

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 1926

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DIXON TELLS OF SOUTH'S RECOVERY

Playwright Recalls Tragic History as He Sees Section Developing, and Cites New Problems

The marvelous story of the rise of the south from out of the ashes, havoc and desolation wrought by civil war and reconstruction was told at Greenville, N. C., last week at the Eastern Carolina exposition by Thomas Dixon, preacher, author and playwright. His subject was "The Hiding South," and those who heard the speaker, who is a great orator and a native of this state, were gripped by the epic story as it was unfolded to them.

"When we recall the history of the south," Mr. Dixon said, "it is an astounding fact that the south has risen. I never go over the south but what I am amazed at what I see. I never look at her glorious presence that I do not recall her tragic history and wonder how it has been possible for the south to rise in such glory within the brief period it has been accomplished."

"I look abroad and see the southland rising in glory and beauty. I see the wealth and prosperity in leaps and bounds. I cannot keep back the tears when I see it. Now you are facing a new problem, and this is what turned the current of my life. You have solved the problem of your daily bread. Now you have gotten to the place in your life where you have to face a more difficult problem—the pursuit of happiness, which is a far more difficult, difficult and dangerous task than the struggle for existence, and within the next 35 years you are going to establish your ideals of life and character and it is going to beat the old hard materialism of the north and it is going to be a new ideal. I am hoping that when this newly risen south shall find her soul that it shall belong to the dreamer, the visionary, rather than the hard, the cold and the materialistic. You are going to establish that ideal."

"The old south knew how to live; knew how to play. The old south loved beauty and they took time to cultivate it and make it a part of their lives. That sort of civilization produced some wonderful things. You have fallen short in some ways. Before we can preserve that which is worth-while one of the first things is to slow down long enough to learn how to live. We have got to get back to the heart of nature and learn how to play. You have got to listen to the murmur of running water and feel the kiss of the breeze from the ocean on your brow. With the high pressure of modern life, our fast moving about, our automobiles, we have no time to live. You have got to stop that sort of life and get back to the heart of nature. Now you say, I am preaching. Well, I am. I am preaching a crusade for a return to nature and the renewal of life through the inspiration of nature."

Twenty-five seamen were trapped and burned to death in an explosion of gasoline on the oil tanker Gulf of Venezuela in the harbor of Port Arthur, Texas, Sunday morning. Eleven others were injured. The men met their death in a caldron of boiling gasoline. The tanker was docked where 85,000 barrels of high test gasoline had been pumped into her the day previous. The men had gone to sleep in their quarters aft, and Captain John Charlton was asleep in the officers' quarters forward. The dock and harbor lay quiet when the early morning darkness was rent by an explosion that could be heard for miles. A pillar of burning gasoline leaped 100 feet into the air. In a few seconds several sailors in flames appeared on deck and jumped into the water, their bodies going through the air like flaming rockets. These men were saved, but were badly burned. After the fire was brought under control, attempts were made to bring the bodies out, nothing but ashes clinging to a few bones remained.

Western North Carolina Republicans, according to an Asheville dispatch, are discussing four men as possible successors of Brownlow Jackson, who was last week elected chairman of the state Republican executive committee. The four men being mentioned for the marshal's post are Frank Patton, of Morganton, assistant United States district attorney; Charles A. Jones, of Lincolnton; Charles E. Green, of Bakersville; and John Isenhour, former sheriff of Catawba county, and Jim Bailey, of Asheville, now a deputy marshal.

As a result of a row with his wife, who accused him of being intimate with another woman, Ed Honeycutt, a large land owner of Union county, was shot and killed by his son, Will Honeycutt, Monday night. It seems that Honeycutt and his wife engaged in a quarrel when Mrs. Honeycutt made accusations against him. He knocked her down and kicked her, it is said. The dead man sent his second son to ask Will Honeycutt, who lived a short distance from the house, to come over. Will Honeycutt, in a fit of anger, grabbed his shotgun and ran to the home of his father where he emptied a load of shot in his father's breast, death following instantly.

Charles A. Cannon, of Concord, nominated last week by the Republican state convention for the United States senate, has declined the nomination. It is stated that Mr. Cannon was not consulted about the nomination and had received no intimation that he would be named as the senatorial candidate. Marion Butler proposed the nomination of the Concord mill man, and his name was favorably received by the convention. Friends represented Mr. Cannon as in no sense a candidate, but their belief was that he would accept, if the nomination was unanimously tendered him. However, he does not seem to enter the political arena in opposition to the Democratic nominee. The executive committee will now have to name some one to fill Mr. Cannon's place on the ticket. Just who will be its choice is not known, but W. R. Chambers, of Marion has been spoken of, and is said to be favored by the committee.

WOODROW WILSON MEMORIAL.
In a letter from Dr. A. T. Allen, state superintendent, and state chairman for the Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Memorial, he says that he wants all the offerings to this fund received by May 1st. So, by his authority, I am extending the time for the receiving of the offerings till that date. I feel sure there are still some who wish to help in this cause, which will mean the honoring of one of our country's great men. Send check to Mr. G. P. Hagaman, Boone, N. C.
J. M. DOWNUM,
County Chairman.

Bergdoll Acquitted.
Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, notorious American draft evader, was acquitted yesterday at Mosbach, Germany, on charges of seduction and impairing the morals of a minor. The trial lasted seven hours.

STATE NEWS BRIEFLY TOLD

Happenings of Interest From All Sections of North Carolina Briefly Told

E. H. Gibson, insurance man of Kernersville, Guilford county, was horribly and fatally injured Thursday when his car was hit by a Southern passenger train at the Haw River grade crossing. Gibson died before reaching a hospital at Greensboro.

Safes in the office of Ivey's Department store, Charlotte, were blown Sunday and robbed of cash and stamps valued at \$8,000. The robbers made good their get-away, leaving no clues that would lead to their identity. Officers investigating the robbery said that it was the work of professional safecrackers.

Immediate reconstruction of the burned portions of the state hospital for the insane at Raleigh which was destroyed by fire Saturday, has been ordered. The portion of the building, the west wing, housed about 400 inmates, all of whom were removed to safety. The loss is estimated at about half million dollars.

C. T. Blakeney, cashier of the Bank of Midland, at Midland, Union county, was knocked unconscious, his bank robbed and set on fire at an early hour Thursday morning. Mr. Blakeney was lying a few feet from the front door in an unconscious condition. When citizens reached the bank they found it ablaze on the inside.

A family quarrel, said to have been prompted by a drunken father, resulted in the death of Jim Hayes, of Kannapolis, Saturday afternoon. His daughter, Iva, aged 19, who fired the fatal shot, was released on bond in the sum of \$1,000 after a jury, summoned by Coroner Hartsell, had heard three witnesses. The shooting occurred at the Hayes home in Kannapolis, and resulted from threats said to have been made by Hayes, who, it is said, had been drunk since Thursday.

Davidson college is to get the income on \$60,000 for the establishment of the "William H. Williamson Professorship," a chair of nature, to be selected by the college, under provisions of the will of William H. Williamson, Sr., filed for probate Saturday in the office of the clerk of the superior court of Mecklenburg county. Mr. Williamson, for many years was a leading business man of Raleigh and Charlotte and died several days ago in Florida. The will disposed of an estate valued at between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000.

Secretary Work's decision was based on a report by the Appalachian Park commission which he had appointed to consider the whole matter. The proposed parks are the Shenandoah, to be located in Virginia along the crest of the Blue Ridge mountains south of Fort Royal, and the Smoky Mountain national park along the boundary of the states of North Carolina and Tennessee. The combined area of the two parks will be a little less than 2,000 square miles, the Smoky Mountain park comprising about 1,100 and the Shenandoah a little less than 900 square miles.

TWO SONS IN JAIL ON CHARGES OF HOMICIDE.
Jefferson correspondence Winston-Salem Journal: George Stike, of Bina, by a peculiar and pitiable coincidence has two sons in jail charged with homicide, one in Florida and one in West Virginia.

Guy Stike is held at Beckley, W. Va., charged with the killing of J. Lillard Price, of Lansing, whose body, showing a bullet wound in the head, reached Lansing Tuesday afternoon. Price was killed in a brawl and besides young Stike, it is reported that another man and a woman are being held, pending investigation.

Cicero Stike was arrested and carried to Florida on a charge of killing a fellow laborer on construction work there. It is stated that young Stike will plead self-defense. The killing was done with a shovel.

Assistant Attorney General Frank Nash has advised the Pabst Corporation of Milwaukee that it had better omit North Carolina from its beer sales campaign unless it wants to present a test case to the supreme court. The Pabst Corporation sent Mr. Nash a bottle with a request that the attorney general render an opinion as to whether sales would be permitted under the state prohibition law. Mr. Nash wrote that, in his opinion, the law would prevent the sale of 3.75 beer in the state.

FUNERAL OF MRS. GREEK MONDAY

Prominent Lady of Boone Succumbs After Operation in Charlotte Hospital

Regardless of the downpour of rain on Monday the large auditorium of the Baptist Church was filled to overflowing with people from the various parts of the county, assembled to pay their last respects to one of our choice ladies, Mrs. T. M. Greer, who died in Charlotte following an operation last Thursday afternoon. The funeral services were conducted by her pastor, Rev. F. M. Huggins, and Dr. J. D. Rankin followed with an eulogy on the life of the splendid lady, who had made her home in Boone for nearly two years. The services, by request, were very short, at the close of which the remains were in charge of Foley & Evans, local undertakers, who interred the body in the city cemetery. The burial services were also brief on account of the rain. Elder Baldwin pronounced the benediction. The floral offerings were profuse and beautiful, the entire grave having the appearance of a huge heap of flowers.

Mrs. Greer's maiden name was Miss Addie Belle Huff, of Dorchester, Nebraska. She was married to Mr. Milton Greer of Watauga County on November 19, 1910. They resided in that state until about two years ago when they decided to return to Mr. Greer's native county.

Deceased was highly educated, and a real teacher by profession. The first year she took work in the state Normal here, the second she was elected as one of the teachers in the Deep Gap Consolidated School and her work there was so efficient that at the close of the term she was asked to sign a contract for the next term, which she did. She was a real dynamo when it came to work. During all the rough weather of the past winter she drove to Deep Gap and return, a distance of about 24 miles each day and missed a very few trips there, on account of snow drifts instead of cold weather. She was a lady who made friends quickly and held them indefinitely.

Surviving her in her Nebraska home are father mother, three sisters and two brothers, two of the sisters, Miss Lena Huff and Mrs. Gordon Jones coming here for the funeral. A husband and three children, Virginia, Elaine and Donald survive.

No lady was ever held in higher esteem in Boone than was Mrs. Greer and her death caused genuine sorrow.

BILL PROPOSING PARK INTRODUCED

Washington, April 14.—Establishment of the first two extensive national parks in the east was provided for in a bill introduced in the house today by Representative H. W. Temple, Republican, of Pennsylvania, following receipt of a report transmitted to the house and senate by Secretary Work favoring that action.

Secretary Work's decision was based on a report by the Appalachian Park commission which he had appointed to consider the whole matter. The proposed parks are the Shenandoah, to be located in Virginia along the crest of the Blue Ridge mountains south of Fort Royal, and the Smoky Mountain national park along the boundary of the states of North Carolina and Tennessee. The combined area of the two parks will be a little less than 2,000 square miles, the Smoky Mountain park comprising about 1,100 and the Shenandoah a little less than 900 square miles.

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HERE, THERE, EVERYWHERE

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

Edward W. Browning, wealthy New York real estate operator, 51 years old, was married Saturday to Francis (Peaches) Heenan, 15, his second "Cinderella Girl," at Cold Springs, N. Y.

Bidding for Muscle Shoals closed Saturday with seven proposals to lease the entire property and two a part of it in the hands of the congressional committee which began this week to study the offers to determine which one, if any, should be recommended for acceptance by congress. None of the bids were made public.

The corn belt farm relief bill was approved Tuesday by the senate agriculture committee, but indications are that it is unacceptable to the administration. Secretary of Agriculture Jardine, outlining a legislative program in a letter to Chairman Haugen of the house agriculture committee, advocated creation of a federal commission to aid farmers through the agriculture department and their own organizations, in marketing their products.

Rigid enforcement of dry laws and opposition to their modification were the keynotes sounded at the opening session in Washington Monday of the woman's national committee for law enforcement. The delegates assembled Monday for a three-day session. A message from President Coolidge and an address by Mrs. H. W. Peabody, of Beverly, Mass., chairman of the committee, formed the high lights of the opening session of the conference, at which a score or more of women's organizations was represented.

United States Senator Smith W. Brookhart, Republican insurgent of Iowa, was on Monday unseated in the senate in favor of Daniel F. Steak, Democrat, by a margin of four votes. The vote, 45, to 41, came after a week of debate, which terminated in fiery arguments during the last hours of discussion. Sixteen Republicans joined the 29 Democrats in voting to unseat Brookhart, overwhelming the Democrats, Republicans and one Farmer-Labor senator who supported him. Steak is Iowa's first Democratic senator since the Civil war.

Greatly augmented by the two oil ship disasters in the Mississippi river near New Orleans, traffic toll in 11 southern states last week reached 65 dead and 256 injured, it is shown by a survey conducted by the Associated Press. The survey was of all forms of traffic casualties, highway, railroad and river, including those by automobile, trolley, train, motorcycle, boat or otherwise. Louisiana's death toll was exactly half of the entire south, that state's total injuries being 89; of which 67 were due to river disasters. The deaths by states follow: Virginia, 2; North Carolina, 9; South Carolina, 3; Georgia, 3; Florida, 5; Alabama, 2; Mississippi, 1; Louisiana, 32; Arkansas, 0; Tennessee, 3; Kentucky, 5. Total, 65.

Seven men are dead as a result of a renewal of factional troubles at Herrin, Ill., late Tuesday in connection with the hotly contested primary election. Company K, Illinois national guard, was ordered out and arrived at Herrin Tuesday night. Since the trouble started early in the day troops had been guarding the homes of two alleged klan members, the John Smith garage and the Masonic Temple, where the killings took place. Bitterness dating back to the time when S. Glenn Young was dictator of Williamson county, is believed responsible for the rioting. The most bloodshed was near the Masonic Temple where two carloads of alleged gangsters got out of cars and opened fire on klansmen. According to John Smith, klansman and garage owner, the first shot was fired at him about 2:30 p.m. by a man he identified as "Blackie" Arms. Smith said he was standing in front of his garage talking with friends when the car containing the gangsters drove up. Troops arrived at 4 o'clock and thirty minutes later trouble broke out anew before they could be rushed to the scene. Several were left dead or wounded near the Herrin Masonic Temple. Smith, following the attack, barricaded himself in his garage with a relative and returned the fire, which then became general on Monroe street between the European hotel and Smith's garage. The first casualty, an unarmed man, was shot in front of the hotel. It is said that more than 500 shots were fired into the garage. With the arrival of more troops the situation became quiet late in the afternoon.

What To Do?
"Give Marie a kiss Harry."
"Nothing doing. I don't like her."
"Well do something quick—anything to stop her singing."

PRESIDENT ON SOCIAL PROBLEMS

Coolidge Discusses World Tribunal Disarmament Before Newspaper Men in Washington

The press of the nation was urged to "create a noble and inspired public opinion" and to aid in developing a spirit of justice and toleration by President Coolidge last Thursday in laying the cornerstone of the National Press club in Washington.

Speaking before an audience of Washington correspondents and newspaper editors and publishers not only from many sections of the United States but from Latin-America through the presence of delegates to the Pan-American congress of journalists in session in the national capital, the president restated the position of the government on international questions, including the world court, the league of nations and limitation of armaments.

"While the United States has refrained from interfering in the political affairs of others by refusing to adhere to the league of nations," the president declared in his address, it has adhered to the world court that it may "take part in administering international justice because it affects us."

The reservations laid down as a condition of adherence to the world court, the president asserted, "adequately safeguarded American rights and also tend to strengthen the independence of the court."

"Our country," he added, "has taken this step because it believed that it was the most practical method by which it could exercise its great influence in establishing the principle of a region of international law under which disputes and differences would be adjusted not by force but by reason."

As to armament limitation he said the American government was seeking it "by the only practical method" but added that it could not be accomplished without "an intellectual and moral disarmament."

Appealing for a spirit of toleration, the president said that "race hatred, class feeling, religious persecution, however these may be exhibited, whether under a form of law or through the force of public opinion or even in defiance of law, have no justification in reason and are disastrous in their consequences."

YOUNGEST CIVIL WAR VETERAN FOUND DEAD

Nashville, Tenn., April 14.—William Lillard, 77, who at the last reunion was the youngest living Confederate soldier, was found dead at his home here at noon Sunday.

Mr. Lillard's civil war life teems with tragedy that has for a climax one of the happiest celebrations ever held in Rutherford county. When 14 years old, he answered the call to arms for his native land and enlisted in 1863.

He was assigned to cavalry duty in Hubbard's brigade. Skirmishing in the Carolinas, the boy cavalryman received a wound from a bullet in his chest. Soon afterwards the war ended.

Soldiers began to return home, families were reunited, and the after-war drama of the southland started. But at the home of Colonel William G. Lillard, wealthy landowner and influential citizen of Rutherford county, the tragedy of the war was emphasized when the little boy who went away to enter the big fight did not return. Finally the family, reconciled that he had given his life to the cause, no longer looked for him.

Then six months after the fighting ended the youthful soldier quietly returned. He had been in a hospital in the Carolinas, part of the time lingering on the edge of death. When the shock of his return was over, a celebration and great rejoicing occurred, people from all over the countryside attending.

Smith Wins Over McKinley.
Colonel Frank L. Smith, making his race for the Republican nomination for the United States senate, won over William B. McKinley, incumbent, in the Illinois primary Tuesday by about 150,000 majority. Col. Smith's supporters attribute his victory to his opposition to the United States adherence to the world court, for which Senator McKinley voted.

George E. Brubaker, running on a wet platform, won the Democratic nomination for senator, piling up a vote three times the size of that cast for both of his opponents.

Two Aviators Killed.
Neil W. Abbott, of Rochester, N. Y., and Clarence W. Mix, of Durant, Mich., attached to the marine base at Quantico, Va., were killed in an airplane crash near Kings and Queens Courthouse, Va., yesterday.

Let the animals run out in the open pasture some of these warm nights, advise livestock workers at State College.

LUTHER BURBANK DIED SUNDAY

Great Horticulturist Passes, Holding to Belief That There is No Hereafter

Luther Burbank, withered by age, died at his home in Santa Rosa, Cal., early Sunday amid the flowering fruits and blooms that he had created for mankind's benefit.

The noted horticulturist passed on to the adventure of a hereafter in which he had no faith. Only a week before the end, the great plant wizard had declared that he could not believe in a life after death. And as life ebbed away and he stood at the brink he did not falter in his convictions.

Infirm and worn after years devoted to developing and guiding plant life the controversy started by his pronouncements on religion and reincarnation contributed to his last illness.

The storm of protest came from religious leaders after Mr. Burbank gave out his statement declaring himself to be an infidel. His home was swamped with letters and telegrams condemning his stand. The stress he was subjected to in defending and explaining his beliefs brought on a nervous condition that his 77 years could not withstand.

Fortified by a vigorous examination, which had its roots as deep as the flowers and plants he tended, he put up a valiant struggle against his illness.

Mr. Burbank always declared that his object in increasing the yield of plants was to better the condition of his fellowmen and he died believing "we must look for survival only in the spirit of the good we have done in passing through life."

"If it has been a good life it has been sufficient," he held. "There is no need for another. Once here and gone the human life has served its purpose."

"The universe is not big enough to contain all the human souls and the other living beings that have been here for their short span. A theory of personal resurrection or reincarnation of the individual is untenable when we but pause to consider the magnitude of the idea."

Recognition of the existence "of a great universal power" was admitted by the horticulturist, but he declared he did not "even begin to comprehend."

He said he was a "lover of Christ as a man and his works, but nevertheless he was an infidel then as I am an infidel today."

STREET WORK IS NOW UNDER WAY

Engineers of the state highway commission arrived in Boone Monday and as soon as the rain and mud would permit, the work of surveying the new city street was begun. Under the supervision of the state highway commission, J. A. Templeton, a competent civil engineer with a good corps of helpers have practically completed the preliminary surveys on the main city thoroughfare.

The firm of Weeks & Shell has a new steam shovel on the job today, and work is going forward rapidly in front of the E. S. Coffey property. The sidewalk at this point will be raised about four or five feet to make a grade here. The construction work is in charge of the Foster Company of Wilkesboro. It is expected that the work of paving Main street will be rushed through in a short period of time.

Contracts have been made with the Cranberry Furnace Company to supply 800 cars of stone for the base of the concrete streets. The grading will require but a short time, and according to Commissioner Hanes, 22 days will be necessary for the actual concrete work, under favorable conditions.

The water connections along the main street have all been made and in a few days sufficient grading will have been done so that the actual work of paving may be started.

STATE'S REVENUE NOW SHOWS BIG SURPLUS

Raleigh, April 14.—The report of the state auditor and state treasurer for the month of March, shows that a surplus of \$3,217,386.04 has been created out of a "deficit" or "cash overdraft" of \$1,238,087.15 on the first day of March. During the month the collections totaled \$5,516,450.33 while expenditures totaled \$1,060,977.14. After the overdraft existing at the first of the month and the disbursements had been subtracted from the receipts, the general fund shows a handsome balance.

This balance probably will enable the state to operate safely within its income during April, May and June for in those three months there will be some collections of late income taxes and other taxes which are due.