

# WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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## MAJOR ISSUES YET FACING ASSEMBLY

With Less Than Three Weeks To Go, Only One Bill of Statewide Importance Has Been Enacted into Law by Legislature

By a vote of 40 to 6 the senate Tuesday afternoon passed the workmen's compensation act. A number of amendments were adopted tending to strengthen rather than weaken the bill from the workman's point of view, but still acceptable to employers. The eight-months school bill and the "Egyptian" ballot measure are still hanging fire, while local bills are piling up in both houses. However night sessions are being held in an effort to clear the calendars so that the assembly may adjourn at the end of the constitutional sixty-day limit.

Raleigh Monday.—With less than three weeks to go before the Ideas of March, the time usually mentioned as the probable date of adjournment of the legislature, members are this week facing heavy calendars in both houses.

A survey of the session thus far shows only one of the so-called outstanding measures enacted into law. The administration highway bill, raising the gasoline tax from four to five cents a gallon, as a method of allowing counties to reduce their property taxes, was given final approval, with each house recording only one vote against it, and will become operative April 1. A fund estimated at \$3,000,000 a year will be apportioned among the counties in proportion to area and population upon condition that the counties reduce their ad valorem levies for road purposes by an amount proportionate to their quota of the state fund.

The highlight of the present session came Friday night when the house by a two to one majority approved the eight months school bill sponsored by Representative MacLean of Beaufort. The measure was approved on its second reading, and therefore must pass another reading in the house before going to the senate.

Little progress was made last week by the Australian ballot bill, first of the administration measures behind which Governor Gardner threw the whole force of his position and personal popularity. The senate bill was referred to the house committee on election laws, which in turn placed it in the hands of a sub-committee. The sub-committee held its first meeting this afternoon for the consideration of the bill.

Another administration measure, the workmen's compensation bill, made no progress after coming out of the hands of the insurance committee in a form said to be acceptable to representatives of both labor and capital. Although it was set as a special order for consideration in the senate early last week, it met with several delays and was not taken up. It was the special order of business when the senate reconvened at 8 o'clock Monday night.

A bill providing for the licensing of barbers was passed by the house and sent to the senate. Favorable committee reports were given the senate bill to submit to the voters the question of adding two additional justices to the state supreme court, giving the tribunal nine members, and to the Gill measure which would place the highway department and the commissioner of agriculture under the budget bureau.

The senate and house finance committees, in joint session Tuesday began action on sections of the budget revenue bill. All hearings on the bill have been completed and the committees face the task of drawing it in its final form for presentation to the legislature. Because of the various school bills now before the assembly, Chairman Womble of the senate committee, would not predict when the revenue bill would be drawn.

A bill to put Judge W. B. Council on the list of retired judges and to let him act as special judge, at a salary of \$4,000 a year, was killed by the senate Tuesday. Under the present law only judges who have served 15 years are entitled to pension. Judge Council having served less than 11 years, was the ground upon which the measure was killed.

The bill calling for the establishment of a state highway patrol and the licensing of automobile drivers was passed by the senate Friday night. The measure requires that the patrol consist of not more than 125 patrolmen who are to have the powers of enforcement of traffic laws. The patrol is to be financed by requiring a 50 cents operator's license from every driver within the state. Also the upper house passed the Broughton-Jonson bill to allow juries to recommend mercy with verdicts of guilty in all capital cases.

## Dr. "Badge" Williams Died Last Thursday

Dr. William Anderson Williams, long a resident of the Beaver Dam section of Watauga county, passed away February 21st, after a protracted illness covering a period of many months. He was 88 years of age.

Dr. Williams was a native of Wilkes county, but early in life moved his citizenship to the adjoining county of Watauga. Almost forty years ago he professed faith and united with the Elk Park Baptist church of which he was a worthy member until the time of his death.

Dr. Williams was a practicing physician for more than half a century and was widely known as a result of his extensive practice. A physician of the old school, it was necessary for him to journey on horseback to reach his patients, who received uniform service regardless of their station in life. He was actively engaged in the practice of his profession until old age intervened. He was a Confederate soldier, faithful in the ranks and a honor to his colors, a good citizen and a friend to humanity.

Funeral services were conducted from the Cove Creek Baptist church by Dr. Will G. Gordon, following which the body was laid to rest in the Cove Creek cemetery.

Surviving are a widow and seven children: Thomas H. and Benjamin A. D. McLean, Thursday carried his fight for longer schools and lower real property taxes to the floor of the house. When the bill was reported out of committee Tuesday, it was not thought that it would be brought up in the house until after several other bills dealing with the same dual problem of schools and tax reduction were introduced, most of which had the present six months term as their basis and called for a substantial increase of the equalization fund, even above the \$5,000,000 amount set by the budget bureau, which in itself is an increase from \$3,250,000.

The franchise tax bill was placed in the hopper Thursday. This bill, in reality a gross sales tax proposition, is designed to raise \$12,000,000 for the maintenance of the public school system.

Senator Canaday introduced a bill to empower tax collectors to apportion shares of taxes so that in the case land has been transferred, both the original and present owner shall pay a proportionate share of the taxes for the year.

NEWS OF MATNEY  
Matney, Feb. 25.—Liberty Methodist church will hold its regular quarterly meeting here, beginning February 28th. The Elder White will be present, also Rev. Wood. A large attendance is expected.

Mrs. Zora Jones of Butler visited her sister and brother, Mrs. J. S. Baird and Mr. J. L. Triplett, the past week.

Mrs. J. C. Hubbard who has been ill for some time, is slowly improving.

Miss Dessa Mae Triplett and Mr. Ernie Triplett of the A. S. N. S., spent the weekend with home folks.

Mr. J. L. Triplett, who has been sick, is improving.

Mr. J. C. Greer of Balm visited Mr. Lee Carender Sunday.

"Your dealer has hired me to collect this bill from you."

"You are to be congratulated on obtaining a permanent position."

## HOOVER FACES MAJOR TASKS

Final Week Before Inauguration Will Be Busy One for President-elect; Cabinet Still Incomplete

President-elect Hoover entered upon the last week before his inauguration Monday with several of the major tasks in connection with his assumption of office not yet completed.

Final selection of all his cabinet officers, it is understood, has not yet been made by him and likewise the major diplomatic positions have not been finally assigned.

Also he has not received word from congressional leaders as to the earliest date upon which the special session of congress can be conveniently and usefully called. His inaugural speech yet needs final revision and correction.

Well before the end of the week, however, Mr. Hoover proposes, it is reported, to make up his mind finally upon all points yet requiring decision. To this end he will continue his conferences and consultations during this week not only with political leaders but with close personal friends, who, it is understood were charged by him with making surveys to determine the availability for high administration positions of certain persons recommended to the president-elect.

Mr. Hoover's greatest uncertainty regarding cabinet positions is reported to center about the attorney generalship and the secretaryships of labor and agriculture. Senator Borah of Idaho, to whom the first post was offered, declined the position only last week on the ground that he felt he could best serve his party and the country by remaining in the senate. The president-elect is now seeking for the posts, it is understood, another person, who, like the Idaho senator, should be a constitutional lawyer and an eminent lawyer.

The secretaryship of agriculture was discussed by Mr. Hoover not later than Sunday with Senator Brookhart of Iowa, who came out of the conference declaring that he was under the impression that the president-elect had not yet made any choice in the matter. Mr. Hoover is known to be very anxious to appoint a man who would not only enjoy the full confidence of the farmers but who would also be able to direct efficiently and enthusiastically the farm relief policy which the new president intends to initiate in accordance with his campaign pledges.

The labor secretaryship has been under close scrutiny by Mr. Hoover himself and by trusted friends whom the president-elect has charged with inquiry into possible appointees to the post.

Mr. Hoover has lately been devoting his spare moments to the final drafting of his inaugural address. Nothing but revision of the final draft remains to be done.

## THE AMERICAN BOY

I take off my hat to the American boy—dirty, filthy, grimy—of the earth, earthy. He is the composite of the wildcat and the dove, lion and the lamb. He is the autocrat at the breakfast table, the dinner table and the supper table.

He is a walking encyclopedia of family secrets, thumb-indexed and automatic. He relates without prejudice or personal bias. You can't stop him. He talks right on.

He runs with the gang. He plays hooky to follow the parade. He is full of adventure. He is a hero worshiper. His interests center around things and men in action. He is the pride of his mother, the terror of his big sisters, and the hope of the future.

He carries the destinies of the future up his sleeve and wears the purpose of the race on his countenance. He will make and unmake empires and kingdoms to his liking. He will build the future after his own ideals.

You can't discourage him, for he has the courage of his convictions. You can't befuddle him, for he does his own thinking. You can't gain-say him, for he knows and knows that he knows. He carries the wealth of the nation in his pocket.

Go easy with him. Be patient. He is a man in the cocoon. He may be a plodder or a genius—one is as important as the other. He may be a pauper, a prince or a president. I take off my hat to the American boy.

Who knows but that destiny has picked him for a winner?—M. L. Wright.

American (attending movie show in England)—Why don't they show a comedy during the performance?

Englishman—Oh, they never show comedies in England on Saturday night. They're afraid the people will laugh in church the next day.—The Pathfinder.

## Civitan "I dies' Night" Was Happy Affair; Prizes Awarded

The outstanding social event of the season was on last Friday evening when local Civitans, their wives and visitors numbering more than sixty persons, gathered at the Daniel Boone Hotel for the ladies' night program and banquet and to hear the report of the committee appointed to award the prizes in the Civitan Club's citizenship essay contest, the winners in which were invited as honor guests of the club. More than half a hundred papers on Citizenship were submitted by the high school pupils of the county, the winners being those of Miss Maude Clay, daughter of R. L. Clay of Boone; Miss Faye Bingham, daughter of Atterney T. E. Bingham, and Len Hagaman, son of County Superintendent Smith Hagaman. The first prize, a ten dollar gold coin was given for this purpose by the Watauga County Bank, the second and third, a five dollar bill and a Conklin fountain pen, respectively, were donated by the Boone Drug Company. The essays were read by Mrs. I. G. Greer, and the prizes were presented by Prof. Norton of the Normal, who was chairman of the committee appointed to judge the essays. It is the purpose of the Democrat to publish these three most excellent papers in an early edition.

Following the excellent three-course dinner an especially prepared program was rendered, Dr. G. K. Moose, the president of the club, acting as master of ceremonies.

## Piedmont Evening Star Festival To Give Series of Entertainments Here, Beginning March 12th

The Piedmont Evening Star Festival comes to Boone for its fourth engagement March 12, 13, 14 and 15. A representative of the Piedmont bureau, Asheville, was here last week consulting with the local guarantors of the entertainment and laying plans for the performances, which will be given in the evenings at the courthouse. Tickets for the four entertainments have been distributed among the various local sponsors and are now being offered by solicitors about the town.

According to the Piedmont bureau this year's entertainment includes anything presented in former years. A new and entirely different set of characters will appear at each performance. Outstanding among this year's offerings is "New Brooms," a comedy drama presented by the Community Theatre Players. This hilarious comedy ran for a year in New York and for six months in Chicago where it was characterized by the Daily News as "the year's best comedy, a dandy story and a fine play." It is a play of universal appeal, holding the interest of the audience from beginning to end.

The address Allstar Company, composed of brilliant artists and

finished musicians, will present a varied program with selections ranging from the popular melodies to the most difficult compositions of the masters.

The Dorothy Haines Company, a charming, versatile duo of young ladies present a delightful pig-wig drama, music, portraiture, comedy and colorful scenery combine to assure all a most pleasant evening.

The Harmony Male Quartet will complete the engagement with quartets, solos, rending, novelty features, mandolin, banjo and violin selections. They have had years of experience in interpreting a variety of songs and are truly a "harmony" quartet.

It should be remembered that in a sense the Evening Star Festival is a home institution, inasmuch as the main offices of the bureau are located in Asheville, and the expenses of putting on the series of entertainments are guaranteed by the citizens of the town of Boone. They have nothing to gain, but are simply co-operating in giving the people of this section the kind of entertainment received in the larger towns and cities. They deserve the united support of the citizen of the town and county.

## KING'S WIFE FOUND IN COFFIN OF GOLD

Cairo, Egypt.—"Al Mokattam" publishes the story of a sensational discovery in Jerusalem, where excavators are reported to have found at the Temple Mount the burial-place and mummy of King Solomon's favorite wife.

She was an Egyptian and died in tragic circumstances. King Solomon's reign began about 2,897 years ago. The burial chamber which has just been laid bare is stated to exceed in magnificence that of Tutanka Amen, the Egyptian king.

It was filled with objects of marvellous beauty and great value, including a golden coffin, which proved easy of access and revealed the body wrapped in the richest coverings set with precious stones.

The fingers bore several rings and at the head was a crown set with sapphires, emeralds and pearls.

Buried with the body was a Hebrew parchment scroll believed to be in King Solomon's handwriting, relating to his wife's death and extolling her virtues.

According to the scroll, the wife, whose name was Moti Maris, of Memphis, died in the 36th year of King Solomon's reign and was buried underneath her palace "after she had sacrificed herself for her husband and sovereign lord."

The scroll further relates that in recognition of his deep love for her and her loyalty and self-sacrifice, King Solomon, with his own hands, placed upon her forehead the magnificent crown presented to him by his people on the 25th anniversary of his accession.

According to the scroll, three months earlier Amento, the father of Solomon's wife, came from Egypt laden with presents, but with his

heart full of malice, in an endeavor to remove Solomon from the throne and seize the country on behalf of the king of Egypt.

One day Amento sought a private interview with Solomon, having previously ordered Moti to poison Solomon's wine.

The scroll concludes: "When Moti entered, bearing cups and wine, although I noticed that she was deadly white I did not suspect treachery. When Moti poured out the wine in the cups I noticed that Amento did not hold out his hand for his cup."

"Never heless, still unsuspecting, I raised the cup to my lips. Instantly Moti, who was standing by me, snatched the cup and drank the wine herself. For a few minutes she remained standing while I seemed turned to stone. Her father, with a cry of rage, fled from the room. Shortly afterwards Moti staggered and fell dying into my arms."

"The wicked Amento tried to poison me, but my beloved wife saved my life at the sacrifice of her own."

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary are invited to attend a meeting on Friday night, March 1st, at 7:30 o'clock, at the home of Mrs. R. L. Bingham. It is requested that this meeting be largely attended, as many important things will come up for consideration. Those who are eligible for membership in the Auxiliary and who are not now members, are invited to attend.

Paris, Feb. 26.—Marshal Ferdinand Foch, wartime commander-in-chief of the allied armies, was said tonight to be slowly sinking from an illness with lung, heart and kidney complications, with apparently little hope of recovery.

## RUSH WORK ON YONAHLOSSEE

Additional Steam Shovel to be Placed on Road to Hasten Grading Preparation to Surfacing; Power Co. Reduces Light Rate

Blowing Rock, Feb. 28.—Another steam shovel is to be placed on the Yonahlossee road in a few days to hasten the work of grading in preparation for the topsoil. Additional workmen will also be started on the job as soon as the weather clears, and the work, already progressing rapidly, will be further hastened as spring approaches.

Clearing for the new route by taking out some of the dangerous curves has reached the Cone estate at Sandy Flat. The hedges along the Cone line have been moved back so that no delay will be met when the crews start work nearer to Blowing Rock. It is hoped that the road will be ready for travel some time early in the summer.

## Light Rates Reduced

The Blowing Rock Power and Light Company, subsidiary of the Public Service Company of Cleveland, Ohio, has reduced the local light rate from twenty cents to ten cents a kilowatt hour.

In connection with this reduction, it was said by George Robbins, local manager, that the company's power line from the Shulls Mills plant to Cove Creek will be finished in a few days after some additional material has been received. Mr. Robbins said that only about ten days' work remains on the line, and that it should be in operation some time in March.

This line will supply light and power to people living along the line from Shulls Mills to Valle Crucis and Cove Creek.

## Large Crowd Sees "The Wren"

An unusually large crowd was entertained Saturday night in the auditorium of the Blowing Rock school with the play, "The Wren," presented by the fifth, sixth and seventh grades of the school. The spectators came away praising highly the acting of the pupils and the coaching of their teachers. Those in the cast were: Blair Sudderth as Mrs. Julia Danna; Billie Coffey as Robert Danna; Pauline Greene as Jane Danna; Elsie Pitts as Sarah Woodston; Jay Castle as Donald Drew; Elizabeth Greer as Mammy; Mae Teaster as Mrs. Harriet Greenston; Carroll Greer as Reginald Greenston; Gladys Pitts as Mrs. Cecelia Danna Fordston; Oma Greene as Corinne Fordston; Pansy Gragg as Binkie; Shufford Edminsten as Rodney Blake, Sr.; Mary Lou Young as Mrs. Rodney Blake; Arnold Bolick as Rodney Blake, Jr.; and Muriel Gragg as Judge Gray.

More than \$40 was raised by the play and will be used for the benefit of the school.

## Mrs. Holshouser Entertains

Mrs. Howard Holshouser delightfully entertained at bridge Thursday evening at her home here. Before starting the bridge games, she had a cake contest, in which Mrs. R. V. Norman of Johnson City, Tenn., won a lovely cake. Tables were arranged for bridge, and at the conclusion of an enthusiastic game, prizes were awarded to Miss Ellen Coffey for high score and to Miss Anne Greene for low score.

The following guests were present: Misses Connie Moody, Ellen Coffey, Ethel Holshouser, Ann Greene, Lena Reeves, and Sarah Banner; Mr. and Mrs. Rob Greene, Mrs. Ralph Norman, Spencer Greene and Eubert Holshouser.

## Personal

J. H. Winkler went last week to Greensboro, where he attended a banquet given to the Chevrolet dealers of the state. With him was Mrs. Winkler and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Miller.

Miss Isabell Gamble of New York was last Friday married to Robert S. Gibbs at the summer home of her father on the Yonahlossee road near here. Mrs. Gibbs is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John B. Gamble of Athens, Ga. During the winters their home is in New York.

## WILKES COUNTY IS CLEARED OF BOGUS NOTES

Raleigh, Feb. 26.—Wilkes county was held not liable for payment of the alleged spurious notes held by Philadelphia and New York banks, in a decision handed down here today by Federal Judge I. M. Meekins. The banks were suing to recover \$100,000 in notes held by them when the Bank of Wilkes failed.

Bashful He: I suppose I'm the worst dancer on the floor tonight.

Candid She: (Silence).

Bashful He: I said I suppose I'm the worst dancer on the floor tonight.

Candid She: I heard you; I was just trying to think.