

By J. C. R.

COLONEL HARRIS

COL. WADE HAMPTON HARRIS, dean of North Carolina newspapermen, is dead . . . and we mountaineers are deeply grieved.

As editor of The Charlotte Observer for twenty-three years, Col. Harris, through the columns of his eminent journal, extolled the beauties of the blue hills . . . A cabin on an "ivy ridge" . . . the homespun philosophy of a backwoodsman . . . the fragrance of a wild flower . . . the shimmering beauty of a waterfall . . . winding trails through forests of pine and hemlock . . . inspiring vistas of jumbled peaks . . . fattening herds on emerald pastures . . . the peace and security of life in primitive coves . . . these were subjects dear to the Colonel's heart . . . and his able writings were responsible in no small measure for the ever-increasing flow of tourists to the Blowing Rock country . . . for improved social conditions . . . for the awakening of latent talent in the bosoms of mountain youth . . . for surfaced roads and modern schools . . . for the honored position which Watauga and her sister counties occupy in the public mind.

True, North Carolina has lost one of its great journalists . . . one of its most valuable citizens . . . but the Northwest section of Tarheelia has lost a personal friend. We can almost see him now as he used to sit with his friend, Bob Rivers, father of The Democrat, "neath the maple tree which shades the local printery . . . we can almost hear the wholesome conversation which passed between them as they puffed their dark cheroots . . . conversation which had to do with Dr. Dougherty's college, with the price of cabbage and spuds, with elections and public officials . . . with a thousand and one lesser problems confronting the folks they served. And out of those conversations came printed comments of inestimable value to folks hereabout.

The brooks and the forests and the rhododendron bowers and the singing birds remain to offer their charm to summer visitors . . . their friend has yielded to human frailty and answered a call to higher endeavors. Friends as loyal as the Colonel are hard to find . . . scribes with the flowing quill that was his are not to be had in quantities large . . . men of his character and vision come few and far between . . . But we hope, sincerely, that those who succeed Colonel Harris will catch some of the beauty that lurks in these hills . . . some of the color that inspired his writings. And we trust that they'll deal as charitably with our problems as did the Colonel . . . who might honestly have been called the mountains' No. 1 friend.

HITHER AND YON

Walking along the street . . . brisk fall breeze swirling the nifty skirts of Doctor Dougherty's pretty co-eds . . . brawny he-men and scrawny youths discussing football, and Kid Brewer's chances of developing a winning team . . . leaves turning crimson and gold on the trees in front of the Council home . . . Ab Mullins and Paul Coffey talking hunting squirrels, ducks, rabbits and vermin generally . . . tipsy Romeo of more than forty trying his best to squeeze a jame . . . Sergeant Pitts accepting a challenge to bowl a bit . . . Mr. Wallace Edmisten giving his views on direct relief, and reciting experiences of want, and hunger, and rugged courage that he lived through during Reconstruction Days . . . Engineer King playing with his grandson, Coker Triplett Jr. . . Lloyd Welch, from out in the Matney section, talking politics . . . Dr. Frank Greer shaking hands with friends along the way . . . Congressman Bob Doughton greeting acquaintances at the Court House, and reporting optimistically on national recovery . . . a group of horse-traders telling the yokels how good their nags are . . . youth of maybe twelve driving a great big car along the street . . . a married man, a prominent one, riding with a pretty girl, a good-looking girl . . . not his wife . . . radio in local chow house blaring out some sort of a song about "when grandma's old-age pension comes around" . . . fall weather . . . possum hunting days . . . harvest days . . . not much money hereabout, but plenty to eat . . . and ain't that som'pin'?

GRIFIN ASSUMES WORK WITH EDUCATIONAL BODY

Raleigh, Sept. 15.—Lloyd E. Griffin, of Edenton, member of the state senate in 1933 and 1935, today assumed his duties here as executive secretary of the state school commission.

Griffin succeeds Leroy Martin, who resigned to enter bank work in Winston-Salem.

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Candidate for Governor



Dr. Ralph McDonald, candidate for Governor in the Democratic primaries and in whose behalf a McDonald Club has been organized in Watauga County.

McDONALD CLUB IS ORGANIZED FRIDAY

Members of Fair Tax Association and Others Join in Cove Creek Road.

Watauga county has the distinction of being the first county in the state to organize a "McDonald for Governor Club." Meeting at Cove Creek last Friday evening, enthusiastic supporters of Dr. Ralph McDonald's candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor organized the Watauga McDonald for Governor Club and named a committee of five citizens of the county to draw up a "declaration of the purposes of this club, and reasons for our choice of McDonald for Governor."

The meeting was called by Mr. C. W. Teal of Boone, a member of the executive Board of the North Carolina Fair Tax Association, which is lining up behind Forsyth county's candidate, Judge John H. Bingham of the Watauga Recorders court served as chairman of the meeting, which was addressed by Paul Leonard of Statesville, secretary of the Fair Tax Association, who has been in this section of the state all week holding meetings in the interest of that organization. Talks were also made by a half dozen local citizens. A Clyde Mast of Sugar Grove, a Democratic leader, was elected permanent chairman of the new club; James Sherwood of Sherwood, was named vice chairman; and C. L. Rhyme of Boone, was elected permanent secretary.

Several townships were represented in the meeting, and plans adopted call for the holding of precinct meetings in the 14 precincts of the county. The precinct chairmen to be elected at these meetings will comprise the county executive committee. The three officers elected last night, with Judge Bingham and Mr. Teal are the committee which will complete the plans for the organization, and are instructed to name the time and place for the next county-wide meeting. It was agreed that Dr. McDonald shall address the club as soon as a convenient date can be agreed upon.

A CORRECTION

It was erroneously reported in the Democrat last week that Mrs. Dave Henson of Cove Creek was a patient at Banner Elk Hospital where she underwent an operation. As a matter of fact, Mrs. Henson is not ill at all, and it was Mrs. Dave Moody who was indisposed. The error is regretted by the Democrat.

Says Grading of Lambs Brings More Money to Local Farmers

College Station, Raleigh, N. C.—Farmers in Watauga and Alleghany counties are receiving more money for their lambs since they started grading the animals systematically, says L. I. Case, animal husbandman at State College.

The grading system not only brings them higher prices for the quality lambs, but it also stimulates the raising of better stock, Case pointed out.

The system was started by W. B. Collins, at present county agent in Watauga and former county agent in Alleghany, and has been continued in Alleghany under the direction of R. E. Black, present county agent.

According to the present plan of grading, the top quality lambs are marked with a blue circle, the next best with a red circle, and the number three grades are not marked. Buck lambs are marked with a red circle.

SHERIFF J. L. HAYES SUCCUMBS TO LONG ILLNESS IN WASH.

Prominent Citizen Laid to Rest in Adopted State, Was 83 Years of Age.

HELPED ORGANIZE G. O. P. IN WATAUGA COUNTY

Twice Elected Sheriff During His Career of Public Service, Owned and Operated Republican Newspaper in Boone.

Mr. J. L. Hayes, Watauga citizen who for the past several months had resided in the Pacific Northwest, died on September 11, at St. John, Wash., according to word just reaching relatives here. He was 83 years old, and had been in declining health since early spring. Funeral and burial took place in St. John.

Surviving are three sons, W. T. Hayes of St. John, Wash.; Lewis Hayes of Elizabethtown, Tenn., and Frank Hayes of the State of Washington. The following brothers and sisters also survive: Mrs. Sallie Shook, Matney; Mrs. Mollie Mast, Valle Crucis; Mrs. Jennie Whitehead, Boone; Miss Julia Hayes, Helena, Mont.; Joe Hayes, Vilas, and George Hayes, Bambo.

Mr. Hayes was born, reared, and spent most of his life in the Brushy Fork section of Watauga county. Having taken an early interest in political matters, he was one of the leaders in the formation of the Republican party here, and, in 1886, defeated Captain Tom Coffey, Democrat, for sheriff. In 1888, Hayes was named Chairman of the Republican Executive Committee, and again selected as the party's candidate for Sheriff, defeating D. F. Baird in the fall election by a small majority. From 1896 to 1900 Mr. Hayes served as deputy collector of internal revenue.

In 1887 Sheriff Hayes and J. A. Crisp purchased The Watauga Enterprise, Republican newspaper established shortly before by J. A. McLaughlin of Concord, which they published for a year. In this position Mr. Hayes was enabled to strengthen party lines, and became an outstanding figure in G. O. P. circles. During his two terms as Sheriff, Mr. Hayes made settlement of taxes with the county commissioners on the first Monday in each May, taking a vacation in full for all levies. He stated in after years that during his terms of office he only failed to collect from two taxpayers, the amount involved being less than ten dollars. As an official he was kind and courteous, and made friends readily.

Following his days of public service, Mr. Hayes was engaged in stock-raising and agricultural enterprises, in which he was most successful. For the past ten years he had made his home with a son, Walter Hayes, who until recently lived at Limestone, Tenn.

Sheriff Hayes was widely known throughout Western North Carolina and his passing is the cause for genuine sorrow among his friends.

COURT WEEK VISITORS

A long line of transient business at the Democrat office the first of the week were: A. N. Greene, Laxon; L. S. Spuring, Lenoir; Jethro Wilson, Reese; Mrs. J. N. Carroll, Deep Gap; W. S. Miller, Todd; H. G. Cook, Blowing Rock; J. L. Moore, Sugar Grove; R. L. Doughton, Sparta; Carl Stout, Adams; L. M. Hodges, Adams; L. M. Moretz, Route 1; Grady Green, Deep Gap; W. S. Farthing, Sugar Grove; F. P. Chappell, Balm; Wade L. Greene, Peoria; J. R. Trivett, Beech Creek; Dr. F. M. Greer, Mabel, N. C.

VICTIM OF ENEMY'S BULLETS

Louisiana Kingfish and Family Shown in Photograph Taken Just Prior to Assassination of "Head Man."



BATON ROUGE, LA.—Above is one of the latest pictures of U. S. Senator Huey P. Long and family. It was taken in New York shortly before the Louisiana dictator was shot and seriously wounded in the corridor of the Louisiana State Capitol by a disgruntled political enemy, Dr. Carl A. Weiss Jr., who in turn was mowed down by machine guns in the hands of Senator Long's body guards. In the photo are: Senator and Mrs. Long, daughter, Rose, and son, Palmer Reed Long.

GEORGE C. GREER DIES SUDDENLY

Prominent Citizen of Zionville Succumbs Saturday Morning.

George C. Greer, aged 61 years, prominent and esteemed citizen of Zionville, died suddenly last Saturday morning at Stovall, N. C.

Funeral services were conducted Monday morning from the Zionville Baptist Church by the pastor, Rev. W. O. Payne, who was assisted by R. C. Egan, J. W. Ashley.

An unusually large crowd gathered for the obsequies, and an impressive large floral offering was in charge of Mrs. W. S. Penn, being borne by the following young ladies: Misses Mildred Thomas, Ruth Castle, Betty Ruth Greer, Doris Wilson, Earle Henson, Ella Reese, Madge Williams, Clarissa White, Murtie Palmer, Effie J. Greer, Mazella Eggers, Pearl Campbell, Ella Ree Jenkins, Ruth Lawrence, Lillie Mae Smith, Irene and Faye Brown, Flora Johnson, June Yonce, Mary Elizabeth Church, Maude Williams, Mildred Stephens, Mae South, Mrs. Gus Norris. Special music was rendered by Mr. John Oliver and his choir from Union Church. Pallbearers were: Loyd Elie, J. A. Castle, Harve and Milton Brown, E. H. Wilson, W. A. and Olin Stephens, O. L. Smith, Will Miller, Eld Bumgarner, Reeves Holman and Mack Lawrence.

Interment was in the cemetery near the church, Badger Funeral Home of West Jefferson being in charge of the arrangements.

Surviving besides the widow are five children: Ralph and Theo Greer and Mrs. Chas. Wilkinson of Zionville and Fleet Greer of Hawaiian Islands. Mrs. Worth Byers, another daughter, preceded her father in death five months ago.

Mr. Greer was born in Watauga county, the son of the late Andy and Mrs. Greer. He joined the Zionville Baptist Church in 1886 and remained a faithful member, active in his affiliation until death. A large portion (Continued on Page 8)

Joseph Mitchell Dies At Banner Elk Sunday

Joseph Mitchell, 40 years old, a citizen of the Valle Crucis community, died at the Banner Elk Hospital Sunday afternoon, from a sudden illness developed the day previous.

Surviving is the widow and an adopted daughter.

Funeral services were conducted Monday at Valle Crucis and interment was there.

Mr. Mitchell was reared at Valle Crucis, and engaged in farming the most of his life. He was well known as a splendid citizen of industrious habits.

ODD, STRANGE AND CURIOUS

Mr. A. S. Johnson of Sherwood tells of a freak of nature which will be of interest to other farmers: A heifer bred to bring a calf on August 21, was bred again to October 4. In June the heifer freshened and gave an 8-lb. bucket of milk twice daily until August 25 when she had a calf. On Sept. 15 she was bred again, and Mr. Johnson is at a loss to understand the strange occurrences.

Veteran Editor Dead



Col. Wade H. Harris, Editor of The Charlotte Observer and summertime resident of Blowing Rock, who succumbed Saturday after a long illness. (Story page 2.)

FUNERAL SQUIRE GREEN ON SUNDAY

Blowing Rock Justice Dies Saturday Following Long Illness.

Joe G. Green, 85-year-old citizen of Blowing Rock, and for two score or more years a justice of the peace, died at his home last Saturday morning after a lingering illness.

Mr. Green was a carpenter, but his advancing age precluded his following the trade in recent years. His duties as a magistrate occupied considerable of his time, and he was highly respected for his ability as a judge, and his even temperament. He was well known throughout this section as a good and just man.

A son of Hiram Green of Blowing Rock and Nancy Brookshire Green of Caldwell county, Mr. Green had spent his entire life at the noted summer resort. He was twice married, first to Martha Elrod, and in 1926 to Lucy Pearson, the latter surviving. His children are Henry Green of Hampton, Tenn., John, Commodore Green, Mrs. Ed Robbins, Mrs. John Knight, of Blowing Rock, and Mrs. George F. Coffey of Hickory.

The funeral was held from the Reformed Church in Blowing Rock on Sunday afternoon, and a huge throng of friends and relatives was present. There were many pretty floral offerings at the church, and at the grave in the Reformed cemetery.

Rev. Mr. Buchannon, pastor of the Blowing Rock Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Robert Shores were the officiating ministers.

LARGE WHEAT YIELD

Mr. Andy Greer of Lovill believes he has set something of a record in wheat production, for this section. One acre of land on Mr. Greer's farm yielded 35 bushels of wheat, and only 200 pounds of commercial fertilizer was used. Mr. Greer told of the bumper yield while visiting in town Monday.

OFFICIAL SHOOTING CALLED BY JUDGE TRAGEDY OF ERROR

Sheriff's Deputies Released for Shooting of Paul Wright, Resident of Boone Fork.

JUDGE SINK BELIEVES EXPERIENCE TO BLAME

Do Not Blame Sheriff For Error Naming Deputy, And Cites Official for Efforts Toward Law Enforcement.

Termining the circumstance "a tragedy of error," Judge Hoyle Sink Wednesday morning dealt charitably with Vernie Barlow, Toy Rupard and H. S. Lunceford, Watauga township residents, who had appeared in Superior court to answer charges growing out of the wounding of Paul Wright, as the men, acting as deputy sheriffs, made a cumbersome effort at searching the automobile occupied by the principal state's witness.

Barlow, who it appeared was a duly authorized deputy, was shown to have fired the pistol ball which pierced the Wright youth's arm, was assessed with the cost of the action, and prayer for judgment was continued, along with the other two defendants for a term of two years, upon good behavior.

Judge Sink had words of praise for Sheriff Howell for the courageous efforts he has made toward law enforcement, and while regretting that an error had been made in the naming of Oliver as deputy, His Honor took into account that the shot which struck Wright was fired due to excitement and inexperience of the men acting as officers. An attempt was made, without appreciable success, to show that Wright had a small quantity of liquor in the car. The preponderance of evidence was against the assumption however. The guns carried by the deputies were ordered smashed and brought before the court.

CRIMINAL DOCKET FINISHED

The remaining cases on the criminal docket was finished before noon Wednesday, and trial of civil cases begun. Following are additional judgments handed down in criminal actions:

Robert Simmons, failure to pay costs in case of disturbing congregation. Five days in county jail.

M. C. Calloway, failure to pay costs for manufacturing whiskey, 4 months on roads.

A. C. Williams, forcible trespass. Prayer for judgment continued for twelve months on payment of cost.

J. C. Brown, forcible trespass. Prayer for judgment continued for six months on payment of costs.

Zack Watson, larceny of chickens, six months on roads.

Jake Moore, larceny of suitcase, etc., 2 to 3 years in state penitentiary.

Sallie Dula, receiving stolen goods, 12 to 18 months in State prison.

Will Stokes, larceny. Prayer for judgment continued for 12 months on payment of cost.

Boone Civic Body Endorses Resettlement

The Boone Chamber of Commerce in a meeting held Tuesday evening gave a full report from Mr. Lyles Harris on the progress of his work in connection with the proposed Boones Fork Resettlement Project. Outlining the status of the project at the present time Mr. Harris also outlined steps to be taken henceforth. The application it was said, has already passed state offices and is now being revived in Washington.

Dr. B. B. Dougherty offered the suggestion that the Chamber of Commerce invite H. B. Mask, Regional Director Rural Resettlement, to visit this section and become familiar with all angles of the proposal, so that the plans may be brought to a definite conclusion at an early date. Dr. Dougherty expressed himself as being fully in accord with the whole plan. Following his discourse a resolution was passed to extend the invitation to Mr. Mask.

JUNIOR OFFICERS ELECTED

Mr. Council Cook has been elected vice-councilor of Daniel Boone Lodge 129, Junior Order, to succeed Vernon Brown who has moved to California, while I. T. Barnett has succeeded Mr. Cook as Recording Secretary. Much interest is reported in Junior work here and the lodge is said to be enjoying a splendid growth.

LARGE HAWK

Mr. L. H. Greene of Deep Gap reports the slaying of an exceptionally large chicken hawk. Mrs. Greene who was a visitor in town last week stated that the bird had a wing spread of four and one-half feet.

Rev. J. M. Hodges of Blowing Rock has returned from West Virginia where he had spent three months visiting his children.