

How Will You Vote in the Avery Co. Election on Next Tuesday?

On next Tuesday the election will be held to determine whether or not any portion of Watauga county will annex itself to the new county of Avery. We have not for one moment thought that this action would vote itself out of Watauga. We have thought that every citizen of this county knew so well that it was one of the best governed counties in the state that no misrepresentation would cause them to vote to be annexed to a new and untried county. We are informed that many false statements have been given circulation in the territory proposed to be annexed and deem it wise that some of them, at least, be related.

We understand that it is being circulated that we have not paid anything on the court house debt, the only debt that we owe. The truth is we have paid one half of the debt, and now this county only owes ten thousand dollars on the court house. We have paid one half of this debt without feeling it, and have a new and splendid court house. It is reported that we are about to issue bonds to build bridges. This is a falsehood out of the whole cloth. No such proposition has ever been mentioned or thought of except in the mind of some ardent believer in the new county.

The voters of this territory are being asked to go into a county that will have to erect its public buildings and share its part of the indebtedness of Mitchell and Watauga counties. What the taxes will be in the new county we can arrive at only by seeing what the county from which the new county of Avery is formed, has done. You can't take a part of old Mitchell and make it better than the entire county as a revenue getter. Today the county of Mitchell is indebted in the sum of about \$70,000. A great part of this debt has been incurred to pay the running expenses of the county. The entire county had only \$1,747,291.00 of taxable property. Upon this amount is levied \$1.92 on the \$100.00 for county purposes. This was not sufficient to pay the running expenses. From this property they collected \$24,591.86 annually. The tax rate in Watauga county is only .87 1/2 cents on the \$100, and we collect only \$9,391.41, and this paid all the county expenses, including the court house debt. The total of the taxable property in Watauga county is \$2,117,428.00. With over \$400,000 more property we have paid all expenses of the county for a little more than one-third of the amount it has taken to pay the county expenses in Mitchell. Under such conditions what sane man would like to take his property from Watauga to Mitchell county and more than double his taxes? No thoughtful man would think of doing such a thing. But they say Avery will run cheaper. How can it? It is but a part of Mitchell, and not the most valuable part, at that. It must assume an enormous debt to begin with. But they say Watauga's part will not have to pay any part of the Mitchell debt. Why will it not? While the other part of Avery is prying the Mitchell debt the tax rate must be fixed so high all over the county that the current expenses can be met, and in order to do this, the taxes imposed on the portion annexed from Watauga must be more than double what you are now paying for your county government in Watauga. Besides, as a matter of convenience, you will have to record your titles in the new county, which, alone, will be an enormous tax.

Had you not better let well enough alone? Are you going out just for the love of a change? Do content often brings disaster. Had you not better wait and see how Avery can pay the great debt forced upon her and how it is that a part of a bankrupt county can become suddenly rich before casting your lot with them? You do not now know where the court house will be located. Minneapolis thinks that it will be located there. Mount Airy wants it and where it will be located no one now knows. Had you not better wait a while and see if the additional convenience will pay the additional cost you will have to pay in the way of taxes? The taxes last year collected in Mitchell county for roads and bridge purposes was 50 cents on the hundred dollars worth of property and amounted in the aggregate to \$12,551.14 more than the entire amount of tax collected in Watauga county for all county purposes, and yet we have better roads and better bridges than Mitchell and Avery. If you are afraid of a bridge tax keep out of any part of Mitchell. Mitchell gets about six thousand dollars taxes from the Churchland and Oldfield road. Avery gets none of this tax, yet by some magic this new county of Avery will allow some people to believe that they will have a new county. A county better than old Mitchell? How can a part of the same thing be better than the whole thing? You had better stay out until they try this experiment. Let us see first how they can do these unreasonable things. Experience is better than theory. You have tried it here and in county in the state has a better or cheaper county government. Stay at home. Stay with us, we want you. Don't be deceived. Vote to stay in Watauga.

The man who was responsible for the dynamiting of the Lee Angel's Times building, in which you remember 21 lives were lost, are now under arrest in Chicago, after months of vigilance and activity of detectives. This was a most terrible crime, perpetrators of such a deed, will no doubt now get their just deserts.

An exchange says that the biggest Trust on earth is the county news paper. It trusts everybody, gets crossed for trusting, mistrusting, mistrusted for crossing, and if it trusts for trusting, gets crossed for trusting. There is but one way to bust this Trust—pay your subscription.—Tomlinstone Epitaph.

A dispatch to the Charlotte News states that Com. Queen has invited Speaker Clarke and his Democratic associates to visit the Philippine Islands guests of the Filipinos. The invitation was extended by the Philippine Assembly. They wish the Americans to learn their history for independence.

President Taft was regular attendant at the Unitarian church in Washington City. He made a plea on last Sunday for all Unitarians to stand by the faith and to provide in Washington "A principal church" to correspond with the cathedrals of other churches.

On the 75th anniversary of the battle of San Jacinto that freed Texas from Mex, a monument was unveiled over the grave of Sam Houston, who was a commander in the final conflict. Gen. J. Bryan was the orator of the occasion.

The Monroe Enquirer reports that 84 boys have joined the Union Co. Corn Club. This certainly sounds good, and the best of all is that these clubs are being formed all over the state. If this proves to be a good corn year, they will certainly be a good crop in North Carolina.

Five negro children were burned to death in the house they occupied at Bladenboro. Their parents left them alone and as a lamp was left burning it was for a moment exploded and caused the fire which consumed the house and inmates.

California has a law that it would be well for other states to adopt. The law is that if a man gets shiftless and lazy, and fails to provide for his family, he is put on the chain gang \$1.50 per day, and the money turned over to his family.

The Harper Furniture Co. at Lenoir will rebuild. They are clearing away the wreckage from the recent fire, and will build on a larger scale. A part of the walls are in good condition and will be utilized as far as possible.

President Taft's Canadian reciprocity agreement, passed the House of Representatives on last Friday, supported by all but a handful of Democrats and opposed by a majority of the Republicans.

Happiness is something most people seek after. But it is not found in getting money, or a life of pleasure, or even by falling in love and getting married; it is found in loving service to our fellow men.

Bishop Neely who presided at the M. E. Conference at New Orleans, last week, said of Christian Science, "It is two per cent philosophy, three per cent religion, and 95 per cent humbug."

The London barbers have become alarmed at the number of men who shave themselves, and have threatened to charge extra for hair cuts, as no man can cut his own hair.

In Burke county Robert DeViney an employe at J. D. Pitt's saw mill, was crushed to death by a log which got beyond control rolling over him.

One third of Ferguson's estate. About 2,000,000 dollars in the United States is practically one third of the entire number, bearingly endorse the Watkins Way of merchandising, for they know they can get better goods and more of them for the same money from the Watkins salesmen, than they can elsewhere, and they are delivered right at their door. Besides vastly benefiting their customers, Watkins salesmen make a good thing out of it for themselves. Right now we need a native, energetic, young, salesman in Watauga County.—Address, The J. R. Watkins Co., 113 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland. Established 1868. Capital over \$2,000,000. Plant contains 10 acres floor space.

A Mother's Safeguard. Foley's Honey and Tar for the children. Is best and safest for all coughs, colds, croup, whooping cough and bronchitis. Six tablets, M. B. Blackburn.

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought. Beware the Signature of *Charles H. Fletcher*

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