

WATAUGA DEMOCRAT

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BOONE, WATAUGA COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1929

FIVE CENTS A COPY

State-wide Dog Law Supersedes Local Bill

The dog law, sponsored by Representative Rivers, relative to Watauga county, and which was published in a recent issue of The Democrat, does not take effect, it having been superseded by a state-wide measure which was passed in the closing days of the legislature. The Democrat does not have a copy of the latter bill, which it is understood carries practically the same provisions as those contained in the Rivers measure, especially as regards the privilege tax of \$1 for males and \$2 for female canines of more than six months old. As was the local bill, the law effective is designed to encourage the sheep industry and at the same time allow some protection to the dog owners.

Through error The Democrat reported the passage of an act designed to relieve World War veterans from the payment of poll tax. The measure did have smooth sailing in the house, but went to its defeat in the senate. "I followed this bill through to the senate and fought over every inch of the ground," explained Mr. Rivers, "but the upper house revolted, sensing that the other counties would likely ask for the same exemptions, and pointed out that in the final analysis the deficiency created would have to be paid from the funds of the already hard-pressed equalization board. Its defeat came from monetary calculations and not through any disrespect to the veterans."

The bill to change the standard of measure for Irish potatoes from 56 to 60 pounds to a bushel was defeated. The other laws reported passed, have been enacted into law.

WORK ON NEW BAPTIST CHURCH TO START SOON

At a meeting of the building committee of the Baptist church Monday night, contracts were let for a quantity of the rough materials to be used in the construction of the new church building, ground for which is expected to be broken next week. The Piedmont Building Supply Company of Lenoir, was awarded the contract for all the finished material for the structure.

Mr. R. F. Coitney, local building engineer, has been employed as superintendent of construction and work on the handsome new building will proceed as rapidly as is possible. The finance committee reports that subscriptions are coming in satisfactorily. A church rally was held last Sunday at which Dr. Maddy of the state convention was the speaker. Cash contributions of \$2000 were received on that day, and a "Book of Remembrance" containing the names of the contributors will be preserved as a part of the church history. The Baptist State board is contributing dollar for dollar with the local Baptists in the construction of the plant that will cost, when completed, about \$160,000.

NORMAL DEBATERS ARE WINNERS OVER WINGATE

On Saturday night the debating teams from the Normal College won decisions over Wingate College, the affirmative winning at Rutherford and the negative at Wingate. The query was, "Resolved that North Carolina should levy a state ad valorem tax on real and personal property to aid in the support of an eight-months school term." Victorious local debaters were Harold Lazenby and Frank Houser.

Wingate has held the junior college debating championship for two years and the defeat by Boone is considered of great importance by Normal officials. The Normal debaters have thus far won four decisions this year.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR OUSTED

The second successive elected governor of Oklahoma was removed from office last Wednesday by the state senate court of impeachment when that body found Henry S. Johnston guilty of a charge of general incompetency, preferred by the house of representatives. He was exonerated on nine other charges brought by the house. J. C. Walton, Johnston's predecessor, was removed in November, 1923. W. J. Holloway, lieutenant governor, was sworn in as Johnston's successor by the chief justice of the supreme court immediately after the senate court had completed its vote on the impeachment charges.

FARMER DISCUSSES SOIL IMPROVEMENT

Mr. Blair Gives Experiences in the Use of Fertilizers, Humus and Different Types of Soil; Says Farming Should be Studied

By H. NEAL BLAIR

I think the business of farming should be studied just as carefully as the business of practicing a profession or carrying on commerce or manufacturing. There are three primary questions confronting a farmer all the time, namely: production, sale of products for a profit, and up-keep of the farm—especially fertility of the soil. The first and third of these depend to a great extent on a man's knowledge of the use of fertilizers and manures, other things, such as lime and humus, and soil values. It has been my observation that a great many farmers—and it is alarming to know the number—do not understand the analyses of fertilizers. So I want to begin with that in this discussion.

There are three elements of plant food: phosphoric acid, ammonia (sometimes called nitrogen) and potash. Fertilizer may have one, two or all of these elements, depending on the source of its manufacture. Phosphoric acid (generally called acid phosphate) is mineral and comes from ground phosphate rock. There are two kinds of ammonia or nitrogen—mineral and organic. There are just two specimens of the mineral kind, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. Organic ammonia may be derived from cotton seed meal, tankage, fish scraps, slaughter house products, such as dried blood, hair and meat scraps, and other sources. Potash is mostly mineral, and comes largely from Germany. Each of these elements of fertilizer has its particular functions in the development of plant life, and each and every crop that we grow has its particular requirements for plant food. As a general rule ammonia makes the foliage grow, like corn stalks, fodder and shucks, cabbage leaves and potato vine. Potash develops the root system, and thereby causes the plant to reach out into the soil for food. It makes the plant strong and healthy. For instance, it stiffens the straw in a small grain crop, and keeps the leaves green and growing in a cabbage crop. I have conducted experiments with different analyses of fertilizer, side by side under cabbage, and proven that cabbage need more potash than agricultural writers generally advise us to use. When the outer leaves turn yellow, or appear to be parched all around the edge, it is an indication of lack of potash, unless perhaps they may have disease. Potash develops the seed in what we call "seedy" fruit, and field crops like tomatoes, strawberries, cotton, tobacco, and likewise potatoes, and makes the kernel, or heart, in grain. I have conducted experiments on rye and oats sown with 16 per cent phosphate and 10-0-4 fertilizer side by side, and the 10-0-4 has shown much better results, especially in oats. Oats need a great deal of potash, because they contain a large amount of protein, and potash is the fertilizer that develops protein. The difference was not so marked in rye, because rye contains more fat instead of so much protein, as does corn, and requires more phosphoric acid. Phosphoric acid supplies the mineral element as well as the fat that goes into a crop. It makes flinty and cabbage hard. It keeps pastures and meadows growing, because as a grass crop is harvested, either hay or grazing, the mineral matter goes into the bone of the stock that eat it. Old pastures put into cultivation should be fertilized heavily with potash and phosphate, and of course, with ammonia if a crop like corn, cabbage or potatoes is to be planted. But for small grain and grass, I should leave it off. Ammonia is the expensive element in fertilizer. Small grain does not need to have a rank growth, hence you can effect a saving and at the same time have what the crop needs.

Humus is decaying vegetable matter, and has five functions in the soil: 1. It furnishes plant food; 2. It prevents baking and packing; 3. It creates moisture near the plant roots, as decay always creates moisture. This is very essential in plant life, especially in dry seasons. We should always try to have a turf, stubble or green crop to turn under for cabbage, because cabbage require a great deal of moisture; 4. It prevents washing and wearing away of hill and; 5. The plant food furnished in this way is deep seated in the soil and will feed the plant roots that grow deep. I prefer to apply fertilizer near the surface and allow it to leach down. Some crops—corn and potatoes especially—have their root system near the surface. A good method to use in fertilizing for cabbage and potatoes is to put fertilizer in row with a distributor then follow with a long narrow shovel plow, run shallow, to throw fertilizer out on sides of furrow. That puts it near the surface where it is most needed.

To fertilize intelligently, we should know something of the different types of soil. Red land is usually stronger in potash than black land, and consequently better for potatoes. However, I have grown some splendid crops of potatoes on dry black land, but have never been able to make potatoes on sandy loam. It is very deficient in potash. This type of land suits corn, cabbage, small grain or hay, but we should have a fertilizer containing potash. Cabbage or potatoes either will be a better quality grown on clay land than on black land, and small grain will usually be heavier.

I have devoted this article to a discussion of the use of fertilizers and touched on soil values. I want to write again about the use of lime, legumes and stable manure.

Superior Court May Adjourn Saturday

The spring term of Watauga superior court convened Monday with Judge J. M. Oglesby presiding. Many cases have been tried but at press time the jurist had passed few sentences. Several, however, have been remanded to jail and will likely hear their sentences today.

The court is said to be making good headway and may dispose of all cases, both criminal and civil, by Saturday afternoon.

Detailed proceedings will be published in The Democrat next week.

needs what is used, especially in wet or sandy land. Land with a clay sub-soil will hold fertilizer for a longer time. The organic forms of ammonia have to go through a process of decay before plant food becomes available, and hence do not help so quickly or get away so early. A properly mixed fertilizer should have some mineral and some organic matter, if it contains ammonia. I prefer, when I want ammonia, to use a complete fertilizer, that is, one containing all the fertilizer elements, at planting time and then if a crop needs pushing during the late growing and maturing season, I will use 50 or 100 pounds nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia to the acre as a top dresser. I have used this with splendid results in corn and cabbage. It is good for grass and fall-sown grain in the spring. It is necessary to mix with a bag of acid phosphate to get the necessary bulk. This phosphate will serve another purpose, that is to have the land ready for grass, and we should always return to grass often enough to keep the land well supplied with humus.

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MRS. INGLE'S BIRTHDAY

Mrs. John Ingle, formerly of Blowing Rock, celebrated her 84th birthday at her home in Lenoir Monday, with a number of her children, grandchildren, nieces and two sisters present. The home was beautifully decorated, the weather ideal and there was nothing lacking to make the day one of thorough pleasure and enjoyment. A bountiful dinner was served and the honoree was the recipient of many beautiful gifts.

Bahia, Brazil, March 26—Virtually unreported since leaving the coast of Africa, the Spanish airplane "Jesus Del Gran Poder" unexpectedly ended a brilliant flight from Seville at 10 o'clock today. Only once since leaving the African coast were they reported. The flight covered a distance of 4,100 miles.

DEMOCRATS ARE IN FAVOR OF ECONOMY

Convention Goes on Record as to Enforcement of Dry Laws and Pledges Self to Economy; Ticket Named for City Election

Democrats of the city met in convention at the courthouse Tuesday evening for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of mayor and three aldermen to be voted for in the election to be held on May 7. Prof. A. M. Norton, chairman of the municipal Democratic executive committee, presided.

Following a brief prayer offered by Prof. J. A. Williams, a platform declaring for the strict and impartial enforcement of the prohibition and all other laws and for economy in government, was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Nominations were in order and County Superintendent Smith Hagaman submitted the name of R. S. Swift for mayor.

A. E. South nominated Dr. H. B. Perry, L. L. Bingham and Dr. J. D. Rankin for aldermen.

The nominations were made without a dissenting vote. A few remarks were made by different ones of the gathering, stressing the importance of tax reduction when possible and rigid economy in the administration of the city government, following which a motion for adjournment was carried.

No information is available as to whether other tickets will be in the field.

THE MEXICAN REVOLT

Action in the Mexican revolution switched sharply Tuesday from the west coast to north central Mexico where the insurgents concentrated heavily as the federals drove northward.

The town of Jimenez in Chihuahua on the road to the American border, was heavily bombarded by four federal planes, four insurgents being killed and 17 wounded.

General Escobar, rebel commander-in-chief, left Juarez for Jimenez to take personal command of the main army there.

Meanwhile the insurgents apparently were preparing for a counter offensive in the air. One pursuit plane piloted by an American reached Jimenez and others were said to be on the way.

A rebel attack on Naco along the border seemed imminent after many hours of delay. The insurgents were reported only 10 miles from the town which has been heavily entrenched by the loyal troops, stationed there.

WEATHER REPORT

Following is a report of local weather conditions for week ending the 23rd as submitted by the cooperative station at the Normal College:

Average maximum temperature 67 degrees.

Average minimum temperature 41 degrees.

Average temperature 54 degrees.

Average daily range in temperature 26 degrees.

Greatest daily range in temperature 36 degrees March 18th.

Average temperature at 8 a. m. 49 degrees.

Highest temperature reached 79 degrees March 23rd.

Lowest temperature 31 degrees, March 17th.

Number of inches of rainfall 1.17

Greatest rainfall in 24 hours .99 inches on the 24th.

Number of days with .01 inch or more of rain, 3.

Number clear days 1.

Number cloudy days, 2.

Number partly cloudy days, 2.

Direction prevailing wind, west.

No snow, frost, sleet, hail or fogs are reported.

A thunderstorm is noted on the 23rd.

Attention is called to the winds of the 17th.

Paris, March 26.—Marshal Foch was laid to rest today near the tomb of Napoleon. More than a million heads bowed as the great soldier was borne on a gun carriage from the stately gothic nave of Notre Dame Cathedral to the simple Chapel of the Invalides. Church and state, separated in France for more than 20 years united on the day to provide the devout Christian soldier with a national funeral unparalleled in pomp and magnificence.

Civitan Club Will Give Clean-up Prizes

At the monthly business meeting of the Civitan Club held in the dining room of the Daniel Boone hotel last Thursday evening, the club voted to offer two prizes for the greatest improvement in resident, business or vacant property during Boone's annual clean-up week, which will probably be held late in April or the first week in May. Civitans R. D. Hodges, E. N. Hahn and Gordon Winkler compose the committee to work out details of the contest. Entries in the contest will not be confined to club members, but will be open to anyone who wishes to enter.

Civitans W. E. Comer, A. E. South and R. D. Hodges were placed on the club's committee which has for some time been working for the establishment of a telegraph office here. The committee was instructed to take the matter up with both the Western Union and Postal Telegraph companies, and it is likely the matter will be taken up with the North Carolina corporation commission if some relief is not given local business men who are forced to pay the extra telephone charge to Lenoir on every telegraph message sent from the county. It is estimated that not less than \$300 a month is going into the coffers of the Southern Bell Telephone and Western Union Telegraph companies, and it is felt that this volume of business entitles the town to a telegraph station.

D. L. Wilcox was welcomed as a member of the club, and was given the charge by Civitan Comer.

Every member is urged to attend the meeting this week, at which time Judge John M. Oglesby, who is presiding over Watauga superior court now in session, will deliver an address.

Blowing Rock Fire Dept. Entertained at Dinner

In recognition of the excellent work done during the fire which destroyed the home of Mrs. Mattie Storey, the citizens of Blowing Rock last Friday night entertained the Blowing Rock fire department at a dinner and dance at the Central hotel. Mrs. Bertley donated the use of the hotel dining room and kitchen, and the townspeople gave the materials necessary to prepare the dinner.

In spite of the rain, a large crowd was present to enjoy both the dinner and the dance that followed. C. S. Prevette, president of the fire department, expressed the thanks of the department to the citizens for the entertainment, and then the tables were removed and the dancing began to music furnished by J. M. Foster and Randall Foster.

Although the firemen were unable to save Mrs. Storey's home, they prevented the fire from spreading to the surrounding houses, which would certainly have been destroyed because of the high wind, if the firemen had not worked as hard as they did to prevent the fire from spreading.

SPAINHOURS' WILL SOON ANNOUNCE REMOVAL SALE

Mr. W. R. Spainhour of Elkin was in the city yesterday looking after the affairs of Spainhours' Inc., and perfecting arrangements for a removal sale which will take place shortly before the opening of the new store in the H. W. Horton building, now in advanced stages of construction.

Mr. Spainhour was unable to announce the date of the opening but said work was being pushed forward as rapidly as possible. The new building is to be modern throughout and will be worthy in every respect of the ever-growing business which it is to house.

SCHOOL TEACHER GIVES SELF UP AFTER MURDER

Brevard, N. C., March 25.—Richard Harrison, a school teacher at Namur, N. C., surrendered today to local officers for the slaying late yesterday of John Hinkle, prominent citizen of Transylvania county. The shooting occurred in a remote section near the South Carolina line and was unknown to officers until Harrison gave himself up. The slayer is the son of a former lieutenant governor of Mississippi and came from that state a year ago. He claims self defense.

NORMAL IS MADE 4-YEAR COLLEGE

Bill Passed By Recent Assembly Changes Name of Local Institution and Empowers it to Confer Degrees

The following bill, introduced in the senate by Senator Blue and passed by the recent session of the general assembly, changes the name of the Appalachian State Normal School to "Appalachian State Teachers' College" and empowers the faculty to confer "such degrees as are usually conferred by similar institutions in America," which in effect makes it a four-year accredited college: The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Section 1. That Chapter 204, Private Laws, 1925, be amended by striking out all of section 1 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"(a) The name of the Appalachian State Normal School at Boone is hereby changed to the Appalachian State Teachers' College.

"(b) The board of trustees of the Appalachian State Normal School are hereby declared to be the board of trustees of the Appalachian State Teachers' College. They shall be appointed in the same manner and shall have the same tenure in office, and shall have the same authority, control and appointments under the new name as were granted to them under the old name.

"(c) All appropriations heretofore made or hereafter to be made, all gifts, accounts, notes and property of every kind, under the control of the board of trustees of the Appalachian State Normal School are hereby declared to be the property of the Appalachian State Teachers' College and under the control of the board of trustees.

"(d) The trustees, upon recommendation of the faculty, are hereby authorized and empowered to confer or cause to be conferred such degrees as are usually conferred by similar institutions in America."

Sec. 2. That each succeeding section from the first be amended by striking out wherever they appear these words: "Appalachian State Normal School" and writing in lieu thereof "Appalachian State Teachers' College."

Sec. 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification.

NEW POLITICAL PARTY IS NEED OF COUNTRY NOW

Winter Park, Fla., March 25.—A new political party in this country is highly desirable and the building of it is largely a question of money and thorough organization, Oswald G. Villard, editor of The Nation, told the first annual institute of statesmanship at Rollins college tonight.

"We are without the militant and divergent opposition which our government machinery calls for," said Mr. Villard. "It is an undeniable truth that the Democratic party is no longer separated from the Republican party by sharp political differences, and clearly defined party principles."

"The Democrats who invaded Haiti and pulled down its government, who bombarded Vera Cruz and violated the sanctity of Mexican territory, can hardly throw stones at the Republicans for keeping troops in Nicaragua and in China.

"In the last campaign the Democrats abandoned the historic principle of tariff for revenue only. So far as the tariff is concerned the only difference now between the parties is one of degree. Both are clearly protectionists.

"Obvious, too, is the fact that the greater the industrial revival in the south, the more rapidly will the Democratic party, as at present led, drift to the Republican position in matters economic. The need of a new alignment of voters into a conservative and a radical camp is entirely desirable. * * *

"The difficulty of the situation today is that since the death of the senior Robert M. LaFollette there is no outstanding leader about whom an organization can be built, and there is no single compelling economic issue."