations in Arkansas and Texas. Few individuals have a greater personal stake in a wise solution of the agricultural problem.

He was born in Sunbur City, Minn., in 1861. After studying at the University of Iowa and a law

## Passage of Muscle Shoals Bill May Prove of Great Benefit to Western North Carolina

The passage last Wednesday by congress of the Muscle Shoals bill, containing an amendment to keep secret the report of the Tennessee River Commission, is a landmark in the history of the Tennessee river valley. The bill provides for the construction of a dam at Cove Creek, which will create a reservoir of water for the production of electric power. The dam will be 100 miles above Muscle Shoals, on the upper waters of the Tennessee river, where the current is strong and the water is deep. The dam will be 100 miles from here to Muscle Shoals. Moreover, Cove Creek flows into the Watauga river in this flows into the Tennessee.

The survey of the project here has been completed. Two separate plans have been prepared for the surveys, and it is not known here which will be adopted. One is for a single dam, 250 feet high, at the mouth of Beech Creek. The other plan calls for three dams, the one at Beech Creek, another at Laurel Creek, and the third several miles above the

### MINE BLAST TAKES TOLL OF 197 HUMAN LIVES

Mather, Pa., May 21.—Mather was a "village of lost hope" tonight, as the possibility that any of the 138 miners entombed in the blast-wrecked Mather mine were still alive grew more and more remote.

Two hundred and eleven men were in the mine when the explosion occurred late Saturday, 13 escaped and tonight the known death toll stood at 125.

### MOVIES AID SALE OF POPPIES

During the remainder of the week, a "poppy picture" will be shown at the Pastime Theater in connection with the regular program at no additional charge. This is done in an effort to facilitate the sale of poppies by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion Saturday, and shows what the poppy represents and how the money derived from the sale of the little paper flowers is spent.

One of Two Things  
He: The modern girl is either one of two things.  
She: Is that so?  
He: Yes, hungry or thirsty.

## War Veterans Hold Interesting Meeting

Addresses Delivered By Albert L. Cox, State Commander, Ward Threatt, Editor Harris and F. A. Hutchison, State Service Officer

A large number of ex-service men together with other citizens of the town and county gathered at the courthouse Friday night when several prominent speakers participated in a program put on by the Watauga Post, American Legion.

Albert L. Cox, department commander of North Carolina, Wade Threatt of the postoffice department at Charlotte, and Col. Wade H. Harris, editor of the Charlotte Observer, addressed the Legionnaires. While the main speaker on the program was F. A. Hutchison, state service officer, and himself an ex-service man, who gave some information relative to adjusted compensation, or what the boys commonly refer to as the "bonus."

Mr. Hutchison pointed out that the state of North Carolina loaned \$2,000,000 to North Carolina veterans before March 31, last, and that the next legislature would be asked to double the amount. This money is available for building homes, only and is not to be confused with loans made under the compensation plan. He discouraged the borrowing of money on insurance certificates, in view of the fact that a majority of the soldiers borrow the allowance, never pay the interest, and at maturity their certificate is absorbed. Mr. Hutchison is the head of the regional office of the Legion, and proposes to defend the rights of every ex-service man in all instances. He called attention to the fact that the best hospital in the United States is located at Orono, N. C., and is open to all veterans of the World War who receive free treatment.

Mr. Hutchison closed his address with the statement that every law affecting the veterans has been sponsored by the Legion and urged all ex-service men to enlist in what he described as the largest organization on earth.

### INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND IS RULED BY DOGS

Capetown—Few stranger narratives of the sea have reached port than that of the island of Juan de Nova—the kingdom of dogs—an account of which has been brought here by the captain of a French schooner.

"We were sailing north," said the captain, "up the Mozambique channel, between Portuguese East Africa and Madagascar, and passed within sight of Juan de Nova one dawn. I picked it up through my glasses, and happened to see a battered ship's boat fast on a reef.

"So I had my own boat lowered and put off to investigate. The ship's boat turned out, however, to be a complete wreck—it had been dashed on the rocks as a rule—and I was alone on the island. There were some dead dogs on the beach, but when I saw a dog

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## WILL REBUILD NO. 60 TO WILKESBORO

Carrier is Authority for Statement that Boone Trail is to Be Relocated and that Survey Will Begin in Near Future

The following from the Wilkes County Board of Commissioners, held Thursday night, will be read with great deal of interest by the people of Watauga county. The Board has been unable so far to verify the correctness of the information contained therein, but it would seem that at last the state highway commission has agreed to the fact that this great artery of travel should be completed from North Wilkesboro to Boone and on through the county to the Tennessee line.

When G. S. Carter was in the city of Boone, conferring with W. H. Foster, county superintendent of roads, and he gave out the information that the state highway commission has made an agreement with the North Wilkesboro and the line of the proposed highway No. 60, he reported that the engineering department had approved the plan.

"The building of an entirely new road from Wilkesboro to the Watauga mountains will be a great asset to the people of Wilkes and Watauga counties, affording the Watauga people an outlet to the outside world and placing Wilkes the number of having a short, well-kept road to Boone, Blowing Rock and other summer resorts in the mountains, tending to increase tourist traffic through North Wilkesboro."

### INVESTIGATION SHOWS SMITH FUND IN N. C. REACHED \$3,590

Raleigh, May 21.—Al Smith's slush fund was fixed at \$3,590 today when the senate committee probed North Carolina presidential aid, and George Gordon Battle, Tax Heel lawyer in New York, put up \$2,500 of that.

Citizens who gathered in the hall of the house of representatives heard a story of organization which made the Tax Heel hair stand on end. Taught to believe that no campaign can acquire the momentum of the Smith strength without barrels of money, the masses had before their very eyes a demonstration of a moneyless achievement the like of which they never heard. For the senate committee received no evidence whatever of heavy expenditures in this campaign, and every proof of the fact that Governor Smith sweeps the country without money.

The inquiry brought to view today the existence of a superb Smith organization of which the opposition has no demonstrable knowledge. The senate committee heard how a local organization of the size has directed a campaign through ten congressional districts, congressmen, it heard how one man, Frank A. Hamilton, revolutionized the Smith campaign and changed the course of the winning fight upon him. Colonel Hamilton still thinks the Smith narrative will spell major disaster. The word was called to Army Secretary W. H. Clegg, missed his summit, but the committee found a little that it couldn't ignore, and to pursue this inquiry was its duty.

Human interest today took varied turns. Mr. Battle, for instance, put up \$2,000 in one check and \$1,500. Former Sheriff Bob Edwards of Wayne, is an old friend of Sheriff Smith, both men holding the sheriffly at the same time. Sheriff Edwards has been doing the foreign missionary work. The number of the heathen converted is appalling. Sheriff Edwards is one of the "Big Fish in the Smith can."

The big five in North Carolina directing the Smith cause are W. B. Jones, John W. Hinsdale and J. S. Griffin of Raleigh; Jesse H. Davis and Larry Moore, New Bern. The ten district Smith managers are the following: First district, Ford S. Worthy, Washington; second, W. A. Finch, Wilmington; third, Rivers D. Johnson, Warsaw; fourth, John W. Hinsdale, Raleigh; fifth, Colonel F. B. Hobgood, Greensboro; sixth, D. M. Stringfield, Forsyth; seventh, Clinton James, Lenoir; eighth, W. B. Austin, Jefferson; ninth, T. W. Alexander, Charlotte; tenth, J. Q. Kilkey, Marion.

Speaking for the Hull campaign, Z. V. Turlington listed total receipts of \$845 for use in North Carolina, \$500 of which he said was contributed by Judge Hull himself. Senator Simmons is said to have contributed \$150. Approximately \$700 has been spent.

Among the contributors to the Smith fund in addition to that of Mr. Battle, were given as follows: R. A. Doughton \$10, Jesse Davis and Larry Moore \$150, W. B. Drake, \$50, Dan Allen, \$25, J. W. Hinsdale \$25, J. S. Upchurch \$10, Solicitor S. Brassfield, \$50.

The senate committee, with Sena-

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