

Searchers Fail to Find Hidden Convict Bodies

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zen, told The Democrat that he had a contract to furnish wood to the camp during the winter it was there, and that if there was anything wrong he never heard of it. He said later he left and knew nothing of the conduct of the chain-gang during the following summer.

Newspaper Reports Recalled
Reference to the files of The Democrat of July 31, 1930, discloses that J. P. Gosnell and O. R. Freeman, guards at the camp, had been arrested, given a preliminary hearing and bound to court on charges of drunkenness and possession of whiskey. City policemen made the arrests after passersby had reported the conduct of the men on the Blowing Rock road, charging that they were drunk, displaying firearms and using language uncomplimentary to the Sabbath atmosphere.

The story ended with a statement of rumors to the effect "that ill treatment is being accorded many of the unfortunate inmates . . . and that methods of discipline have been extremely harsh."

In the following issue of the paper there appeared a story wherein D. R. Lida, prison supervisor, entered a flat denial to the rumors, and it was gathered that "solitary confinement on limited rations, it appears, is the only punishment allowed to be administered. . . . Another revolting rumor which had to do with strapping the hands of convicts high over their heads and leaving them on tiptoe for hours at a time was branded as an unwarranted falsehood by Mr. Lida. According to his statement, no such treatment was ever accorded a prisoner, the only phase of punishment even remotely resembling this being manning the blacks to a wall with hands in a more or less comfortable position."

Mr. Lida believed "that a guard who had been discharged recently for neglect of duty spread the stories to 'get even' with him for losing his job."

Other Stories

Stories in the paper later on told of Grand Jury investigations following a prison strike, and Lindsay Woodie, "former deputy sheriff of Wilkes County, was believed to have circulated the damaging reports, was threatened with indictment for participation in a rebellion against the State of North Carolina.

Mr. Woodie in turn wrote The Democrat a letter published September 18, 1930, which contains the following statements:

"I do not care to go into details of the inhuman treatment that I have witnessed by certain men connected with this camp . . . but will say I am not scouting and at any time an indictment is made against me I am willing to meet the charges. . . . The things that I have said in connection with the inhuman treatment of some of the convicts are facts that are known by other good law-abiding men and men who have not been discharged. . . . I can cite instances that would startle and surprise the good citizens of Watauga County, but as I stated in the outset, I do not care to at this time go into details as to facts. But those facts, I take it, will come later and will be testified to by others who know as well as I do the things that actually occurred."

A number of other reports were carried in The Democrat recalling that an investigation of the camp was ordered by the State Prison Department.

CAMP HERE "IDEAL"

High Point, N. C.—Senator J. T. Burrus, of High Point, returned here Sunday night after a trip into Watauga, Wilkes and Caldwell counties, with only praise for conditions in convict camps in that area.

Senator Burrus said he was particularly impressed with the camp he visited a mile north of Boone, which is under the superintendency of Captain W. H. Brown.

"It has an ideal set-up," he said of the camp containing 105 long-term convicts.

He said he talked with prisoners and also residents of communities where camps are situated, but that he heard no major complaint.

He said a dark room isolation cell had been employed effectively in one camp for disobedient prisoners and that "exercise of utmost caution" had prevented escapes or outbreaks.

BAMBOO SCHOOL CLOSES

The Bamboo Consolidated School closed a most successful term on Friday, March 8th. The patrons desire to thank the teachers, Mrs. Ray Estes, Mrs. Grace Greene Edmisten and Miss Iva Dean Wilson for the fine work they have done with the community's children. Anita Hampton who completed the seventh grade, has attended school for four years without missing a day.

Big Money Bills Are Introduced in Assembly

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to those who favor the Hill liquor bill.

Money Bills to Require a Month

The money bills are now to the fore and will probably take a month, an average of a week each in both houses. The Revenue bill fails to raise enough revenue, by some \$2,500,000 on present estimates, to meet the promises made to the State's departments, institutions and agencies by the Appropriations bill. The Revenue bill is estimated to raise \$62,710,000 for two years, \$31,217,000 the first and \$31,492,000 the second, but the Appropriations committee's figures call for \$65,514,000.

The Appropriations measure is based on an increase of 20 per cent in salaries of all State employees, including teachers the first year and 25 per cent the second year. Experts have said that if it were made 20 per cent for each year the bills would about balance. That may be done, or efforts may be made to increase the revenues to give the appropriations suggested. At any rate, efforts will be made to eliminate the three per cent sales tax in the Revenue bill. Those efforts are expected to fail, however.

Schools Get Increase

The public schools are allotted \$20,051,000 the first year and \$20,900,000 the second year, in the bill. The institutions are given "liberal" amounts. It is charged, although Chairman Victor Bryant admirably defended all increases in a two-hour discussion of the measure Thursday night. Those favoring taking up the Revenue measure first won in a stiff fight, so, if there is change, it is likely to be in the appropriations to a greater extent than in revenues.

The group from the Penal Institutions committee made a trip to Charlotte and investigated the prison camps at which, as the result of punishment by chaining them in an upright position, two negroes were in such condition that all four of their feet had to be amputated. They interviewed the negroes and others and found conditions worse than was expected. A report will be made to the General Assembly. The committee will also send a group to Morganton to check up on conditions at the State Hospital for the Insane.

Child Labor Bill Defeated

The child labor amendment heard at length last week, was given an unfavorable report, Chairman Tom Bowie breaking a tie. However, three members of the committee brought it out on a minority report and it will come to a vote in the House this week, probably. It was set for Tuesday. The anti-rabies bill, to require that all dogs be vaccinated for rabies each year, much talked about, was set for hearing in the Senate Monday night.

Varying guesses are made as to how much longer the General Assembly will be in session. It is safe to say it will be a month longer, past the middle of April, and it may be toward the end. Up to Saturday about 1080 bills had been introduced, of which 382 had been ratified, or passed ready for ratification. Last week 109 of these were ratified, including 91 local bills and 18 public bills.

Public Bills Ratified

Public bills ratified last week include the following: removing double liability on bank stock; amend Sec. 3365 (1) C. S. on defective probates; repeal Chapter 40, Public Laws of 1933, on fees of witnesses; amend Sec. 667 C. S. on issuance of execution; establishing a tuberculosis hospital in Western North Carolina; providing for special judges; to investigate conditions in prison camps; give slot machine owners until May 1 to get them out of the State; asking Congress to pass the work relief bill; to investigate State Hospital for Insane at Morganton; distribute State laws, reports and publications to U. N. C. library; changing names of savings and loan associations to credit unions; new section on dividends paid to and contingent liability of policyholders in mutual fire insurance companies; to include preferred stock in minimum capital stock required for banks; make insurance of deposits more effective; change 1933 law on powers of banks; amend law on transactions exempted from operation of the capital issues law.

Many New Bills Introduced

Floods of new local bills have been introduced the past week, but the public measures are dwindling some. Of interest is the bill to reapportion members of the House of Representatives on the basis of the 1930 census, as the constitution requires. On the method set out, the counties would have representatives as follows: Guilford and Mecklenburg, four each; Buncombe, Forsyth and Wake, three each; Durham, Gaston, Halifax, Johnston, Pitt, Robeson, Rowan and Wayne, two each; others, one.

Bills to raise to their former level salaries of elective State officers, cut two years ago, have been introduced. One would repeal Cr. 1, Public Laws of 1933, to equalize and restore salaries of the Commissioners of Labor, Agriculture and Insurance (to \$4,500 a year). Another would fix the salary of the Utilities Commissioner at \$5,000, and another would raise that of the State Treasurer to \$6,000, now \$4,500, because of added Local Government Commission duties.

Other public measures of general interest introduced last week follow: Provide for inspection of motor ve-

hicles; provide for purchase of motor license tags for one-half year; amend law on refund of gasoline taxes; provide for better enforcement of the automobile laws.

Amend Department of Conservation laws; prohibit dredging or catching oysters in closed season.

Authorize refund of taxes erroneously or illegally collected by counties and municipalities; set up and establish liens of taxes and the methods, processes and procedure for sale of real property for failure to pay taxes; amend Sec. 76, C. S., on sale of real property by heirs and devisees; create lien in favor of cotenant or joint owner paying special assessment against real estate.

Regulate method of becoming a candidate for office on citizen or independent ticket.

Provide banking facilities for small communities, now without them; remove limitation on investments by banks in interest bearing obligations of other states.

To create a Building Code Council for North Carolina.

Authorize counties, townships and districts to issue bonds for building and rebuilding school plants; amend school machinery act to fix minimum salaries for superintendents, principals and teachers.

Increase duties and powers of Division of Standards and Inspection of Department of Labor.

Prohibit any member of General Assembly connected with State institutions from serving on appropriations committees of General Assembly.

Prohibit soliciting sales or taking orders in State offices during working hours by agents, peddlers or persons representing out-of-State firms.

Authorize issuance of State and Martin County bonds to take place of lost or stolen bonds.

Amend and re-enact Sec. 1437 C. S. relative to jurisdiction of Superior Courts.

SPECIAL NOTICES

WANTED TO BUY—Good used safe. See C. B. Duncan, Boone, N. C.

WANTED—Someone to take up a small balance on beautiful upright piano in this community. Terms to reliable party. Address Credit Dept., Box 234, Wilkesboro, N. C. 3-14-2c

THIRTY-ONE AND TWO YEARS OLD. One large 75 or 100 years old. See Walter Baird, Valle Crucis, N. C. 2t

WANTED—Bakery, Tea, Coffee or other route men. Good proposition for right man. Rawleigh, Dept. NCC-23-L, Richmond, Va. 3-14-4p

FOR SALE—Used Victrola in first class condition, with records. Only \$10.00. New River Light and Power Co., Phone 60.

USED FURNITURE—3-piece davenport living room suit, mahogany finish, \$20.00; 5-burner oil stove with built-in oven, \$13.50; kitchen tables, each \$2.00. Easy terms to responsible parties. High Land Furniture Co., Depot St., Boone, N. C.

GIRLS—Prepare yourselves for profitable occupation. Take a course in Beauty Culture. Only three months to graduate and you are ready to earn. We have A-grade State Accredited School and all new equipment. Write for particulars. McConnell School of Beauty Culture, Statesville, N. C. 2-28-4c

GOOD BUSINESS—Good business today is based entirely upon co-operation and a direct and honest approach to all problems. Our service is complete and we will welcome the opportunity of serving you. Bern-Mar's Little Jewelry Store.

BRAND NEW FURNITURE—Three-piece bed room suit, walnut finish dresser, chest of drawers, full size bed, all for \$29.50; 3-piece living room suit, two pieces in green, one in rust tapestry, all for \$39.50. green and ivory enamel kitchen cabinet complete with glass set, metal cake drawer, flour bin and sifter, \$25.00; extension oak dining table and six chairs, all for \$28.50. Above prices for cash, but terms can be arranged by responsible parties. HIGH LAND FURNITURE CO., Depot Street, Boone, N. C. "Everything for the Home"

Dr. C. B. Baughman, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, Elizabethton, Tenn., will be in the office of Dr. J. B. Hagaman in Boone, on the first Monday in each month for the practice of his profession.

New Kidneys

If you could trade your neglected, tired and lazy kidneys for new ones, you would automatically get rid of Night Rising, Nervousness, Distress, Blonnamism, Burning, Itching and Acidity. To correct functional kidney disorders, try the guaranteed Doctor's special prescription called CYTEX (Sis-tex). Must fix you up in 5 days or money back. At all drug stores.

HELP KIDNEYS

IF your kidneys function badly and you have a lame, aching back, with attacks of dizziness, burning, scanty or too frequent urination, getting up at night, swollen feet and ankles, rheumatic pains . . . use Doan's Pills. Doan's are especially for poorly functioning kidneys. Millions of boxes are used every year. They are recommended the country over. Ask your neighbor!

DOAN'S PILLS

NEW CLEANING PLANT

Mr. George C. Greene is the manager of a new dry cleaning establishment which opened last week in the Barnett building in East Boone. Mr. R. H. Younce of Hickory, who has 12 years' experience in the cleaning business, is in charge of actual operations, and first class service is assured. Attention is directed to an announcement appearing in The Democrat today.

All open land on the Caldwell County Home farm is being terraced and the gulches filled under the supervision of the farm agent.

Listing of Property For Taxation
For the Year 1935 Will Begin on the First Monday in April.
The list takers will advertise in the different Townships, the dates and places they will meet you for that purpose, and I want to insist that you come out and list your property, and get that burden behind you.
We are going to do everything possible to make it as easy and convenient for you as we can, and as the list-takers must finish their work and make their returns on or before the First Monday in May, please see that your property is listed and no penalty to pay, which the law says you shall pay, if property is not listed in the time allowed.
FARM CROP ACREAGES:
Each land-owner should prepare a list of estimated acreages of each crop to be harvested this year (including tenants') and have available when listing. "Patches" and probable summer plantings should be approximated. This information is NOT taxable and has been proven to be reliable and of distinct benefit to the farmers' interests. Farm agents and agricultural teachers especially need this in their services.
E. G. GREER, Tax Supervisor.

EXTRA! EXTRA!
E. T. & W. N. C. Motor Transportation Co.
Announces a CHANGE OF BUS SERVICE!
THE FOLLOWING SERVICE IS NOW AVAILABLE VIA E. T. & W. N. C. BUSES:
LEAVE BOONE, FOR—Elk Park, Johnson City, Asheville, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Direct Connection for all Western States at . . . 8:00 A. M., 12:10 P. M., and 9:05 P. M.
LEAVE BOONE, FOR—Lenoir, Hickory, Asheville, Charlotte, Statesville, Salisbury, Wilmington, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, and all other Southern States, 9:25 A. M., 1:45 P. M., and 6:40 P. M.
Boone now has the best bus service in the history of motor transportation. Just think . . . you can go to Nashville for only \$7.50, only about a cent and a half a mile. Travel across the continent for ONE CENT PER MILE. It will pay you to check up on that trip. For further information, as to schedules, fares, etc., call
E. T. & W. N. C.
MOTOR TRANSPORTATION CO.
H. W. WILCOX, AGENT TELEPHONE 45

Still Going Strong
More and more people are realizing the service the Building and Loan is rendering the people of the county and sale of stock is constantly increasing.
Don't forget our dividend bearing stock . . . WE PAY THE TAXES!
Come in the next time it's convenient, and allow us to tell you something of the Building and Loan plan for Home Ownership, and for financial independence.
Watauga Building & Loan Association
W. H. Gragg, Secretary Boone, N. C.

FREE BOOK about STOMACH TROUBLE
Explains the marvelous Willard's Treatment which is bringing money back guaranteed.
PRICELESS INFORMATION—for those suffering from STOMACH OR DUODENAL ULCERS, POOR DIGESTION, ACIDITY, SPASMS, YOUR STOMACH GASSINESS, HEARTBURN, CONSTIPATION, BAD BREATH, SLEEPLESSNESS OR HEADACHES, DUE TO EXCESS ACID.
Ask for a free copy of Willard's Message. We are Authorized Willard Dealers.
WATAUGA DRUG COMPANY Boone, N. C.

REINS-STURDIVANT THE FUNERAL HOME
Licensed Embalmers Funeral Directors
Ambulance Service . . . Day and Night
PHONE BOONE 24

Make a Profitable Crop of POTATOES by using ARMOUR'S BIG CROP FERTILIZER, 8-16-16
A majority of the largest Potato Growers of Watauga County have already purchased this analysis from us and it is undoubtedly the best money can buy. It will strengthen plants against disease, produce better quality and mature more potatoes per plant.
WE ALSO HANDLE 3-8-6, 5-8-6, 5-7-5, 4-7-5 AND 10-4-6. These are all specials for Irish potatoes. At the same time, we carry every other analysis, so that, no matter what your requirement, we have just the fertilizer you need.
M. C. Holler & E. D. Cook
BARNETT BUILDING EAST BOONE

CRAZY Water Crystals
PRICES REDUCED!
\$1.50 PACKAGE, now \$1.00
\$1.00 PACKAGE, now .60c
BOONE DRUG CO.
The REXALL Store