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FIVE CENTS A COPY

Enrollment at Normal Shows Steady Growth

There are now 444 students enrolled at the Appalachian State Normal for the regular winter term, representing an increase of 78 over the enrollment at the same date last year, according to a recent bulletin issued by Prof. J. M. Downing, registrar. Of this number 380 are women, and 104 men. The report of the registrar also gives out the interesting information that 69 counties in North Carolina are now represented in the student body and that 11 counties of other states have contributed to the enrollment. Watauga naturally leads, having 66 enrolled students, followed by Ashe with 26 and Iredell with 23. Sixty-one students come from the eastern half of the state and the average radial distance of students from the Normal is 111 miles, the number beyond 50 miles being 332.

Registration for the regular spring term will begin on February 25th. It is interesting to note that the entire college expenses for a student for the college year may be kept within \$160.

AUTO PRODUCTION IN 1928 SETS NEW RECORD

A new high production record was reached by American automobile manufacturers in 1928.

The total output of cars for the year was reported by the commerce department to be 4,357,384. This was 50,990 machines greater than the previous record output reached in 1926, when 4,301,134 machines were turned out. The 1927 total, due largely to the shutdown of the Ford plant, was but 3,401,326.

Of the 1928 production 3,826,613 machines were classed as passenger cars and 530,771 were trucks. The Canadian output for 1928 was also a record and amounted to 242,382 cars against the previous high record of 204,727 in 1926 and 178,427 in 1927.

The December monthly production of automobiles in this country which enabled the 1928 figure to be calculated was 233,135 cars. This was a comparatively small monthly total and was exceeded by every previous month in the year except January. The highest monthly output of the year, which was also the largest for any like period, was reached when 461,298 cars were turned out. The figures were furnished by 152 manufacturers.

AMERICAN LEGION

There will be a meeting of Watauga Post American Legion, Friday evening, February 1, at 7:30 o'clock, in the Legion Hall. The most important business of the session will be the naming of the officers for 1929. There is also to be a meeting of the auxiliary on the same night at the home of Mrs. J. B. Taylor. This meeting was originally called for the 14th of December, but was postponed on account of the influenza epidemic.

COVE CREEK NEWS ITEMS

Sugar Grove, Jan. 28.—The attendance of the Cove Creek high school during the two weeks since the Christmas holidays has been unusually good. The opening was postponed one week on account of the prevalence of influenza. This is responsible for the attendance record. In a second game with the Boone high school in basketball Cove Creek won by the score of 23 to 23. The girls' team of Cove Creek, however, lost with a score of 22 to 12. The games were played in the State Normal gymnasium at Boone.

Mrs. W. M. Fuller of Wake Forest, mother of Mrs. S. F. Horton, died suddenly of heart trouble at her home in Wake Forest last Thursday, the 17th. The friends of Mrs. Horton extend their sympathy in her bereavement.

A series of meetings began Sunday morning at Henson Chapel. Mrs. C. L. Steidley will assist the pastor, Rev. R. A. Taylor, in conducting the services. The service Sunday morning was the first to be held in the auditorium of the splendid church recently completed. An up-to-date heating plant and comfortable pews have just been installed. The pastor and his church are to be congratulated on their church plant and equipment.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel F. Horton on January 23, a son, Samuel Fuller.

Mrs. Ralph G. Bingham and Mrs. Thomas H. Coffey, Jr., visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Sherwood, last week-end.

Mrs. O. G. Tilman of Asheboro was a visitor with her sister, Mrs. S. F. Horton, last week.

Work on the new power line from the power plant at Shuils Mills is progressing fast. Light connections will be made soon.

Mrs. C. L. Steidley and Rev. R. A. Taylor were visitors at chapel on Monday. Mrs. Steidley made a splendid talk to the students on obedience.

SAYS BOONE HAS NOT DEFAULTED

Town Clerk Says State Auditor Took Action Following Misunderstanding; Coupons Had Been Sent to Wrong Bank for Payment

There has been no default made in the interest payments of the town of Boone, according to A. Y. Howell, city clerk, who explained that the complaint brought before the state auditor charging delinquency, was brought about by a misunderstanding as to what bank was to receive the payments on outstanding bonds. Money to meet the obligations as of January 1, has been mailed to New York and the matter should be fully adjusted before the solicitor takes action. According to information from the state auditor the solicitor was instructed to make an investigation.

Mr. Howell explained that when the present administration took over the affairs of the town, there were no records showing the outstanding indebtedness of the town or when the interest payments were due or the amount thereof. The bonds are payable at the Hanover National Bank, New York, but arrangements had been made whereby the coupons were sent to the Watauga County Bank of Boone for payment. One bondholder, however, sent the coupons to the New York bank, having them returned with the notation, "no funds." An account is kept at the local bank for the purpose of meeting these obligations.

Mr. Howell believes the trouble is likely traceable to a disgruntled bond buyer, who refused to accept the bonds after his bid had been accepted, alleging that an \$1,100 bonus was included in his offer by error. The city officials forced him to comply with the terms of his bid.

GARDNER DOES NOT WANT POWER TO NAME SENATORS

After a short debate, the senate Friday passed the Person bill to return to the governor the right to fill by appointment a vacancy in North Carolina's two seats in the United States senate. The measure passed by a vote of 35 to 12 and was sent to the house.

Talking to newspaper men Friday afternoon, Governor Gardner made it plain that he was in no wise sponsoring the measure and personally preferred that it should not pass. However, the executive also made it clear that he will remain hands off on the bill and will not "run away" from any responsibility the legislature might put upon him.

Mr. Gardner declared he does not share the resentment of some of his friends, who have expressed themselves as feeling that the 1927 bill, removing the power that had always been exercised by governors, was a direct slap at him.

"I have no candidate whatever for the senate and interested in none and cannot look with any relish on the heartache that would come with filling such a vacancy and besides I believe in the right of the people to say who they want to fill an office," said the governor. "However, if the legislature wishes to place the duty on me, I shall not run away from it and shall discharge it the best I can."

PARKER BOOMED FOR CABINET, REPORT CRAMER CHANCES SLIM

Washington correspondence Charlotte Observer: A brand new cabinet movement is on foot in North Carolina. Friends of Judge John J. Parker of the circuit court of appeals are urging him for attorney general to succeed John G. Sargent. Mr. Hoover will be asked to give Mr. Parker his serious consideration. Letters boosting Mr. Parker have been sent to Florida.

The Stuart W. Cramer stock has gone down. His talk with Mr. Hoover a few days ago seems to have punctured his boom. One special from Miami says that Mr. Cramer may "have talked himself out of any chances he may have had for a cabinet job."

Judge Parker has not been advised of the work in his behalf. He is innocent of the designs on him, but here is the argument for him: He is a good lawyer, a believer in prohibition and a Protestant. The other man mentioned for this place is Col. William J. Donovan of New York. He is a Catholic and some of the same people who opposed Governor Smith for president are fighting Col. Donovan for attorney general.

Waiting List
He: "Darling, will you marry me?"
She: "Not yet, old thing, I'm engaged solid for three years."—Life.

Dougherty Presents Needs of Normal

The joint committee on appropriations of the house and senate Thursday heard Dr. E. B. Dougherty, president of the Appalachian State Normal College here, present the needs of the school for the next two years.

Prefacing his request with the statement that the Normal is operated at the lowest per capita cost of any state institution, Dr. Dougherty said the school would need \$85,000 next year if it is to retain its standing as a normal school. The budget commission has recommended that it be given \$65,000.

Former Lieutenant Governor W. C. Newland, chairman of the board of trustees, accompanied Dr. Dougherty. He asked the committee to add \$10,000 to the permanent improvement appropriation recommended by the budget commission to be used in beautifying the grounds of the institution.

Representatives Williams of Warren and Cowles of Wilkes, also spoke for the local institution.

GARDNER TAKES BALLOT BILL FIGHT TO ASSEMBLY

Governor O. Max Gardner went before the general assembly for the first time Monday night in behalf of the Australian ballot law. After the session the senate sub-committee considering the Broughton-Johnson bill, which has the approval of the governor, displayed an attitude which is expected to lead to favorable action by the full committee. The sub-committee at the time of its appointment was considered unfriendly to the bill.

The legislature, convened in its first joint session since the inaugural ceremonies, heard an appeal for the passage of a secret ballot law so terse that it barely had gotten settled in its seats before the governor had delivered his message and retired.

Two bursts of applause, starting in the lobby and filtering into the ranks of the law makers, greeted the governor's deliverance, which consumed less than five minutes but which was regarded as probably the turning point in the ballot for the secret voting law.

"There must be the right and privilege and facility for every citizen entitled to vote to exercise this right unencumbered and unimpeded, as the free and untrammelled and unimpeded expression of the voter," the governor declared. "This is the one obligation which I conceive that we owe the people of North Carolina. I do not share in the apprehension of those who fear the political consequences of this action. . . . In my judgment this general assembly ought to adopt a uniform, state-wide, secret ballot law, and I respectfully urge this obligation upon you."

The message to the general assembly marked the climax or rapid fire developments in the governor's courageous stand for the passage of the secret ballot bill which he advocated in his inaugural address. Supporters of the measure are distinctly more optimistic over the passage of the bill.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDY COURSE AT BAPTIST CHURCH

Beginning Monday night and continuing through Friday night, a Sunday school study course will be conducted at the Baptist church. Three classes will be given, taught by Mr. Perry Morgan, secretary of the state Baptist Sunday school work; Miss Gladys Beck of Raleigh, and Miss Alice Biby of Nashville, Tenn. The classes will meet each evening at 7 o'clock at the church, with two 40 minute class periods and one 40-minute inspirational address.

Instruction in the following subjects will be given:
"Building a Standard Sunday School," by Mr. Morgan.
"Rural and Village Sunday Schools," by Miss Beck.
"Working With Intermediates," by Miss Biby.

Sunday school teachers and officers of Boone and nearby churches are cordially invited to attend these classes.

PROHIBITION FIGHT REACHES HOUSE

Washington, Jan. 29.—Administration leaders in the house suffered a set-back today when Democrats and proponents of the senate \$24,000,000 prohibition enforcement rider and tax refund publicity amendment to the first deficiency appropriation bill prevented the measure from being sent to conference without a record vote on each member's view.

The majority board of strategy, however, prevented summary defeat by forcing adjournment until tomorrow. Meantime, new tactics to uphold the administration's attitude in the controversy were being devised.

How to Make More Money on the Farm

BY REAL FARMERS

(Editor's note—This is the second of a series of articles written by Mr. Rupert Gillett dealing with farm problems peculiar to Watauga county. The article this week deals with Irish potatoes, and marketing. It should prove of benefit to every potato grower in the county.)

"When the farmers of this county are able to grade their potatoes properly, they will be able to interest the wholesale trade to an extent that they have never accomplished before," said J. M. Moretz, who last fall brought a government grader here and as a result sold his potatoes at a price from 20 to 30 cents higher for a two-bushel bag than was received by farmers who depended upon hand grading and assorting.

"Heretofore," Mr. Moretz continued, "we have hardly been able to touch the wholesale market, even at Charlotte, because the wholesale dealers have not been interested in hand graded potatoes as long as they could get potatoes that have been properly assorted and graded. Wholesale houses that handle potatoes in large quantities do not have the time to inspect bags to see if they have been graded in the right way. As a consequence, they prefer to buy from those sections whose potatoes are certified to have been graded properly."

"Last fall we brought a government grader here and had our potatoes graded by him. He used a regular grading machine, which can be bought from factories in the north. The potatoes are allowed to run across a net, and the small potatoes fall through the holes, while the regular U. S. No. 1 potatoes roll across the net into the bags. It is necessary, of course, for the attendant to examine the potatoes himself to cull out the defective ones, but the machine generally lessens the labor of grading them according to size."

"All the wholesalers in our large cities need to be taught that this county raises potatoes that are the equal of those they can get from the north and east. Our potatoes are just as good and in some ways better than those of other sections. Naturally, the wholesalers are not going to pay the additional transportation charges to bring potatoes from the north if they are convinced that they can get the same quality nearer home."

"In my opinion, the farmers of this county should form an organization that can bring to the attention of the wholesalers the excellent quality of our potatoes, and then to furnish them with bags of graded potatoes according to the U. S. standard. This could be done at very little expense by providing warehouses at strategic points in the county, with a grader at each warehouse. Then the potatoes could be graded and stored there, and they could be shipped out as the demand required them."

"This is the plan that we followed this year. Although it was a very bad potato year, since most of the mountain farmers had to wait until the coast crop was disposed of before they could ship the mountain potatoes to market, we were able to put our potatoes on the market at once, because they were already graded and sacked ready for shipment. We had telegraph orders for potatoes right along until our crop was practically disposed of at prices ranging from \$2.20 to \$2.50, delivered in Charlotte. That, of course, means from \$1.70 to \$2.00 here, but it is a better price than most of the farmers got. This difference in price certainly pays for the trouble of grading and sacking the potatoes properly."

Mr. Moretz then gave some valuable advice about the cultivation of potatoes. "The ground should be plowed and harrowed early," he said, "in order that as much moisture as possible may be conserved in the ground. It should be plowed and harrowed once and then made ready in the usual way for planting. A good turf is the best soil for potatoes."

"The planting should be done some time in April, so that there will be no danger of a freeze after the potatoes come up. There are several ways of treating the seed potatoes so that they will be immunized from diseases. We used last year a good commercial dipping dust, which can be obtained from dealers in seeds and farm supplies. Another good treatment is to dip the seed potatoes in a solution of bichloride of mercury. In this way, the spores of some diseases, which

might be on the seed potatoes, are destroyed before the potatoes are put in the ground. After the potatoes are up, spraying is the next problem. They should be sprayed as soon as possible to get the start on late blight and other diseases. The best cure for fungus growths is the Bordeaux mixture, which can be bought already prepared or can be prepared at home. Those who have only small potato patches might do better to buy the mixture already prepared, but farmers with large fields will find it more economical to prepare their own mixture.

"This is done by mixing four pounds of copper sulphate in 25 gallons of water and four pounds of lime in another 25 gallons of water, and then pouring the two together. If the farmer desires to kill insects at the same time, he may add a pound of arsenate of lead, and to attract the insects he may pour in a little syrup.

"It is difficult to spray more than twice during the season, because, after the vine comes up, it is blooming in a week or two, and in another week is dead. But while the vines are up, they should be sprayed at least every two weeks. I do not recommend dusting, for several reasons. It is first of all, a laborious process—not nearly so easy as spraying. In the second place, it is more expensive than spraying, and in the third place it can be done only in dry weather, because if the vines are wet too much dust will stick to them."

"In gathering the crop, it is probably best to let the potatoes stay in the ground as long as possible before the first freeze, because they keep better there than in storage above the ground. Of course, if there is an immediate market, it is well to harvest the crop at once and grade it."

"In conclusion, I want to stress again the necessity of proper grading and assorting, if we are to put our potatoes readily on the wholesale market. Wholesalers can hardly be blamed for refusing to take potatoes that have not been properly graded; hence, if we want our potatoes to have a ready wholesale market, we must see that they meet the demands of the wholesale trade. This has proved by experience to be profitable."

HOOVER AND SMITH TALK OVER CAMPAIGN INCIDENTS

Miami Beach, Fla., Jan. 29.—Wearing his celebrated brown derby of campaign days, Alfred E. Smith, called on Herbert Hoover today at Belle Isle; swapped stories with him about some of the amusing incidents of their spectacular struggle for the presidency and wished him luck in the White House.

President elect Hoover and his Democratic opponent were together for twenty-five minutes, and friends who were present said there was nothing of constraint in the meeting; that both were in happy mood and laughed at the recital of the difficulties that came to each by reason of the odd presents admirers forced upon their campaign trains.

Mr. Hoover received the "Happy Warrior" in the sun room of the J. C. Penny home which has been fitted out as his office.

"How do you do, Mr. President?" was the salutation of the former governor as the president-elect met him at the door.

"How do you do, governor?" Mr. Hoover replied as they shook hands. "It has been a long time since we saw each other."

Mr. Smith presented his friends, John J. Rascoe, chairman of the Democratic national committee, and William F. Kenny of New York, and the president-elect introduced his secretary, Lawrence Richey.

The five then found comfortable chairs and cigars were lighted and the conversation began.

SHEEP RAISING PROMISING

About eight hundred sheep have already been placed among the farmers of Watauga county to be raised on a share basis, according to W. L. Winkler, who is co-operating with Almond B. Chapman and Sons of Lenoir in thoroughly stocking this county with thoroughbred sheep. It is expected that at least twelve hundred more will be listed within the next thirty days.

Mr. Winkler finds a good deal of difficulty among the farmers in this matter on account of the prevalence of worthless dogs throughout the county. He urges them to join in the sheep-raising movement and says everything looks favorable for a dog law that will be really effective.

ASSEMBLY FACES BUSY PROGRAM

Many Proposals Slated for Consideration This Week; Few Bills of State-wide Importance Yet Passed By Lawmakers

With major legislative proposals in the hands of committees, the senate and house last week had each given its approval to one measure of state-wide interest.

The senate passed Senator Person's bill to restore to the governor the power of appointment to fill vacancies in the United States senate, and sent it to the house by a vote of 35 to 13, in the taking of which party lines were ignored.

Representative Boren's bill to make a prison sentence of five years or more grounds for a divorce was passed by an overwhelming majority and sent to the senate where it passed Monday night.

The expected eight-months school term bill was introduced by Representative McLean of Beaufort, and referred to the house committee on education. It would set a maximum property levy of 40 cents in each county, and would require a state equalization fund of between nine and ten million dollars to make it effective. The bill itself carried no provisions for raising the necessary revenue.

Considerable discussion centered around the Australian ballot bill fathered by Johnston of Robeson and Broughton of Wake. Governor Gardner Monday night made a direct appeal to the general assembly for enactment of the bill. Also a delegation from the North Carolina League of Women Voters appeared before the election committee to urge favorable action, but the chairman, Senator Higgins of Alleghany, referred the measure to a sub-committee.

Additional taxation proposals came into the legislative hopper, while the finance committee of the house and senate were holding joint sessions to consider the revenue bill sponsored by the state budget commission. Senator Person of Franklin introduced one bill to make the income tax a flat six per cent on all taxpayers instead of the present graduated scale beginning at one and a quarter per cent, and another to raise the franchise tax on power companies from the present one per cent to five per cent.

The appropriations committees of the two houses began a series of joint hearings at which representatives of state departments and institutions were heard on the financial needs of their respective agencies. Practically all of the educational institutions appealed for greater appropriations than recommended by the budget commission. Charitable and correctional institutions are being heard this week.

Senator Person's bill to authorize the sale of whiskey on physician's prescriptions, which caused much comment from ministers, doctors and others was given an unfavorable report by the committee on public health, early last week. Another bill by the same author, to require the registration of lobbyists, was referred to judiciary committee No. 1.

Workmen's compensation laws were proposed during the week. The first was sponsored by Senator Haywood of Cabarrus and Senator Cannaday of Johnston, both Democrats. Later a different bill was introduced as having the approval of Frank D. Grist, commissioner of labor and printing.

There were still other bills proposing to change the state highway laws. Representative Carr of Duplin sponsored a measure, said to carry out the ideas of the state highway commission, which would increase the gasoline tax one cent a gallon, making it five cents in all, and would provide for an allocation of the yield from this source among the various counties, on condition that they reduce their respective property taxes by the amount allocated by the state. This and other similar bills were referred to a sub-committee of the house public roads committee.

Senator McMullan of Beaufort, fathered a bill to provide for the abolition of the present nine highway districts and to place the allocation of construction and maintenance funds on a county basis.

The record of important legislation before the two houses since last Tuesday is as follows:
New Bills HOUSE

By Upchurch of Wake: Amend the consolidated statutes relating to operation of automobiles by drunken drivers.
McLean of Beaufort: Provide an eight month school term in North Carolina.
Mull of Burke: Amend the act relative to pensions for widows of

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