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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

Prohi Party Nominates Varney for President

William F. Varney, Rockville Center, N. Y., was nominated by the Prohibition party as its candidate for the presidency at the convention of that party in Chicago last week. Varney was declared nominated on the second ballot with 66 votes out of 131 cast. Herbert Hoover was second in a field of six with 45 votes. Both Governor Smith and Herbert Hoover were placed before the prohibition party as candidates for the organization's choice for president. Balloting came after a prolonged, and sometimes an excited argument over the platform. Efforts to obtain an endorsement of Hoover by resolution failed. Miss Jeanette Campbell of Los Angeles, presented the Republican presidential candidate and Dr. James M. Tempton of Cary, N. C., introduced the Democratic standard bearer as "a man of the people."

John J. Rascob Is Democratic National Chairman

Governor Alfred E. Smith has assumed control of the Democratic party. He selected John J. Rascob, chairman of the finance committee of the gigantic General Motors corporation, to conduct his campaign for the presidency. The Democratic national committee, in session in New York city last week ratified his choice without opposition. Along with Rascob's selection, Herbert H. Lehmann, another personal friend of the nominee, became director of finance, succeeding Jesse H. Jones of Texas.

Five vice chairmen of the national committee were named. They are: Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross, former governor of Wyoming; Frank Hague, mayor of Jersey City; Governor Harry Byrd of Virginia, brother of Commander Richard E. Byrd, the transatlantic and north pole flier; Scott Ferris, national committeeman from Oklahoma and Mrs. Florence Farley of Kansas. James W. Gerard of New York, former ambassador to Germany, was re-elected treasurer, and Charles A. Greathouse of Indiana, was re-elected secretary. The selection of Rascob as national chairman brings to the leadership of the Smith campaign one of the most influential business men and industrial leaders in the country. It is accounted a shrewd move to impress the great business interests of the country that they have nothing to fear from a change of administration and to destroy the effects of such statements as Secretary of the Treasury Mellon made a few days ago that "business will again support the Republican ticket."

Hoover After Women Voters

Herbert Hoover's campaign for the presidency will include a specially organized and nationally conducted drive to capture the votes of 18,000,000 American women eligible for suffrage in November, it is announced from Republican headquarters in Washington.

Hoover himself has approved the preliminary plans for creating special campaign clubs among women interested in public affairs. The first move to corral the woman vote, it is announced, will be a conference of Republican national committeewomen from the northeastern states. Mrs. Alvin T. Hart of Kentucky, vice chairman of the Republican national committee, will call the conference and preside. Her purpose will be to initiate the drive for feminist votes in the most Atlantic seaboard states, where many Hoover leaders believe the campaign will be decided.

Simmons Will Remain Quiet for Present

Washington, July 13.—Information obtainable here today failed to bear out reports heard in Raleigh that Senator Simmons would, within a week, give to the press a formal statement indicating his active and loyal support of the Smith-Robinson ticket. Senator Simmons is still in a Maryland sanitarium, and where he will remain for a few days longer. He is improving in health, but, under the advice of physicians, he has eschewed politics for the present and his friends do not understand that he has made any plans about a statement concerning his political movements in the near future. Such persons would be surprised if the senator made any such move, as persons in Raleigh are reported to have heard about.

Klan Will Aid Hoover in South
New York, July 16.—Hoover headquarters here evinced keen interest today in a plan of strategy which Oliver S. Street, Republican

BOONE METHODIST CHURCH WILL BE DEDICATED SUNDAY

Bishop Edwin D. Mouzen, presiding Bishop of North and South Carolina Methodism, will preach the dedicatory sermon and dedicate the Boone Methodist church, next Sunday, July 22.

This will be a great occasion for the Methodists of Boone and others who have been and are interested in the Methodist church. Rev. G. C. Brinkman, a former pastor, who served the church when it was under construction, will preach Sunday evening.

A large attendance is expected at both services Sunday, and every arrangement is being made to comfortably take care of the people. The church invites all who can and will to attend these services.

LENOIR KIWANIANS HAVE BANQUET AT BLOWING ROCK

A crowd of Lenoir Kiwanians and their guests, numbering 81 in all, came to Blowing Rock Tuesday night and gathered around the banquet board at Mayview Manor as the guests of T. H. Broyhill of Lenoir, owner of the hotel.

Three long tables, covered with cloths in the Kiwanis colors, blue and white, were arranged in the form of a huge "K" before the great rock fireplace in the Manor dining room. With Dan Stubbs at the head of the table, the group fell to and enjoyed the dinner before the entertainment began.

Only one speech was made, and that was only a brief address of thanks to Mr. Broyhill by Ed Allen. Then followed a repertoire of mountain songs and ballads, sung by Prof. I. G. Greer of the Appalachian State Normal College, accompanied by Mrs. Greer on the dulcimer. Prof. Greer has made a collection of the unpublished songs of the mountains, and the best of these were rendered Tuesday night.

After some vocal solos by Dr. Stephen Gardner, the meeting adjourned for the return trip to Lenoir.

PRESIDENT-ELECT OBREGON OF MEXICO, ASSASSINATED

Mexico City, July 17.—President-elect Alvaro Obregon of Mexico, was shot down today as he sat at a banquet given him by supporters at the little town of San Angel, near Mexico City. His assassination was one of a series which is said to have been planned to remove a number of the leading statesmen of Mexico. The one-armed warrior-president, with six bullet wounds in his body, died in a few moments without speaking a word and in the greatest agony. His assassin, Juan Escarpalario, was captured, almost torn apart by maddened friends of the slain general, and taken to jail where he confessed the crime.

CONFEDERATE VETS WILL MEET AT TARBORO AUG. 7-9

Tarboro, N. C., July 16.—Plans are being whipped into shape here for the 21st reunion of the North Carolina division of the United Confederate Veterans August 7 to 9. Civic clubs and other organizations have united in a program to be given the veterans and every available entertainment possible will be given the old boys while in the Edgecombe capital.

CONCERT AT M. E. CHURCH

Rev. Stephen Gardner of Washington, N. C., who has charge of the Stringfellow Memorial Episcopal church at Blowing Rock during the month of July, and Mr. Harry C. Martin of Blowing Rock, were here a few hours Tuesday. They came down to arrange for a concert to be given on the evening of July 26th in the Boone Methodist church for the benefit of the Episcopal church here. The little church was raised to street level last year and some work done on it; but other work is needed, repainting, etc., and these gentlemen hope to raise funds to complete the work by means of the concert. The music will be given by persons of talent summering at Blowing Rock, assisted by local talent of Boone. A pleasant evening is promised those who attend.

GIRLS WEAR TROUSERS

London, July 18.—British women athletes are now wearing trousers in order to keep warm during waiting periods between events at athletic meets. The popularity of the trousers among the women is due to the full-length leg covering provided compared with the scant protection given by a makintosh or coat.

Harry K. Thaw returned from Paris last week, indignant at the British immigration authorities who denied him even a brief landing on English soil. He declared England violated the principles of its magna charta.

News of Week in and About Blowing Rock

Col. Olds Says Education is Solution of Crime in State; First Handicap Golf Tourney of Season Played Wednesday; Plans Being Perfectured for Annual Horse Show

Blowing Rock, July 18.—Crime bears an inverse ratio to education, according to Col. Fred A. Olds, state historian, who said in an address here Sunday that 90 per cent of the criminals in North Carolina never got beyond the third grade in school. Only 10 per cent of the state's criminals are negroes, Col. Olds added.

Crime among whites is increasing, and among the negroes it is decreasing, he said. Of the 619 prisoners admitted to the state penitentiary last year, he said, 146 were negroes, but this is a higher ratio than for the state as a whole when all crimes are considered.

Of the white convicts, Col. Olds explained, 69 used drugs, 429 used liquor, and 90 per cent were under 24 years of age.

Education and unified religion, Col. Olds said, are the remedies for this situation. He pointed out that in England and Canada, which have only one church, the prisons are being converted into factories. The speaker did not advocate unification of all churches, but he did advocate a concerted effort to develop in youth a sense of responsibility.

Col. Olds said that Watauga and Catawba counties lead the state in church membership, with 99 per cent of the citizenship in each county belonging to churches. He remarked also on the low criminality in these counties.

The first handicap golf tournament of the season was run today on the Green Park-Norwood golf course. It was a kickers' handicap; each player named his own handicap. The winner was given a prize of golf equipment from the course store. Hereafter, a tournament will be run each week until the end of the summer, said Harold Long, course professional. It is probable that the future tournaments will be on the week-ends, to give more players an opportunity to compete.

Mr. Long is still making efforts to arrange for matches with teams from Roaring Gap and Linville. Two matches would be played with each resort, one here and a return match.

Blowing Rock's annual horse show this year will surpass anything of the kind ever given here, according to the prediction made by Donald J. Boyden, who has charge of arrangements this year. A special grandstand and riding ring will be constructed on the old Mayview golf course so that more room can be had for the event than is possible on Green Hill, where it has been held heretofore.

Some of the finest horses in the south are expected to compete for prizes. Inquiries have already been received from the Blanton stables at High Point, the Barnstable stables at Greensboro, and the Little stables at Camden, S. C. The entire proceeds of the show in excess of expenses go to the Blowing Rock community fund.

Azulea Heights, latest addition to the Blowing Rock summer resort community, is building up rapidly. Three summer homes have already been erected there by John W. Avery of Winston-Salem, T. W. Brewer of Raleigh, and W. I. Brooks of Winston-Salem.

Others who have purchased lots and expect to build their summer homes soon are J. B. Morrison of Salisbury, J. M. Stone of Greensboro, L. D. Harper of Rocky Mount, T. R. Faust of Greensboro, Jess Penney of Bailey, and Miss Margaret Taber of Gilkey.

The resort is situated on a spur of a mountain on the farm of M. L. Winkler, where it commands a view of the Watauga River valley and all of the surrounding peaks. Those who have purchased lots there say that although the view is not so comprehensive as that from Blowing Rock, it is just as beautiful.

The resort is supplied with water from springs on the mountain, and it has a drop of 900 feet before reaching the cottages. Sewage disposal has been provided, and it is expected that soon a branch of the Blowing Rock power line will provide electric lights.

The place is only a fifteen-minute drive from Blowing Rock on the Shulls Mills road. Beginning probably Sunday after next, the Blowing Rock Band will give a public concert each Sunday afternoon on the Coffey lawn. Several additions have recently been made to the band, and new music has been ordered and is being learned.

A group of 24 girls from Camp Beech Haven, near Johnson City, Tenn., passed through Blowing Rock Tuesday on a tour of western North Carolina. Stopping at Mayview for dinner, they expressed great admiration for the North Carolina scenery.

BUDGET ESTIMATE GIVEN BY AUDITOR

Gen. County, Road Maintenance Interest and Sinking Fund for Expenditure of \$82,508.92, as Compared to \$77,599.11 Last Year

Watauga county's annual budget estimate for the fiscal year 1929 provides for an expenditure of \$82,508.92, for road maintenance, general county, interest and sinking funds, as compared to \$77,599.11 for last year. The county school budget has not yet been completed but it is expected that it will be about the same as last year—\$78,764.

The budget estimate was prepared by County Accountant Austin E. South, presented to the county commissioners for their consideration, and placed in the office of the register of deeds for inspection by the public.

If the school budget calls for no larger expenditure than for the last fiscal year it is expected that the tax rate will probably be the same as it is now, \$1.33 on the \$100.

The county road commissioners expended last year \$27,288.86, of which amount \$4,000 was absorbed by damages and notes contracted under a former board. Included in the general county fund is the cost of the two trials of Hub S. Wagner at Wilkesboro, totaling approximately \$3,000.

Following is the budget as submitted by auditor south:

	Expended 1928	Estimated 1929
Gen. county	\$27,064.43	\$18,750.92
Road Maintenance	27,288.86	47,000.00
Interest and sinking fund	48,645.78	46,758.92
Total	\$97,599.11	\$82,508.92

The school budget will be published as soon as the board of education completes the final details.

NURSERY PONDS NEEDED, SAYS DIRECTOR DIXON

Nero fiddled while Rome burned; music has been used to calm the passions of wild beasts; but fiddlers of Watauga county have undertaken harmonizing to add to the stock of their fishing streams and game covers.

The Watauga Game and Fish Club, ever alert to increase the attractiveness of the streams and forests of the county, took advantage of the opportunity offered by the fiddlers' convention here recently and raised the sum of \$263.30 for game and fish work.

Desiring to spend the fund in the manner most productive of results, J. W. Bryan, county game and fish warden, has written J. K. Dixon, assistant director of the department of conservation and development, for advice as to the best manner in which to spend the money.

Mr. Dixon, who has been encouraging the construction of nursery ponds in which the baby fish, fry from state hatcheries can be raised to a fingerling size, has suggested that the establishment of such a pond would return decided results in creating better fishing facilities for the community. The movement for fish nurseries, started this spring, has already gained rapid headway in North Carolina, some 20 having already been established. He believes that this is one of the secrets of making North Carolina one of the leading game fishing states of the nation.

BANNER ELK NEWS

Banner Elk July 18.—The cool weather at Banner Elk is giving Pinnacle Inn guests a delightful season. Rev. Walter L. Lingle, D. D., president of the General Assembly's Training School, Richmond, Va., was a guest of the inn last week, preaching at Blowing Rock on Sunday morning and in Banner Elk at the evening service.

The new building program at Grandfather Orphans' Home has been begun. One of the cottages is well under way. A second will be started as soon as funds are in hand. These buildings are all of native stone and are being erected by local workmen who know the art of stone masonry.

Rev. J. Gray McAllister, D. D., platform manager of Montreat, N. C., a professor at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., visited Pinnacle Inn the past week. He expressed deep interest in the threefold work of school, hospital and orphanage at Banner Elk.

Grace hospital has had a very busy season. Thus far in July there have been as many as 38 bed patients at one time and at no time have there been less than 24.

DOUGHTON TO SPEAK

Hon. Robert L. Doughton, Democratic candidate for congress in the eighth district, will address the voters of Watauga county during the noon hour of the first Monday of superior court here.

Says South Will Stick



HON. ROBT. L. DOUGHTON

State Safely Democratic Says "Bob" Doughton

Eighth District Congressman Says Smith Will Get Solid South This Fall; Says Republicans Make Rash Claims Every Two Years, and This Year is No Exception

Representative Robert L. Doughton, of Washington, last week, on looking after departmental matters, assured the newspaper representatives of the solid stand for the Democratic ticket this fall. "Farn or Bob," as he is familiarly known, when asked about the Democratic presidential ticket in this state, said to the Washington newspapermen:

"Of course, I am going to give the Democratic ticket my cordial support, as there is no reason why any Democrat should withhold his support from the nominees, and I am sure I can find no reason for doing so; but, in fact, the most compelling reasons why I should give it my support."

"Since congress adjourned, I have been down on my farm, and have not had an opportunity to ascertain first-hand the sentiment of the people of the state as to the Democratic presidential ticket, but I have every reason to believe that the Democrats in my state will vote for Smith and Robinson and that they will carry the state."

"We hear a great deal about the Republicans carrying several congressional districts in North Carolina. This claim is made by the Republicans every two years, but the districts consistently go Democratic and that is what they will do this time in my judgment."

Mr. Doughton expressed the view that Smith would get the solid south and in that event, would have an excellent chance of election, as it seems certain that he will get several of the big eastern states, and probably some of those of the west.

"North Carolina is a Democratic state," continued Mr. Doughton, "and I see no reason why it should depart from its past affiliation now, and I am sure it will not. The Republicans are nursing a vain hope, if they expect to carry North Carolina and several other southern states claimed by the Republicans will go Democratic now as they have done in the past."

STATE TREASURER SIGNS CHECKS WITH BOTH HANDS

Benjamin Rice Lacy, North Carolina's 74-year-old state treasurer, may write "doctor of laws" after his name, although he never attended college. He received the honorary degree this summer from Davidson College in recognition of his services to his state.

Mr. Lacy started to school when he was ten but left at 16 to work in a railroad shop. He became a train engineer and then a Raleigh banker and city councilman. In 1900 he was elected state treasurer, an office he has held since.

Lacy, in handling his state funds of millions of dollars, uses both his right and left hands to sign bonds and checks. His signature with his left hand varies only slightly from that with his right hand.

GARDNER PICKS MULL AS DEMOCRATIC LEADER

Otus M. Mull, lawyer-farmer of Shelby, recommended by O. Max Gardner, Democratic candidate for governor, as chairman of the Democratic executive committee, was elected to that position by the state executive committee, in session in Raleigh Tuesday. Mr. Mull succeeds Dennis G. Brummitt, attorney general, who recently gave notice of his resignation.

SEEK RETURN OF CITY FUNDS

Action Started in Superior Court to Recover \$10,000 Appropriated by Claude E. Miller Alleged Broker; Defendant Under Bond

A suit has been started in the superior court of Watauga county by the town of Boone in an effort to recover \$10,000 which Claude E. Miller of High Point, an alleged broker, appropriated to his own use, after having provided the city council to negotiate a loan for the city in that amount. A bond in the amount of \$10,000 was made following the arrest of Miller a few weeks ago. However, since that time, he has had an operation for appendicitis and the preliminary hearing will be held following his recovery.

When the board of aldermen was anxious to secure a loan with which to construct the city hall, Miller proffered his services. A negotiable note was issued to him for \$10,000. Miller to receive a commission of \$200 for his services. After having received two worthless checks on the note, the city alleges that the proceeds have been converted to the personal use of the defendant. The full text of the complaint, drawn by Trivette and Comer, and which is now a matter of record at the courthouse, follows, giving full details of the transaction.

The Complaint
Following is the text of the complaint as filed with the clerk of the court:

"The plaintiff, complaining of the defendant for a cause of action alleges and says:

"1. That the plaintiff is a municipal corporation created and existing under the laws of the state of North Carolina in Watauga county, North Carolina, and that the defendant is a resident of Guilford county, North Carolina.

"2. That on or about the 3rd day of April, 1928, the defendant came to the authorized officials of said town representing himself to be a broker and located in the city of High Point, N. C., and offered to negotiate a loan for the town of Boone in the sum of \$10,000.00; that the plaintiff was desirous of borrowing this amount and relying upon the representations and promises of the defendant entered into an agreement to borrow through the defendant the sum of \$10,000.00, and relying upon the representations and agreements of the defendant, executed a good and sufficient negotiable note in the sum of \$10,000 payable to the bearer and delivered same to the defendant with the understanding that the defendant was to secure the loan for the town and to turn over the money obtained on said note to the town of Boone, the defendant acting in a fiduciary capacity as the agent of the said town of Boone.

"3. That sometime after this transaction the plaintiff notified the defendant that it had not received the money on said note as the defendant had agreed to furnish same, and instructed the defendant to immediately remit to the plaintiff the amount obtained on said note, but that the defendant made promise after promise to the plaintiff, that he various parties who would handle said note and that he would remit the amount obtained on said note on certain dates, and finally, on or about the 14th day of April, 1928, the defendant did mail to the plaintiff a check in the sum of \$980.00 payable to the town of Boone, said check being drawn on the Commercial National Bank of High Point, N. C., and again, about April 23rd, 1928, the defendant did mail to the plaintiff a check on the Commercial National Bank of High Point, in the sum of \$8,820.00, but that both checks were refused payment by the bank in which they were drawn and have been returned to the plaintiff, and that the defendant has failed and refused to make said checks good or to remit to the plaintiff after due notice the amount of the proceeds of said note.

"4. That the plaintiff is informed and believes and alleges that the defendant has wrongfully, unlawfully and wilfully taken the proceeds from said note which rightfully belong to the plaintiff and has wrongfully, unlawfully, wilfully and feloniously converted same to his own personal use, and that the said defendant now unlawfully, wilfully, wrongfully refuses to turn over to the town of Boone the money secured on said note.

"5. The defendant has failed and refused to carry out and fulfill his part of the contract made with the plaintiff and has breached said contract by not delivering to the plaintiff the funds secured on said note and by withholding said funds and converting them to his own use, and that on account of the defendant's breach of said contract and on account of his wilfully and unlawfully withholding said funds the plaintiff

(Continued on Page Eight)

(Continued on Page Eight)