

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 1928

FIVE CENTS A COPY

Citizens Get Line on Town Fiscal Affairs

At Hearing on Petition Against Bond Issue Thursday Night, City Officials Explain What Money is To Be Used For

At a meeting held last Thursday evening at the Peoples Bank building a petition was presented to the city council, signed by 99 citizens of the town, requesting that no action be taken as to the issuance of the proposed \$25,000 improvement bonds until after the matter had been submitted to a vote of the taxpayers. About 25 citizens of Boone came with the document to find out just what the status of the town's fiscal affairs is.

Mayor W. R. Gragg explained that the indebtedness which is to be paid by the new issue of bonds was incurred by the former board of aldermen and was not to be used for additional street work or any new construction of any kind. He further explained that notes on the town were out for the amount asked for in the bond issue and that further renewals were impossible. In case, he said, the proposition should be submitted to a vote and the bond issue defeated, there would be no other course than to more than double the tax levy until the indebtedness was cleared up, but that with the long term bonds, the increase in taxes would be slight. Henry J. Hardin acted as chief spokesman for the citizens and many questions were propounded to the board and the mayor, one of which was if the proposed city hall was to be constructed from the proceeds of the sale of bonds. The answer was emphatically no and the following detailed statement of the floating indebtedness causing the board to offer bonds, was submitted by Mayor Gragg:

The outstanding floating indebtedness of the town of Boone as of May 5, 1927, estimated as follows:

Cranberry Furnace Co., for crushed rock, \$2,500; notes for Moretz Water system in full, \$7,000; Notes to J. A. Moretz for money advanced to extend water line to Moretz addition, \$1,500; note for money borrowed of Claude E. Miller, \$10,000; note to Portland Cement Co., for cement on streets, \$3,000; Dixie Cuvert & Metal Co., for culverts, \$1,184.52; Empire Rubber Co., for hose, \$1,200. Total, \$26,634.52.

In answer to another query as to the cost of operating the municipal government for one month, the following expenditures, covering the month of August, were adjudged to be about the average:

Police salary, \$125.00; Chas. L. Younce, water commissioner, salary, \$50.00; stamps, \$5.00; sign, \$1.00; attorneys' fees, \$7.50; mayor's salary, \$15.00; board of aldermen, salary, \$16.00; lights, \$37.50; cleaning streets, \$25.00. Total \$282.00.

Two other petitions are yet in circulation about the town seeking to restrain the board from selling the bonds. However, it is the understanding at this time that these will be called in and that the bonds will be issued with the understanding that no moneys derived therefrom shall go to any other purpose than that of paying off the floating indebtedness.

ZIONVILLE NEWS NOTES

Zionville, Sept. 11.—Mrs. W. J. Moore of Lenoir, with her sons, Thomas and James, and grand-son, Kermit Bolick, were Sunday visitors in the village.

Mrs. Roy Reese of Chucky, Tenn., is visiting with her mother, Mrs. Mary Younce. Mrs. Younce has been quite sick for the past few days.

Mrs. James Lewis and small daughter of Pennsylvania are visiting Mrs. Lewis' mother, Mrs. H. A. Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Jones and little Hope Eller spent Sunday night in Boone with relatives.

Messrs. E. E. Barry and A. Cress were Sunday visitors in Zionville and Cove Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Snider and daughters, Elsie and Hattie, spent Sunday with relatives in the village. Gus Norris of Pennsylvania, is spending a few weeks with his father, S. S. Norris.

"Aunt" Mollie Greer, who since the death of her husband, has been quite sick, is little, if any, improved. Mr. and Mrs. L. Greer were called to Elizabethton, Tenn., Sunday to see their granddaughter, little Nancy Grinstead, who is seriously ill.

R. F. D. Carrier N. W. Thomas is off from work for his vacation now. E. H. Wilson, assistant carrier, is filling his place.

First Saleman: "Didn't the flies bother you up in your room last night?"

Second Ditto: "No, I put a piece of limberger cheese in the corner and parked them there all night."

POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE PAST WEEK

Highlights of Political Activity of Both Major Parties Summarized From Recent News Dispatches From Over the Country

Hoover Will Speak at Elizabethton
Elizabethton, Tenn., has been selected by Mr. Hoover for the only speech he will make in the south. He will speak at an industrial celebration there October 6.

Official announcement was made of his intention to go into Tennessee by the Republican national committee. Elizabethton is in the extreme eastern section of Tennessee near the North Carolina and Virginia border lines. Hoover's choice for his southern speech had lain between North Carolina and Tennessee.

Seawell Will Launch Gubernatorial Campaign September 20

Herbert F. Seawell of Carthage, candidate for governor on the Republican ticket, will inaugurate his campaign on or about September 20, according to announcement made by Chairman Brownlow Jackson.

The announcement was made soon after the receipt of a letter from the candidate in which it was stated that he was rapidly recovering from his recent operation for appendicitis and the relapse that followed.

It was stated by Mr. Jackson that Mr. Seawell would make an active and intensive campaign that will carry him into virtually every section of the state.

Smith to Open Campaign at Omaha

The first three speeches by Governor Smith in his national campaign will be in Omaha on Tuesday, Sept. 18, in Oklahoma City on September 20, and in Denver on September 22.

In announcing this portion of his itinerary, Governor Smith declined to commit himself as to his whereabouts in the second week of his tour. He reaffirmed, however, his intention of being in Rochester, N. Y., on September 30, the night before opening the Democratic state convention, at which he will not only be called upon to choose the nominees for governor and senator, but will, himself, make the initial speech of the state campaign.

McNinch is Chairman of Anti-Smith Group in State

Frank R. McNinch of Charlotte was named chairman of the anti-Smith Democrats, and Charlotte was selected as headquarters city for their campaign to defeat the Democratic presidential nominee in North Carolina at a meeting of the organization committee in Raleigh Thursday. Other officers elected were Hugh McRae, Wilmington, first vice chairman; J. L. Morehead, Durham, second vice chairman; Charles H. Ireland, Greensboro, treasurer, and Mrs. W. B. Lindsay, Charlotte, secretary.

H. W. Worth of Ashe county is a member of the central committee, which will have active direction of the campaign.

G. O. P. Seek Catholic to Win Rhode Island

Washington, Sept. 8.—Herbert Hoover found himself enmeshed in a heavy tangle of political worries today, when his most vocal woman supporter, Mrs. Mabel Walker Willebrandt, made her sectarian appeal to the Methodists at Springfield, Ohio, last night to mass against Governor Smith, it projected anew the religious issue.

At the same time, Mr. Hoover was in conference with Republican leaders from Rhode Island trying to pick the Catholic candidate for the United States senate who would do the most political damage to Smith this fall. They are torn between ex-Congressman Ambrose Kennedy to run against the Democratic Senator Gerry, and Judge Felix Hebert, who is wanted by the Rhode Island state leaders on the theory that he can swing the French Catholics back into line.

As for Mrs. Willebrandt's latest stroke, the Hoover forces refuse to assume the responsibility for it or to repudiate it. The speech stirred up more political talk here than any development in the campaign in weeks. The most frequent comment was to the effect that had the situation been reversed and one of Governor Smith's chief speakers had appealed to the Catholics to defeat Hoover, it would cause a terrific uproar.

Virginians Deplore Church's Entry into Politics

Richmond, Va., Sept. 8.—In a statement signed by 123 members, friends and supporters of the Southern Methodist church, residing in the Tazewell district of the Holston conference, it is charged that "four bishops" heading the recent dry conference at Asheville are attempting

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The Crime Wave, and How To Control It

Judge Finley Makes Interesting Talk at Civitan Luncheon; Says Courts Must Have Co-operation of Citizens if They Are To Be Effective

Judge T. B. Finley of Wilkesboro was the principal speaker at the weekly luncheon of the Boone Civitan Club held at the Daniel Boone Hotel last Thursday. The noted jurist made a most interesting talk on citizenship. He spoke of the duties the citizen owes to the community in upholding the law. He deplored the fact that so many of our citizens seek to evade jury service, which is one of the essential parts of the judicial system. No matter how competent and efficient the judge and other officials are, unless they have the sympathetic and wholehearted co-operation of the citizens generally, their efforts will not be as effective as they would be with co-operation. He gave some interesting figures as to the cost of crime, which amount up to billions of dollars each year. He said the suppression of crime presented one of the big problems of today and that upon our recognition of it and our ability and willingness to meet the issue and solve it, depended the welfare of the country.

One of the major objectives of Civitan being the suppression of crime, the address of Judge Finley was timely and most interesting to members of the club.

Mr. F. H. Coffey, one of the leading citizens of Caldwell county, was a guest of the club and made a talk. Also Mr. V. D. Guire, former mayor of Lenoir and at the present time president of the Lenoir Kiwanis club, was present and spoke very interestingly of civic club work. The Lenoir Kiwanis club and the Boone Civitan club hope to arrange a joint meeting in one of the towns in the near future.

The monthly business meeting of the club will be held this (Thursday) evening at the Daniel Boone hotel at 7:30 o'clock. A full attendance of members is desired.

COUNTY DEMOCRATS WILL MEET HERE SATURDAY

Pursuant to a call issued by County Chairman J. L. Wilson, the Democratic county convention, for the purpose of nominating a county ticket, will be held at the courthouse here Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The precinct meetings will be held on Friday afternoon for the purpose of naming delegates to the county convention. Each township is entitled to one delegate for each 25 votes cast in the last gubernatorial election. Upon this basis, the following is the voting strength of each township in the convention:

Boone, 24; Bald Mountain, 3; Blowing Rock, 8; Blue Ridge, 1; Beaver Dam, 11; Cove Creek, 13; Elk, 1; Laurel Creek, 8; Meat Camp No. 1, 7; Meat Camp No. 2, 1; North Fork, 1; Stony Fork, 5; Shawneehaw, 3; Watauga, 10.

The Democratic state plan of organization calls for the following plan of organization in county and precinct.

"Sec. 12. The unit of county organization shall be the voting precinct. In each precinct there shall be an executive committee, to consist of five active Democrats, who shall be elected by the Democratic voters at the several precinct meetings or primary elections or county convention in mass, called by the county executive committee, as hereinafter provided for the nomination of candidates for legislative, county and township offices. And said committee so elected shall elect one of its members as chairman, who shall preside at all committee meetings.

"Sec. 13. The chairmen of the several precinct committees shall compose the county executive committee, which shall meet at the same time and place as the county convention first held in each election year, and elect a chairman of said county committee, who need not be a member of the committee, and he shall preside at all meetings of said committee, and shall hold his place until his successor shall be elected. A majority of said precinct chairmen, in person or by proxy in the person of some active Democrat of the precinct in which an absent chairman resides, shall constitute a quorum. The county committee may appoint a central committee of five who shall act in its stead when the county committee is not in session."

BRYAN RE-APPOINTED FISH AND GAME WARDEN

County game wardens have been appointed for the 100 counties in the state by the department of conservation and development. J. W. Bryan was reappointed warden for Watauga county. R. C. Franklin was appointed warden for Avery county.

MILLER CASE TO BE HEARD TODAY

High P Broker Scheduled To Appear With Town in \$10 Note Case; Criminal Action Continued

Claude E. Miller, High Point broker, indicted before the grand jury last week on a charge of giving worthless checks, was called and failed to answer, whereupon a capias instant was issued, but before the capias could be served the defendant appeared, and a conference between himself, counsel and officials of the town and their attorneys, and an agreement was tentatively made between the parties that the criminal action be continued, that if Miller would pay the note, the town would take a non suit in the civil case, and go before the judge and solicitor at the next term of Watauga superior court and ask that judgment be suspended in the criminal action. Mayor Gragg feels when the town is reimbursed in the sum of \$10,000 and costs, that the ends of justice will have been met, and he has no desire to further prosecute the defendant.

Miller, through his attorneys, asked that both the civil and criminal cases be continued, but Mayor W. R. Gragg refused, stating that he felt Miller had had sufficient time in which to make settlement. Miller's two brothers and his father-in-law agreed to make the note good, provided the town would guarantee that the criminal case against the broker would be dropped. Of course, no one could make this guarantee, and there is where the hitch came. However, the prosecution promised all they could for him when the matter comes up at the spring term of court, provided he appears before the court today and makes good his promise to pay the note. Should Miller fail to do this, Mayor Gragg said he would ask that the capias be served, and that another warrant, charging him with embezzlement, would be sworn out.

Mayor Gragg issued the following statement Tuesday morning, which clearly sets forth the present status of the case:

"We agreed that if the \$10,000 was settled by Thursday that we would take a non-suit in the civil action, and if this is done, inasmuch as the criminal action is continued until next term of court; that we agreed, when the case comes up, to use our influence and beg that judgment be suspended."

Mayor Gragg has made every effort, during the past several weeks, to reach a settlement with Miller, and, from his conversation, it was easy to see that he has exhausted his patience, and if Miller does not come up today with sufficient currency of the realm or something just as good in the way of well secured notes, the mayor will see what can be done about it before the bar of justice.

EARL ROWLAND WINS CROSS-COUNTRY MARATHON

Mines Field, Los Angeles, Sept. 10.—Tired, dusty and tanned, 22 survivors of the class A derby from New York to Los Angeles swooped across the finish line here this afternoon in the greatest cross-country race of aviation history. In quick succession they flashed past the stands to the cheers of 30,000 air-minded men, women and children, the entire field in the 3,200-mile sky marathon checking in between 2:30 and 3 o'clock on the last leg of the flight. The first in was Earl Rowland's Warner motored Cessna cabin monoplane. It was followed in less than a minute by an American Moth monoplane, flown by Robert Duke and Ted Toney of Pittsburgh. Tex Rankin, picturesque air veteran, who started out with a black cat for a mascot and 13 for a race number, was third to breast the tape.

PRESIDENT EN ROUTE BACK TO WASHINGTON

Garrett, Ind., Sept. 11.—Scheduled to arrive in Washington early tomorrow morning to resume his regular executive duties in the capital after a long vacation in Wisconsin, President Coolidge found national politics impatient to reach him before then and today he received the first callers since leaving the secluded shores of the Bruce river.

James W. Goode, western Republican campaign manager, and Representative Newton of Minnesota, head of the Republican campaign speakers' bureau, took the opportunity of an hour's stop of the presidential special in Chicago to confer with the chief executive. Last week he sought to induce Mr. Coolidge to deliver speeches for the Republican ticket in the campaign.

Home-Coming in Three Forks Association

Executive Committee Prepares Program for Occasion To Be Held in All Baptist Churches of Association on September 30

The executive committee of the Three Forks Baptist association has arranged the following suggestive program for the home-coming to be held in the churches of the association on Sunday, September 30th. The superintendent of the Sunday school with a local committee will assign the speakers for the various subjects, except the one at 11 o'clock. Pastors not living in the association are invited to attend one of their churches. The committee asks the churches to adjust the program to suit the local conditions.

The tentative program follows:

1. Old-time songs.
 2. Sunday school.
 3. Reading the history of the local church.
 4. Sermon or speech: The New Testament Church.
 5. Dinner served on the ground or in the homes.
 6. Old-time songs.
 7. Roll-call of present members.
 8. Recognition of former members.
 9. Telling of religious experiences by oldest members.
 10. High peaks in our church life.
 11. Men and women who have meant much to the church.
 12. How to improve our church service.
 13. How to make our church more friendly.
 14. What my church means to me.
 15. New problems in our church.
 16. Elements of growth in church members.
 17. Causes of backsliding.
- All churches are asked to send a report of the home-coming meeting to A. J. Greene, secretary, Boone.

TWO MEN AND 35 GALLONS OF LIQUOR TAKEN FRIDAY

Perhaps the largest amount of liquor ever seized on the highways out of Boone by county officials was taken last Friday evening when a posse headed by Deputy Sheriff Harmon, assisted by Deputy Frank Welch, swooped down on a car occupied by Paul Hawkins and George Miller of Elizabethton, Tenn., at a point on the Boone Trail near Laxon postoffice and brought in 35 gallons of whiskey and its owners. The offenders were lodged in jail and given a hearing Saturday before Justice Hahn, who required a \$1,000 bond. Complaint was made as to the size of the bond and the matter was referred to Judge Finley who upheld the decision of Squire Hahn's court. The bond has not yet been arranged.

Sheriff Farthing and Policeman Garland had been on the track of the automobile, a Chrysler roadster, for several weeks, having received information as to the bootlegging proclivities of the young men from police officials of Bristol and Johnson City. The trips through Boone were made regularly during the summer, it seems, but the driver always managed to evade arrest. Chief Garland as well as the sheriff had the number and description of the car and had endeavored to stop it on its return into Tennessee, but without results. It was finally found that the rum-runners were on their return going off the Boone Trail below Boone, by way of H. N. Blair's to the Blowing Rock road, thence to Blowing Rock and over the Yonahlossee home. The car was seen in town Friday headed in the direction of Wilkes and the officers went farther down the road and waited. They did not wait long, however, until their vigil was rewarded. The liquor car was driven from the road when it got in close touch with the officers and the capture was made. According to the story told by the prisoners, the car had been making regular trips, but during the summer had been in charge of different drivers. The whiskey was being carried in seven five-gallon containers.

REPUBLICAN CONVENTION TO MEET SATURDAY, 29TH

Chairman W. H. Gragg has issued a call for the Republican county convention which will be held on Saturday, September 29th, just two weeks after the Democrats have named their slate of county candidates. The various township primaries will be held on Friday, the 28th at which time delegates will be named to the county convention on the basis of one for each 25 votes cast in the last election.

It is not yet known if any speaker from outside will address the Republican gathering, in view of the fact that the campaign speeches are being handled this year by a central committee, which may or may not furnish the local committee with a state campaigner.

CIVIL CASES BEING HEARD THIS WEEK

Court Will Probably Complete its Work This Afternoon; Compromise Reached in Brown Case Against Four Lenoir Boys

Indications are that the rather heavy civil calendar of Watauga superior court will be cleared away this afternoon, ending the business of the fall term, which started Monday of last week. The state docket was finished last Friday, the most important case to be disposed of at the last being that against four Lenoir boys, Coy Shomaker, Arno Secrest, James Nelson and Earl Smith, charged with driving a car while intoxicated and assault with a deadly weapon as a result of which Mrs. John K. Brown was seriously injured. A civil suit was also being brought against the defendants. Both actions were disposed of at the same time, the boys pleading guilty to both charges. The court placed them under an 18 months suspended sentence and prohibited them from operating an automobile for 12 months. The civil action was compromised, the plaintiff receiving \$1,500 and three-fourth of the hospital bill incurred as a result of Mrs. Brown's injuries.

Judge Harwood is holding court this week, Judge Finley requesting relief because of an impending civil action in which Mrs. Finley is interested.

Following is a list of cases disposed of since the time of going to press last Wednesday afternoon:

Ado Oliver, larceny, continued.

M. M. Woodruff, liquor, pleads guilty to possession and transporting and sentenced to serve 60 days in jail.

Charlie Cole, larceny, not pros with leave.

W. H. Brock, failure to pay board bill, continued.

Theo Kerhoule, assault with deadly weapon, continued.

Charles Walser, liquor, six months on the roads.

York Trivet, liquor and carrying concealed weapon, 10 months on the concealed weapon, 10 months on the for possession and three months for carrying concealed weapon.

Spencer May, liquor, four months on the roads.

Claude E. Miller, bad check, continued.

C. S. Prevette, bad check, continued.

Clarence Cannon, forgery, continued.

Ed Atwood and Nila Trivet, forgery, not guilty.

Dave Guy, forgery, 15 months in state prison. Notice of appeal given and bond placed at \$1,300.

Spencer May, forgery, 10 months in state prison.

Henry Younce, false pretense, continued.

E. V. Ballou, bad check, called and failed, capias.

Odus Watson, liquor, continued by grand jury.

Burette Presnell, larceny of automobile, guilty; sent to asylum for criminal insane at Raleigh.

Stokes Williams, liquor, three months in the county jail.

Dave Clayburn, gambling, fined \$10 and costs.

Aaron Robbins, assault with deadly weapon, judgment suspended upon payment of costs.

Chas Wilson, abandonment, guilty, must pay wife \$200 and pay costs of prosecution.

B. C. Watson, bad check, two cases, six months in each case.

HIGH SCHOOL HAS LARGE ATTENDANCE AT OPENING

The Boone high school started on its regular term Tuesday morning with Professor E. L. Ball as principal. During the day 207 students were registered for the regular high school work and indications are that the total number will easily reach the 250 mark. There are a number of students in town who expect to enter the classes at a later date and these are urged to enroll at the earliest possible time. Other members of the faculty for the year are: Miss Grace Graybeal, Mrs. J. A. Williams, Miss Nell Coffey, Mr. and Mrs. Hewitt, with one vacancy yet to be filled.

COVE CREEK NEWS NOTES

Sugar Grove, Sept. 10.—Rev. R. A. Taylor was a visitor at Cove Creek school chapel Wednesday morning.

Mr. James M. Horton returned home from Cleveland Thursday. He will reenter Wake Forest college this week.

Miss Vergie Reeves is visiting her sister, Mrs. Will Payne.

Miss Blanche Horton has accepted a position as public school music director in the Kinston city schools.

Work on the residence of Mr. D. T. Brown is going forward rapidly.