

# The Watauga Democrat.

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## BAPTIST CONVENTION TAKE A CRACK AT PREVAILING EVILS

Kansas City Dispatch—The Southern Baptist Convention here selected Atlanta, Georgia as the place for the convention next year, endorsed the establishment of a seminary for negroes in Nashville, Tenn., and approved plans for the erection of a \$2,000,000 hospital in New Orleans, La.

Marathon dances were characterized as disgusting exhibitions; mob violence whether by persons masked or unmasked, was declared to trample in the dust every human right.

On the question of dancing the report said in part:

"The ever vicious dance evil continues. The latest form of nauseating excess to which this destroyer of the modesty and morals of manhood and womanhood has gone is the disgusting exhibition popularly known as 'marathon dances.'

"The recent action of New York in repealing its enforcement code is a disgrace to that state and an insult to the federal government," the report said in commenting upon the 18th amendment.

"Enforcement in New York will be somewhat more difficult, but prohibition will go forward not backward. The question before the American people is not shall we have prohibition but shall orderly government prevail.

"The recent decision of the Supreme court is in every way good for this cause. It is a surprise that it holds that American ships are exempt from the operation of a law of the United States when on the high seas. Meanwhile it will not be very feasible for ships to stock and unstock with liquors at the three mile limit."

A report of the relief and annuity board adopted today declared that the Southern Baptist convention is aiding 925 aged ministers and dependent members of their families. It declared that the board's resources were \$1,490,193.59 which, according to the report, is inadequate. The board has projected a program calling for the raising of a total of \$10,000,000 for future work.

"Such a fund will make possible an annual income each year of from \$500,000 to \$600,000," Dr. William Lonsford, corresponding secretary said in presenting the resolution.

In selecting Atlanta as the next convention city it was declared that since the 75 million campaign was started there in 1919 that place would be a good place to wind up the campaign.

A change in laws relating to the exclusion of Chinese was recommended in a resolution adopted at the morning session.

Deportation of Chinese Christians here in this country and brutal treatment of others, the report declared "is doing much to weaken the influence of American mission work in China."

The report asks that pastors and local churches petition representatives and senators to have these laws modified.

A detailed report of the committee on women's work was adopted.

A plan was adopted to buy the property of St. Cecilia, a Catholic school for girls in Nashville and convert it into a negro theological college.

The report to build the New Orleans hospital was the result of two memorials introduced into the convention earlier in the week. One a Baltimore memorial declared against the building of hospitals while the other from Louisiana asked for the completion of the hospital as originally planned. This matter was then referred to a committee whose report has been adopted.

The Baptists of Louisiana will be expected to contribute at least \$100,000 toward the first unit of the hospital, the report declared.

William Jennings Bryan addressed the convention.

## FRIDAY CLUB

The Friday Afternoon Club was charmingly entertained last week by Mrs. W. R. Johnson. In addition to the regular needle work the guests enjoyed a sewing contest Mrs. I. G. Greer winning the prize, a sewing set while Mrs. B. C. Johnson was given a thimble holder for the consolation. Following the contest, the hostess, assisted by Mrs. H. L. Wilson and Mrs. B. C. Johnson served a salad course with hot chocolate, followed by strawberry short cake.

Mrs. J. F. Hardin and Mrs. B. C. Johnson were the invited guests.

## STORIES OF HORROR TOLD BY SURVIVORS OF CLEVELAND TRAGEDY

CAMDEN—Tales of heroism and personal experience were slow in coming out of the situation created on the 18th by the fire at Cleveland schoolhouse. Virtually every person who was in the building when an oil lamp over the stage fell and started the blaze was more or less injured. With the exception of a few, all were taken to widely scattered homes and it was positively impossible to gather up the list. Confusion reigned throughout most of the day, few being able to tell coherent stories. The total death toll to date is 75.

J. N. McLeod caught on the second floor of the building, jumped to safety and obtaining a flag pole placed it against the building. Many slid down the pole to safety.

George Dixon lost eleven relatives in the fire. After saving one of his children he returned to get his wife and other children. He was caught in the jam of the door and was pulled out by Jesse Pearce. Pearce was caught in the same jam a little later and perished.

Stoney Campbell, who saved his wife by hurling her through a window and escaped through the same exit, went back to find his 14-year old daughter. He found her in the front of the jam in the stairway and seizing her arms, used all his strength to pull her to safety but in vain. Both her shoulders were jerked out of the sockets but her body could not be moved.

The school building that became a death trap on the last night that it was scheduled to be used for school purposes, was erected about fifteen years ago. It was of frame construction, 100 feet by 40 feet, with the auditorium on the second floor and a gymnasium on the first.

Thursday night's program was the last that was to have been carried out in the structure, the school authorities having arranged to abandon the use of the building and to send the pupils to a nearby school of more modern and larger design.

Witnesses said the building burned with inconceivable rapidity. The crash of the ceiling lamp which was to mean the death of almost four score people, startled the audience at 9:05 o'clock and by 10 o'clock there was nothing left of the building but a mass of smoking debris.

Many of the victims died within reaching distance of safety. Caught in the jam of humanity at the lone entrance they were grasped by the hands and arms by relatives and friends from the outside, but the wall of the trapped humanity could not be moved.

## JUDGE CONDEMNS CONVICT WHIPPING

Wilmington Dispatch.—Declaring that outrages perpetrated by men "who disguise themselves in darkness, take out men and women and beat them" is "ten thousand times more menacing to the public than all the bootleggers," Judge N. A. Sinclair, in charging the grand jury at the opening of the criminal court of Superior Court here this morning, also flayed the liquor traffic castigated officers of the law who violate the statutes in enforcing the laws, condemned the widespread disregard and disrespect for law and order and charged that the law is being violated in many sections of the State by admitting prisoners to jail without the required medical examination having been given.

"The old idea of torture is gone with the dark ages," Judge Sinclair reported, and said that he had noticed reports of grand juries over the State regarding their visits to jails, the reports simply stating that the "jails seemed all right." In criticizing such reports, Judge Sinclair said that he hoped no such report would be submitted by the present grand jury, requesting that the grand jury detail its findings, whether they be good or bad giving due credit to the officers responsible for the good conditions they find existing. He said the State has the right to deprive a prisoner of the liberty, and demand his services during penal service, but other than this the State could do other than this the State could demand nothing else.

Judge Sinclair directed the jury's attention to the reckless operation of automobiles, citing the law enacted by the last General Assembly prohibiting the driving of automobiles

## MANY THOUSANDS WILL VISIT MOUNT MITCHELL

With the opening of the automobile road to the top of Mount Mitchell on the State Park within a few days, it is expected there will start a pilgrimage to the historic peak that will number 40,000 people before the end of the season. This is eight times the number that took the trip during the short season following the opening of the road late last year, but the figure is a conservative one in the light of apparent interest and the number of inquiries that have reached the Development Company.

In order that the thousands expected may be well cared for and their number increased, the North Carolina Geological Survey is taking steps to assure camping conveniences for spending the night near the summit, including water supply, tents, blankets, sanitary conveniences, etc. It is also planned to have in operation for the season a tea room at which visitors may be served with meals. These essentials to the free use of the state's one park will be taken care of either by the Development Company, which has charge of the road or provided under state management. The Development Company already has plans made for the building of a number of huts at Camp Alice for the accommodation of tourists.

Suggestions for the broader improvement and greater conveniences of Mount Mitchell and the contiguous Federal-Forest Reserve were also discussed at a meeting at Asheville in which Director Pratt of the survey, State Forester Holmes, Verne Rhodes, Supervisor of Pisgah Forest, and C. A. Dickey of the Mount Mitchell Development Company took part. These included the proposition of erecting a modern inn and lodge on government land near the park, by Federal concession as allowed by the Weeks Law. Mr. Dickey has now taken up this matter with President Perely of the Development Company and will report within a few weeks whether or not that interest will be able to undertake the project.

Other projects in contemplation for the improvement of the park are the extension of the motor highway from Camp Alice a half mile further up the mountain to Commissary Ridge, the proposed site for the lodge, the improvement of the trail leading to the summit and the construction of additional trails for horseback riders and pedestrians. Established under construction this summer are trails to connect Mount Mitchell with Meville, along the Black Mountain range to Deep Gap, Spruce Forest and South Toe River; and a trail of the Yancey-Buncombe divide, thru Balsam Gap, by Yates Knob to Ogle Meadow, where there are roads to Burnsville and Barnardsville.

by children under 16 years of age, the new law making the parents of such children or the owners of the cars, liable to indictment on the charge of a misdemeanor. He urged the grand jury to "keep your eyes open and indict them, and I don't care who you indict, if their children under 16 years of age are operating an automobile."

Judge Sinclair differentiated two classes of crime, those against the person and those against property, and cited a number of different crimes, stating that carrying a concealed weapon, perjury and gambling are vicious. He charged the jury that "it is your duty to investigate every crime of gambling."

He referred to certain extenuating circumstances that might mitigate a crime, but said that there would be no extenuating circumstances in first degree murder, admitting, however, that such conditions might be a mitigation in manslaughter. He said there are no extenuating circumstances to the man who manufactures liquor, stating that "a man who manufactures liquor, goes out and buys his material, makes his still and selects a site, is guilty of cold-blooded premeditation."

However, Judge Sinclair cited an example of mitigated circumstances, as being possible in the case of a negro boy, who is not a professional bootlegger, but who is inveigled into buying liquor for a white man, simply as an accommodation. He said that he had far more respect for the negro in such a case than he had for the white man influencing the boy to become a bootlegger and law-breaker.

It can no longer be denied that the Republican party is a party of parts.—Norfolk Virginia-Pilot.

## BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR THE ELECTRIC LINE

Lenoir News-Topic.  
There are still bright prospects for the construction of an electric line from Mount Holly through Lenoir to Blowing Rock, Boone, and to tap the coal fields, according to Dr. W. T. Shipp here a few days ago. Dr. Shipp says that a number of Charlotte manufacturers are interested in this project and are lending their aid and pushing the matter along.

Dr. Shipp has been working on this project for some years. At no time, he says, have his hopes been higher than at the present time. He has definite information which cannot be given out that would cause the people of Lenoir, Hickory and other towns along the survey to sit up and take notice, and within another few months the proposition may materialize sufficiently to be given out to the public.

## LIBERAL DONATIONS FOR THE APPALACHIAN SCHOOL

Lenoir Dispatch to Charlotte Observer.  
The Appalachian Training School received liberal consideration from the last legislature according to friends of the school here recently. The educational bill passed by this legislature provides an appropriation for this school sufficient to enable it to build a larger power plant, a model building for physical educational work, a central dining room, a laundry cold storage, and for the improvement of the grounds. The appropriation for the next two years will be \$300,000. This will give the institution the largest and best plant in this part of the state.

The Appalachian Training School is now one of the best organized of state normal institutions. It gives two years of work above high schools and grades for these two years may be transferred to any of the colleges of the state. Graduates from this institution receive the grammar grade B and primary B certificates. Under the leadership of B. B. Dougherty, the northwestern counties have in the Appalachian Training School one of the finest educational institutions to be found in the south.

## INCREASED DEMANDS FOR SKILLED LABOR

Increased demands for all classes of skilled labor, skilled mechanics, and farm hands have practically put an end to unemployment in every section of the country, the Department of Labor recently reported in an analysis covering conditions during April.

"The predicted shortage of competent farm labor," the report said, "is now already a fact and in many sections of the country the farming interests are being severely hampered by the inability to secure labor for farm work. In the south and in the southwest where heretofore there has always been a sufficient supply they are experiencing for the first time a situation which is causing alarm, as large numbers of men who have always worked on the farm have migrated to the large cities of the country, securing immediate employment in the various industries which are having trouble to find sufficient labor to meet their demands."

"Indicative of the country's sound industrial condition is the fact that a large per cent of the public employment offices report that it soon will be impossible to meet the growing demand for certain classes of labor."

## GOVERNOR MORRISON WILL MAKE ADDRESS AT LENOIR

Lenoir Dispatch to Raleigh News and Observer.  
Cameron Morrison will deliver the Fourth of July address here at a big picnic celebration to be held by the American Legion. The message informing the local post that he would be here was received several days ago by F. D. Grist, former post commander.

A program is being arranged now by a committee of the Dysart-Kendall Post for the coming event. A number of interesting features, it is understood, will be on the program. The celebration will be a whole day affair with a big parade of former service men. The committee is arranging for several unusual attractions during the day. At night a home-talent minstrel will be given.

## CHEESE MAKERS FORM STATE ASSOCIATION

The North Carolina Cheese Makers association was organized here Tuesday with representatives from all of the cheese making counties of the State in attendance. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President, T. D. Hefner, Valle Crucis; vice-president, Farmer McCrary, Horsehoe; Secretary, Carter Farthing, Sweet Water.

The meeting was called to order by J. A. Arey, N. C. extension dairy specialist, who stated in his address "Dairying Makes Farmers Independent." States with an average of several cows per farm have a higher annual farm income than states with less than two cows per farm as is the case with North Carolina.

Speaking of making cheese, Mr. Arey said: "Good cheese can only be made from good milk. With grass for cattle and fresh water in abundance in which to keep the milk, Western North Carolina has the best conditions available for the producing of good milk."

The meeting was held in the Kiwanis hall and had an attendance of at least twenty-five. — Morganton News-Herald.

## PRESBYTERIAN MINISTER WILL HAVE APPOINTMENT LATER

Rev. Mr. Long who has taken up the ministerial work of the late lamented Rev. Edgar Tufts with Mr. Edgar Tufts, Jr., Mr. Frank Stinson and Mr. Ingle, all of that town, passed through Sunday, en route to Blowing Rock where he preached his first sermon to that congregation. It is the intention of the board of trustees to carry out as nearly as possible the program laid out by Mr. Tufts and accordingly the Boone work will not be neglected. An appointment for Mr. Long will be made for next month, the Sunday to be occupied not yet decided upon, when we suppose some other matters will come up of great interest to the little band of Presbyterians in and around Boone. We are told Mr. Long is a fine sermonizer and we will be warmly welcomed in our town.

## BRICK MACHINERY TO SPAIN

Mr. Francisco Padros, of Barcelona, Spain, left Friday evening for New York city after conducting some experiments with brick-making machinery at the plant of J. C. Steele & Sons, Spanish clay was used for the experiments, which resulted satisfactorily. Mr. Padros bought a considerable quantity of the company's machinery and will have them exported to Spain where he will make brick and mosaic.

Mr. Padros was held by the immigration officers at Ellis Island until satisfied by the New York correspondent of J. C. Steele & Sons that he was on a commercial mission. An interpreter accompanied him here from New York. Mr. Padros not speaking English, there was 600 pounds in the lot of clay brought over with him.—Landmark.

## Andree Lafayette



The most prominent "movie" star in all France, Andree Lafayette, now is in the United States. She was brought to this country to play the title role in a prominent production.

## REFORMED CHURCH IN SOUTH FOR FIRST TIME IN 50 YEARS

Hickory, N. C.—For the first time in the sixty years of its history the General Synod of Reformed Church in the United States will meet in triennial session south of the Mason and Dixon line when it convenes here Wednesday evening May 23.

The church has its greatest strength in the north and more than 350 delegates already have made plans to come from Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Dakotas, Illinois, New York, New Jersey and Canada.

At a general session in Reading, Pa., Hickory was chosen for the 1923 session over Indianapolis, and members of the church in this section which was organized in 1869 have long been making plans to entertain their visitors.

Hickory nestles on the eastern edge of the Blue Ridge Mountains and among the special events provided will be an automobile trip to Blowing Rock May 26 over the new state highway which gives a view of some of the most wonderful mountain scenery in the country. At Blowing Rock, some 5,000 feet above sea level, an old-fashioned southern barbecue will be served. There will be other nearby trips also.

The session will last through May 30 and will be held in Corinth reformed Church here which its pastor the Rev. Dr. W. W. Howe terms the southernmost outpost of the Reformed Church.

The Rev. Dr. George W. Richards head of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. is president of the Reformed Church organization.

[NOTE—Mr. W. J. Shuford, of Hickory, Chairman of the entertainment committee has extended an invitation to 35 of the business men of Boone to be with them at Blowing Rock on Saturday evening, meet the distinguished visitors and enjoy the big event. There will be, according to Mr. Shuford, between four and five hundred in the party. Boone's full quota, we take it, will be on hand.]

## THINKS THE MOVIES HAVE A BIG FUTURE

Edison Predicts the Film Screen Will Replace the Blackboard in Schools.

New York Dispatch.—The children of today's school children will get their education at high schools in which the movie screen will supplant the blackboard and the motion picture film will take the place of text books. Thomas A. Edison predicted today at the investigation by the Federal Trade Commission of charges that the Famous Players-Lasky Corporation and six other organizations constitute a movie picture trust.

The famous inventor, whose recent questionnaires have led him to say harsh things about present educational methods in the United States was called for the purpose of developing the importance of the film industry and its possibilities for the future.

He disclosed for the first time experiments with school children, which he said had convinced him that 80 per cent of all knowledge is received through the eye and that motion pictures are 100 per cent efficient for its dissemination.

"I have made a good many experiments in the line of teaching children by other methods than book," Mr. Edison told the commission. "I made an experiment with a lot of pictures to teach children chemistry. I got twelve children and asked them to write down what they had learned from the pictures. I was amazed that such a complicated subject as chemistry was readily grasped by them to a large extent through pictures. The parts of the pictures they did not understand I did over and over again until they finally understood the entire picture."

"What, in your opinion, is the future growth of the motion picture?" Mr. Edison was asked.

"I think motion pictures have just started," he said, "and it is my opinion that in twenty years children will be taught through pictures and not through books."

Asked his opinion as to the general influence over the people of motion picture films, Mr. Edison said:

"The most powerful avenue of informing people and will increase year to year."

Overheard at a directors meeting: "While we are sitting here let us see how we stand on running expenses." —Boston Transcript.