

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## SENATE RACE HOLDS STAGE

Four Justices of Supreme Court To Be Elected; Also Member of Corporation Commission

### CONGRESSMAN WEAVER WILL HAVE OPPOSITION

Raleigh, March 30.—With the Democratic primaries nine weeks away, the only major political contest in sight for the 1926 off-year campaign is Bob Reynolds' opposition against Senator Lee S. Overman. Contests are scheduled, however, for one congressional seat and at least three superior court judgeships.

On the state ticket the Democrats will nominate in June, besides a senator, a chief justice and three associate members of the supreme court and one member of the corporation commission.

The four members of the court, Chief Justice Stacey and Associate Justices Adams, Clarkson and Brogden, will be nominated without opposition, it is believed. The corporation commission will offer Allen J. Maxwell without fear of opposition. The possibility was considered at one time of Mr. Maxwell's deficit outburst attracting a hostile candidate, but nothing has been said of it lately.

Felix E. Alley's campaign for Zebulon Weaver's seat in congress, now on in the tenth district, is the only congressional fight in prospect. Dr. Thomas L. Estep, of Alleghany county, recently announced as an "independent" candidate against Congressman Doughton of the eighth district, but Dr. Estep's "independence" apparently holds him off for the November election. Anyway, he is running on an anti-prohibition platform and is not being taken very seriously. The other congressmen, Warren, of the first district, Kerr of the second, Abernethy of the third, Fou of the fourth, Stedman of the fifth, Lyon of the sixth, Hammer of the seventh and Bulwinkle of the ninth, have high hopes of re-nomination without opposition.

The tenth district contest is being watched closely by the state Democratic leaders. The Republicans have carried it in times gone by, and party chiefs are eager to have nothing happen that may cause a split or dissatisfaction in the Democratic ranks.

The Raleigh district has developed the first active contest for a place on the superior court bench, City Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh, having already announced against Judge T. H. Calvert, while contests are considered certain for the places to which Judge Henry P. Lane of the eighth judicial district, and Judge Thad D. Bryson of the twentieth, have announced they will give up with the expiration of their terms at the end of the year. Their successors will be nominated in the June primaries.

Judge Romulus A. Nunn, appointed a few months ago by Governor McLean to succeed Judge Albion Dunn, was threatened with opposition shortly after he had taken his seat; but the latest word from the fifth district is to the effect that he will not be opposed. Judge Nunn will stand for a term to which Judge J. L. Horton was elected in 1922 and which expires in 1930, Judge Horton having resigned to enter the private practice of law. Judge Dunn was named to succeed him and after holding the position for less than a year resigned.

In all, eleven superior court judgeships must be voted on this year, but there have as yet been no reports of opposition to Judges Midyettes of the third judicial district, Daniels of the fourth, Stack of the thirteenth, Oglesby of the fifteenth, Finley of the seventeenth, Schenck of the eighteenth, and McElroy of the nineteenth. All of these stand for a full term of eight years. Judge Oglesby, who was appointed by Governor McLean last year to succeed the late Judge Ben F. Long will come up for election for the first time.

Two solicitorship contests that promise to attract more than local attention are in the seventh district, comprising Wake and Franklin counties, and in the fifth districts, comprising Johnston, Wayne, Harnett Lee and Chatham counties. In the seventh Solicitor W. F. Evans faces the opposition of former State Senator Leon S. Brassfield, who has the backing of the greater part of the Wake county bar while in the fifth former State Senator Paul Grady, of Johnston, is seeking to unhorse Solicitor Clawson Williams, whose home county is Lee.

The Evans-Brassfield fight promises to be particularly interesting. Mr. Evans went into office four years ago against the opposition of all the Raleigh lawyers save two. One of these two was Josiah William Bailey, who was then grooming himself for the gubernatorial race and making use of the Evans campaign for political thunder. This time Mr. Bailey is understood to be on the other side. Mr. Evans, however, has added on a lawyer's supporter or two, so that he

## STREET WORK IS PROGRESSING

Work of Tapping Water Mains and Sewer Lines Likely Be Completed This Afternoon

Today the muddy condition of the streets of Boone has caused much comment. A car or two has been "stuck" in front of The Democrat office and some have been wont to cuss a bit. But now there comes glad tidings. Work is going steadily on with the tapping of the water mains and sewer lines, and we are informed that this afternoon Commissioner Hanes, of the Seventh Highway district, will be informed that the town is "out of the way"—that is, paving may be started. The local forces are to be commended for their tireless work in making way for the concrete, and Mayor D. J. Cottrell deserves praise especially for personally supervising the work without remuneration.

Latest reports from Mr. Hanes are to the effect that the state is ready to rush the paving program through just as soon as water and sewer connections have been completed. He further states that only twenty-two days will be required to build the main street of the town.

The grading will start at once, a steam shovel having already arrived.

## COVE CREEK HIGH SCHOOL CLOSING

Commencement Will Be Held April 9-11; Dr. Highsmith Will Deliver Address

The annual commencement of the Cove Creek high school will be held April 9 to 11. On Friday night the graduating class will render a program. On Saturday morning the class day exercises and address by Dr. J. Henry Highsmith, state supervisor of high schools. On Saturday night the senior play, "The Lone Star," will be presented, and on Sunday afternoon the annual sermon will be preached by Rev. G. T. Bond, pastor of the First Methodist church of Morganton.

The Boone string band will furnish music on Saturday night. An admission fee of 35 cents will be charged adults and 15 cents for the children, the proceeds to be used towards paying for the school piano.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend the annual exercises.

## NO DANGER IN NEW MEDICINAL BEER LAW

Washington, March 31.—Calm in the face of the flurry caused by the word that a 75 per cent malt would be on sale shortly, prohibition officials today assured drays, disturbed by the announcement, that they need fear no breakdown in enforcement, and cautioned the drinking population not to regard the extract as a beverage.

If the public attempts to use the tonic as "beer," General Andrews, assistant secretary of the treasury, said, it would be withdrawn instantly from the market. He explained that the manufacturers of the extract, which will contain 25 per cent solids, had accepted responsibility for legitimate distribution and that the policy of issuing permits had been adopted "after thorough consideration of the question."

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING MONDAY NIGHT

The Boone Chamber of Commerce will meet Monday night at the Critcher hotel at 7 o'clock instead of 8 as previously announced. On account of Monday night being the opening night of the Evening Star Festival, the meeting will last for only one hour. There will be a general discussion of many subjects of importance to the town and county. There will also be vocal and instrumental music. The special building and loan program announced for this meeting is postponed until the first Monday night in May.

## WEATHER FORECAST

Washington, March 31.—North Carolina: Friday increasing cloudiness, fresh to strong west winds diminishing.

has about evened up the odds, as it were.

The Evans opposition pulled the star boner four years ago when they asked the voters to oppose Mr. Evans because all the lawyers were against him. Solicitor Evans made the lawyer-opposition his battle-cry and called the people to arms against the bar which wanted to pick the man to appear on the other side in the courtroom. He went over big in the primary. He hopes to repeat this time.

In addition to the state and district offices, the primaries must select the nominees for 50 seats in the state senate, 120 seats in the house of representatives and upwards of a thousand county offices.

## STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

Happenings of Interest From All Sections of North Carolina Briefly Told

Mrs. Martha Dickson has been appointed postmaster at Silas Creek, in Ashe county.

Robert F. Blevins was on Tuesday confirmed by the United States senate as postmaster at Jefferson.

The spring term of Ashe county superior court will convene at Jefferson on Monday, April 5, with Judge Henry P. Lane presiding.

Warren T. Moguin, federal narcotic agent, was arrested in Winston-Salem Tuesday morning on a charge of larceny of three diamond rings, valued at \$150, from Ella Shouse, colored. Moguin was released on \$1,000 bond.

A. Brady Medlin, deputy sheriff of Cabarrus county and policeman of Concord, who shot and killed Mark Simpson on Medlin's farm in Goose Creek township on the morning of March 25, was given a preliminary hearing Monday morning and was remanded to jail without bond.

John E. Cameron, grand master of the Masons of North Carolina, died his home, Rose of Sharon, Kingston, early Sunday morning. He was 59 years of age and the head of a large family. Probably no man in America had held so many Masonic honors as did Mr. Cameron.

Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover has been invited by Senator Lee S. Overman, on behalf of the Salisbury Chamber of Commerce, to be the principal speaker at the annual banquet of the chamber on a date convenient to the secretary between April 10 and 15.

Benjamin N. Duke, New York and Durham philanthropist, has made an unconditional gift of \$10,000 to Trinity Methodist Episcopal church in Durham, to be applied on the debt of the handsome church building completed a year or more ago at a cost of approximately \$300,000.

Investigation of the personal conduct of Police Chief Ferguson, of Charlotte, which occupied the attention of Public Safety Commissioner Robinson for several days last week, culminated last Friday in the suspension of Chief Ferguson, pending the result of the investigation of the entire police department by the city commissioners.

What is proclaimed a world's piano playing endurance record, was established in Winston-Salem Saturday night at midnight when Prof. B. G. Burt, of Jamestown, N. Y., took his hands from the ivories for the first time in sixty hours. Several hundred spectators were present when the professor ended his long grind on the piano.

True bills charging murder were returned in Jones county superior court at Trenton Tuesday against Federal Prohibition Agent W. H. Ashburn, of Silas, E. E. Potter, Greene county deputy sheriff, and Chief of Police C. F. McDaniel, of Pollockville. The men are charged with killing Will Bryant, negro, in a raid by the officers on December 22 in Jones county.

The early morning Easter celebration at Winston-Salem next Sunday morning will mark the 172nd observance of the custom in that section, the first service of the kind being held by the Moravian church in North Carolina having taken place on Easter Sunday, 1754, six months after the arrival of the first band of Moravians from Pennsylvania. The Easter service last year was attended by more than 30,000 people.

W. C. Murphy, county superintendent of public instruction for Buncombe county, was arrested Monday afternoon and held under \$25,000 bond upon complaint of Dr. N. A. Mandelos, who filed suit for \$50,000 for elation of his wife's affections, alleging that Murphy debauched and carnally knew her, using his office to attain that end while she was a member of the teaching staff of Johnson school. Murphy was taken into custody while at his desk in the Buncombe county courthouse.

Edgar Lowder, of Concord, was instantly killed about midnight Sunday night in an automobile collision with Bud Nichols, about three miles south of Albemarle, when the Ford runabout in which Lowder and his wife were riding was struck by the Ford touring car driven by Nichols. Lowder's head was crushed and death came instantly. Nichols was taken into custody and is being held under \$3,000 bond. It is said that both Nichols and another occupant of his car were under the influence of liquor when the accident occurred.

## HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

General News and Happenings From all Over the World Condensed For the Busy Reader

United States Senator Richard P. Ernst, of Kentucky, was unanimously renominated by the Republican state convention in session in Louisville Tuesday.

After a four-hour battle behind closed doors, the senate Friday confirmed Thomas F. Woodlock, of New York, as a member of the interstate commerce commission.

Six persons were instantly killed at Corunna, Mich., late Saturday afternoon when the automobile in which they were riding was struck by a west-bound passenger train on the Grand Trunk railroad.

"If the church members and church goers of Johnson City would quit drinking liquor, the bootleggers would starve to death," declared Rev. Lewis M. Roper, Baptist minister in his sermon at Johnson City, Tenn., last Sunday.

Representative Stevenson, Democrat, of South Carolina, who has changed in the house that postal positions in his state had been sold, introduced a bill last Friday "to prevent purchase and sale of public office."

Four of the six clerical delegates of the Baltimore Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, to the general conference at Memphis, Tenn., in May, will favor unification between the northern and southern branches of that church.

A spectacular fire which broke out in the heart of the business district of Augusta, Ga., Tuesday night, was brought under control after fire apparatus had been summoned from adjoining towns. The damage is estimated at \$200,000.

John Joseph Corbett, 36, paroled convict, was arrested in Chicago Friday, and all but \$300 of the \$85,000 in Liberty bonds with which he disappeared in February while employed as a messenger by J. F. Ripple and Company, of Newark, N. J., is expected to be recovered by the police.

Seven negroes were killed and two white men and thirteen negroes were injured late Tuesday when a train carrying employes of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company collided head-on with a locomotive near Edgewater Junction, twelve miles north of Birmingham, Ala.

Expenditure of \$300,000 by the federal government toward establishment of a president's plaza at Nashville, Tenn., for the erection there of a memorial in honor of Andrew Jackson, Andrew Johnson and James K. Polk was proposed Saturday in a bill by Representative Byrns. A similar bill was introduced in the senate by Senator Tyson, of Tennessee.

Luther Burbank, originator of a new horticulture and the author of some striking new theories on the hereditary, is slowly recovering from a persistent illness brought about by nervous strain rising from the future created by his recent statements on the final destiny of men. Mr. Burbank's home is at Santa Rosa, Calif.

Preparations at Oslo, Norway, for the Amundsen-Ellsworth polar flight in May are nearing completion. On a hill just outside Oslo a mooring nearly 100 feet high has been erected for the airship "Norge," in which the flight is to be made. The dirigible, constructed in Italy, now is being inspected by Captain Amundsen, who arrived in Rome for that purpose last Friday. Lincoln Ellsworth, the American explorer, who will accompany Amundsen, arrived from the United States some time ago. The polar expedition will be under the Norwegian flag.

Charged with defrauding Florida banks of \$30,000 through bad checks, and violating the Mann act, Mrs. Doris Berne, wife of a plastic surgeon, Dr. Louis P. Berne, was arrested in New York Sunday, with two men, one of them a man with whom Mrs. Berne is said to have eloped to Florida a year ago, leaving her six-year-old son, ill with pneumonia. Dr. Berne who said he had forgiven his wife after she returned to him, accompanied her to the police station, where she was held with Elliott Jaffe, her brother, and Paul Rosenthal, with whom Dr. Berne said she eloped. Dr. Berne said Rosenthal was the son of a "wealthy shirt manufacturer." Mrs. Berne eloped with Rosenthal in February, 1925. Dr. Berne said, taking \$45,000 from a safe deposit vault. She was gone two months and then he learned that Rosenthal had deserted her. He sent her money in Florida and she returned to him.

## SALE OF 3.75 BEER IS LEGALIZED

Little Interest in Washington Over Announcement That Beer Can Be Sold Without Prescription

Washington, March 30.—While the nation seemed to get a kick today out of the approval given by the government sale of 3.75 per cent medicinal beer, about the only reaction the announcement stirred up here was a protest from the Anti-Saloon League that the issuance of permits for the manufacture of such strong malt tonics was a "mistake" and would lead to diversions for beverage use.

Nothing was said in congress about the new order, in fact, for a change, the prohibition question was completely out of the picture, except for the introduction in the house by Mrs. Mary T. Norton, Democratic representative from New Jersey, of the resolution previously offered in the senate by Senator Edwards, of New Jersey, proposing a sweeping investigation of prohibition and its enforcement.

Officials in charge of prohibition declined, in the absence from the city of Assistant Secretary Andrews of the treasury, to say much about the new regulation, except to give assurance that the new "health booster" would be available without prescriptions at drug stores even in bone dry states.

## JONES IS FAVORITE FOR SOLICITORSHIP

However, the Race Continues Hot; Greene Is Wilkes Man's Strongest Opponent

North Wilkesboro, March 30.—The campaign for the solicitorship of the 17th judicial district has been the warmest witnessed here in several years. At the beginning there were several candidates in the race, but the number has now narrowed down to four, with John R. Jones, of this city, and Charles Greene, of Mitchell county, as the most active candidates.

The feeling at Mr. Jones' headquarters is distinctly optimistic. The calculations there are that Mr. Jones will receive the 55 votes necessary to nominate on the first ballot when the Republicans of the district meet at Taylorsville April 17. As there is no other candidate from Wilkes, Mr. Jones will get its solid delegation. Letters and personal calls from Alexander county show that it will, in all probability, follow the son of Wilkes. Davie county, by reason of the desire of leaders to promote party harmony, did not strictly its delegation at the Republican convention at Mocksville, but hung out of the fourteen delegates are enthusiastic supporters of Mr. Jones. It is said, while the other five are inclined that way. Avery county likewise will send an untried delegation. This is regarded as being very favorable to Mr. Jones as Avery borders Mitchell. Mr. Greene's home county and it was formerly a Green stronghold. Yadkin and Watauga have candidates, but leaders from each of these counties say that when their man withdraws, the candidate from Wilkes will get the majority of their votes.

## POSTCARDS SEVEN YEARS NINE MONTHS ARRIVING

Asheville, March 31.—Seven years and nine months to the day to the time four postcards were in coming through polar seas from Oslo, Norway, to their recipients here, having traveled by way of the North Pole with Amundsen on the ship Fram, which was ice-locked for years.

The cards were given to Amundsen when he set out from Norway by Miss Mini Veleur, relative of Mrs. M. Brochgreven, of Asheville. They were addressed to Mrs. Brochgreven, her daughter, Miss Agatha, her son, Valdemar, and another daughter now dead.

They were sent to Penzance, where the family was then living, and friends there forwarded them to Asheville. The cards bear the postmark, "Polar Sea."

## NORTH CAROLINA'S SHARE IN WAR DEBT

Washington Correspondence—Winston-Salem Journal.—North Carolina's share of the national war debt in proportion to population is \$465,738,000, according to Senator Howell, of Nebraska, who is opposing the European debt settlements now pending in congress.

Mr. Howell declared that debt cancellations to European nations in the pending debt settlements amount to forty per cent of the national war debt. This, he contended, the cancellation means \$186,295,200 to North Carolina.

According to Senator Howell's figures, North Carolina ranks fourteenth among the states of the nation in the amount of its share of the national debt.

## BIG REAL ESTATE TRANSFER HERE

G. C. Winkler Property is Sold to Hickory Concern for Consideration of \$30,500.

### GOLF COURSE WILL BE CONSTRUCTED AT ONCE

Probably the most important real estate deal to be closed here this season was last Thursday, when the Carolina Land Company, of Hickory, through Mr. S. C. Eggers, local realtor, bought from Mr. G. C. Winkler 200 acres of land adjoining the Laurel Hills development. The consideration was \$30,500. The property is located about one mile east of the city on the state highway from Boone to Blowing Rock, running as far west as the vicinity of Hodges' Gap.

The purchasers acquired this property for a golf course and other developments, and reliable reports indicate that work on an 18-hole golf course will start immediately. Mr. Adair Osborne, engineer and national golf authority, of Charlotte, has already looked the proposition over and pronounced the location and general topography ideal. Water sewer and lights are easily accessible, and the acreage includes a valuable boundary of marketable timber. Driveways will be constructed, and lots sold.

Boone is undoubtedly destined to become a great tourist center, and with modern hotels and boarding houses on every hand, nothing could do more to further summer activities than a golf course. The one which will be constructed will be among the best in the south.

## EVENING STAR FESTIVAL HERE

Lycium Course Begins Monday and Will Continue Through Thursday; Presentations at Courthouse

People of Boone, who have been so closely confined to their homes and places of business during the unprecedented winter months, are jubilant over the coming of the annual spring "tonic," the Piedmont Evening Star Festival. Unlike the usual chautauquas, this lyceum course is a state institution, and better than that, a northwest institution. The group of headquarters at, and originated in, Asheville. It's a home enterprise and its success here is guaranteed by local business men, without hope of personal profit. They want the city of Boone to have some good, wholesome amusement, and are providing it in this way. Some of the young ladies of the town are now engaged in selling tickets for the event which starts next Monday evening at the courthouse, and ends Thursday evening—four entirely different performances, amusing and educational.

Notable among the many good things we have in this season's program is the Loeffel Russian Orchestra Quartette, the Griswold Duo (humorous sketches interspersed with music), the King Male Trio, (three men with trunks full of music), and the Pelletier Players, in "Polly Applies," a comedy drama in three acts. And to make the thing complete an extensive program will be prepared for the kiddies on the fourth afternoon, an elaborate pageant, which will seem like circus day to the youngsters, and be also enjoyable for the grown-ups.

It is hoped that the people of the city and county will come out en masse to these performances, enjoy themselves and help defray the expenses thereby of this educational institution.

## BATTLING FOR THE POSSESSION OF PEKING

London, March 31.—A severe battle for the possession of Peking, China, is raging, says a dispatch to the Daily Mail from the Chinese capital.

The fighting is taking place 18 miles distant and the booming of the guns is plainly audible in Peking. Wealthy Chinese continue to send large quantities of valuables into the legation quarter of the city. Troops of General Feng Yu-Hsiang still hold the capital.

## SALE OF BEER IS ILLEGAL IN NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, March 31.—The recent edict of the treasury department allowing medicinal beer with an alcohol percentage of 3.75 to be sold for a trial period of six months, means little in North Carolina, according to Frank Nash, assistant attorney general. "The sale of medicinal beer so far as North Carolina is concerned, is illegal," said Mr. Nash tonight, "and any drug store undertaking to sell it will be violating the state law."