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INDICTMENTS ARE RETURNED AGAINST 23 MORE LOCAL MEN

Federal Grand Jury at Greensboro Connects Many Boone Men With Alleged Election Fraud. Warrants Have Not Been Served. Observers Look on Move as Poor Brand of Politics. Forty-one Indictments.

Indictments charging conspiracy to hinder qualified voters in the exercise of their constitutional rights of the ballot in the Senatorial and Congressional election in the fall of 1930 were returned in Greensboro Federal Court Thursday morning against 23 more citizens of Watauga County.

The indictments are embodied in two true bills returned by the Grand Jury Thursday, which follow the return on the Tuesday previous by the Grand Jury of two other bills of indictments against 18 other Watauga County citizens for conspiracy in connection with the election. All County citizens for conspiracy in to injure, suppress and intimidate citizens in the free exercise and enjoyment of their civil rights to vote in the Senatorial and Congressional election.

Twenty citizens of Boone precinct are included in one of the bills returned Thursday, among the defendants being A. E. South, clerk of the Superior Court of Watauga County and several election officials. The other nineteen defendants named in the bill are A. D. Wilson, R. L. Clay, W. Roy Johnson, P. C. Wike, A. L. Gross, Cleve P. C. L. South, T. L. Mast, Troy Norris, Hooper Hendrix, W. Hardin Brown, Alfred Adams, D. A. Brown, C. S. Stevenson, Clint Norris, E. Cleve Johnson, Henry J. Hardin, Raleigh Cottrell and Howard Cottrell.

The second bill of indictment returned Thursday contains the names of C. D. McNeill, W. S. Moretz and Harrison Miller, citizens of Stony Fork precinct. It is alleged in both bills that the purported conspiracies were carried out with the display and employment of firearms and other deadly weapons.

In the Laurel Creek township it is alleged by Republicans that the ballots and ballot boxes were removed from the polling place to the county seat after election officials had announced that no election would be held that day. Later in the day, it is charged, the officials returned to the polling place and held the election, depriving more than one hundred persons of their right to vote.

A purported effort to remove the ballot boxes and ballots from the polling booth in Stony Fork precinct was prevented and the election held, according to further allegation.

Among the defendants named in the first indictment against citizens of Cove Creek precinct was J. Smith McBride, justice of the peace and registrar, who is charged with issuing a warrant and commitment to the county jail for N. T. Byers, Republican judge of the election, after the latter had been refused his request to sit at the ballot boxes. Mr. Byers was arrested and lodged in the jail for a period of about eight hours after the justice of the peace is alleged to have refused to accept a \$5,000 bond. After Byers' release from the jail there was no further action on the warrant sworn out against him.

Named as defendants in the first indictments issued on Tuesday of last week were Joe Ward, Hard Hagaman, J. Smith McBride, Chauncey Moody, Ray Wilson, Henry J. Hardin, Lee Mast, Ed S. Williams, J. B. Horton, Allen A. Perry, John E. Brown, Eddie B. Hagaman, J. D. Shull, Claude Edmiston, Henry Mast, Charlie McConnell, Will Rominger and Walt Ward.

The wholesale indictment of local Democrats has caused considerable consternation among party workers in Watauga, and lines have been drawn almost as close as in pre-election days of last fall. Older leaders in both parties seem to look on the unusual procedure as a brand-new piece of strategy inaugurated by the young element who assumed almost complete control of the G. O. P. last fall, and are of the opinion that little can be accomplished by trying to ring in the Federal government on State affairs. They point out various instances where Democratic party workers were dragged into U. S. courts for alleged election fraud, and state that not one conviction has ever been obtained.

Several veteran G. O. P. workers go so far as to state that they were never consulted on the advisability of bringing the indictments, and consider the move a mighty poor piece of politics. The contention of many of them is that the best way to settle political differences is at the ballot boxes, and that peace and harmony should prevail between campaigns.

Several of the indicted men have been interviewed and the general reply given to the questioner is: "They can't do anything to me; I have violated no law." They take the

(Please turn to Page 8)

Moth Balls Fatal To Garden Pests

Watauga County gardeners bring the information that insect pests have appeared this season in ever-increasing hordes, and the news of a distinctly new weapon with which to combat them will be gladly received. Mrs. W. L. Stansberry of Vilas is authority for the recipe for bean beetles, cucumber bugs, later bugs, or what have you, and the formula is exceedingly simple. Two moth balls are pulverized and placed in one gallon of water, allowed to remain overnight so that the solid matter may become thoroughly dissolved, and the solution is sprinkled over the bean rows. In her garden, Mrs. Stansberry applies the liquid through a tin can with perforated bottom. A larger vessel is carried filled with the deadly potion, and only a few minutes is required to cover the usual garden patch. The pestiferous Mexican bean beetle has been annihilated by this mixture in different gardens and Mrs. Stansberry has yet to find an insect on any kind of plant which can survive an application. The moth balls may be secured at your drug stores, are sold in bulk, and the cost is so low as to be negligible.

GRIST WILL OPPOSE MORRISON IN 1932 PRIMARY BATTLE

Commissioner of Labor and Printing Spends Two Days in Boone Lining Up Support for Coming Campaign. Addresses American Legion. Will Issue Statement Within Week. Looked on as Aggressive Fighter.

Frank Grist, Commissioner of Labor and Printing, spent Friday and Saturday in Boone, shaking hands with old friends and, so political observers believe, laying the foundation for an aggressive campaign against Cameron Morrison for the Democratic Senatorial nomination one year hence. On Friday night Grist, who emerged from the World War with a brilliant service record, addressed members of Watauga Post, American Legion, on issues facing the country today, and his brief talk was well received by the large crowd in attendance. He was introduced by Senator W. R. Lovill.

While the Labor Commissioner refrained from "button-hole" tactics, he let everyone know that he has his hat in the ring, and divulged the information that within ten days his announcement for the Senate nomination will be issued. For a number of years had blood has existed between Grist and Senator Morrison, so it is alleged, and the Caldwell man is determined to give the senior member and old-time "scrap" for the Congressional plum. He brings encouraging reports from various sections, he has visited within recent weeks, and states that among the young Democratic element his name is being looked on with increasing favor. It is pointed out that Grist has twice been nominated by large majorities for the post which he now occupies, each time being faced with strong opposition. As an organizer he is said to be most adept; he mingles with voters of all classes in a genial manner, and faces issues in a deliberate way.

Leaders of the Democracy in Watauga look on Grist's Senatorial aspirations as a vain hope, realizing as they do the calibre of the man who will oppose him, but they are all ready to admit that "lady luck" has smiled most cordially on the young, yellow in days gone by, and that he will turn out a large vote. While in town, Mr. Grist stated that in his opinion he will be the only man to oppose Senator Morrison for the nomination. He further says that the "power issue" will paramount the coming campaign, and that young Democrats throughout the State are determined to inaugurate a new order of policy. He is absolutely willing, so he says, to withdraw from the melee if any other young party man, representing the ideals which he looks on as being so essential at the present time, will take up the cudgel against the "old ring."

FIRST VISIT IN 35 YEARS

Mrs. J. E. Hitchcock, of Washington, D. C., is spending a vacation period at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Council, and will be joined by her husband here at a later date. This is the first visit of the Hitchcocks to Boone for 35 years, they having spent a period of time here then. Mrs. Hitchcock recalls vividly the Boone of long ago and reminds one that at that time there was not a house anywhere between the Councils and the little settlement, whose limits then included what is now the Critcher Hotel.

Wataugan Killed in Auto Crash Sunday; 4 Injured

Funeral services for Ernest L. Bodenhamer, 19, of Meat Camp, who was fatally injured Sunday when the car in which he was riding with his brother, W. L. Bodenhamer, collided head-on with another machine near North Wilkesboro, was held at Mount Pleasant Lutheran Church Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. W. A. Deaton, pastor, being in charge of the rites. The body was interred in a nearby cemetery.

The second machine, according to officers, was driven by Reno Talbert, of Miller's Creek, near North Wilkesboro, who is alleged to have been under the influence of liquor. Young Bodenhamer died in a hospital at North Wilkesboro Sunday night at 9 o'clock, about four hours after the accident occurred. Talbert, who is the son of a wealthy family, is suffering from bruises and lacerations in a North Wilkesboro hospital, and is under the surveillance of police officers.

W. L. Bodenhamer, his wife and their small child also were injured. Mrs. Bodenhamer's pelvis having been crushed and other severe internal injuries sustained. The child had not fully regained consciousness Tuesday afternoon. However, reports from the hospital where they were taken are to the effect that the injured have good chances of recovery. In the car with the fatally injured youth, and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bodenhamer at the time of the accident

were Earl and Raymond Bodenhamer, also of Kannapolis. The brothers had come to the home of their father on Meat Camp Friday afternoon where they spent the week-end, and were returning to their work when the wreck occurred. W. L. Bodenhamer, driver, states that the Talbert youth approached his car driving at a high rate of speed, and coming from one side of the pavement to the other. Fearing a head-on collision, Mr. Bodenhamer applied the brakes, skidded his wheels more than seventeen paces, and brought his car to an almost complete standstill. Talbert, he further states, cut his car abruptly to the left side of the road, ran clear of the pavement, cut back and struck his (Bodenhamer's) car midway of the right side, the force of the blow demolishing both vehicles. The Bodenhamer car at the time of the wreck was more than fifteen inches on its side of the center mark of the highway, and was practically a mass of scrap.

The dead youth had been working in Kannapolis for several months, was of quiet disposition, and had many friends in Watauga. He was a communicant of the Lutheran Church. Surviving are the parents, and the following brothers and sisters: W. L., Earl and Raymond Bodenhamer, of Kannapolis; Mrs. Clyde Norris, of Meat Camp, and Misses Lela and Ruby Bodenhamer, of Meat Camp.

Memorial Services Widely Attended

The memorial services held at the Advent Christian Church, following Memorial Day, were widely attended, the capacity of the "stone church" being taxed to the utmost with the members and visitors. No less than fifty veterans of the World War and about six of the survivors of the War Between the States were present.

The newly-refinished church auditorium was attractively decorated for the occasion with masses of evergreens, brightened here and there by flags, and an attractive program was rendered. Rev. R. L. Isbel of Lenoir preached the sermon, which was all the more entertaining on this occasion on account of the fact that the reverend gentleman had visited the battlefields of Europe since the close of the World War. The American Legion band was present and the vocal music for the occasion was furnished largely from the Old Christian Harmony by selected groups of local vocalists.

The services are acclaimed as the outstanding event of the kind for this city. Members of the Adventist Church worked long and hard getting the building and decorations ready and arranging the program. The American Legion co-operated, together with pastors and members of the other churches, and the occasion was a delightful one.

Registration Progresses At the Teachers College

The first summer term at the Appalachian State Teachers College opened Tuesday morning, and according to members of the faculty the outlook for a large enrollment is extremely encouraging. Four hundred had been enrolled Tuesday morning and registrations were still going on at a rapid rate. Conservative estimates on the part of college officials appraise the total enrollment at no less than 600.

Lieutenant Harmon Lands Here; Parachute Jumps Feature Visit

An airplane piloted by Lieutenant John H. Harmon, and carrying the officer's wife and Mr. and Mrs. Johnson Avery of the News-Topic, arrived this (Wednesday) afternoon from Lenoir, made a landing at 2 o'clock at the Pond Bottom farm just east of the city, and will remain until the first of next week doing commercial flying. Lieutenant Harmon is a pilot of many years' experience, received his training with the Air Corps of Uncle Sam, and has thousands of hours flying time to his credit. Those who wish to experience the thrill of soaring through the upper spaces may enter the big, modern, super-powered ship, and for a nominal charge, and with safety, get an "upstairs" view of the mountain terrain.

Lieutenant Harmon was assisted in making the arrangements for his stay here by members of the American Legion who are staging a fiddlers convention on Friday and Saturday. Large crowds are expected to be present for the entertainment, and the airplane flights will provide an added attraction. Jack Hankins, parachute jumper and thrill artist extraordinary, will give exhibitions of his daring on Friday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and visitors to the convention may come early and have double entertainment. Mr. Mack Hollars was kind enough to allow the use of his meadow for this purpose, but it is to be understood by visitors that only those taking flights will be allowed to traverse the field. Plenty of space on roadways is available close-up to the flying activities, and all those caring to watch the maneuvers of the ship may do so, without subjecting themselves to the dangers of walking the field during operations, and without needlessly injuring the crops.

Work Goes Rapidly Forward on Paving Job

Last week it was stated that a crew of men had been employed for the purpose of preparing form timber for use in connection with the paving of the five miles of road east of the River Bridge on No. 60, whereas the timber being sawn was for the purpose of erecting a temporary bridge over New River so as to allow closing of the new bridge for the construction work. Sand and stone is still being delivered at the siding on the Stanbury farm in huge quantities, and W. H. Gragg and W. G. Hartzog, local contractors, have completed a large warehouse for the storing of cement, which is now arriving. Actual work of preparing for the pouring of the concrete is expected to begin at once. Meantime surveyors have been employed, locating the stretch of road between the river and Boone, but whether or not this stretch will be paved in the near future is not known.

WARDEN FORCE REDUCED

The Department of Conservation and Development announces the reduction of the game warden force from 100 to 65, to reduce expenses in accordance to the reduction in revenue for hunting and fishing licenses. Small counties will be combined in order that the work may proceed to an advantage and with sufficient deputies it is believed that none of the conservation work will suffer. H. G. Farthing, Watauga County warden, has received information to the effect that hereafter he will serve both Watauga and Ashe Counties.

GOES TO COLORADO

Professor Chappell Wilson, member of the faculty at the State Normal College, left last week for Greeley, Colorado, where he will attend summer school sessions of Colorado State Teachers College.

On Job for Jobless



F. C. Croxton, acting chairman of the Hoover Unemployment Commission, is to issue report soon.

WILLIAM FARTHING SUCCUMBS TO BRIEF PNEUMONIA ATTACK

Owner of Watauga Telephone Company Lines and Prominent Farmer of Sugar Grove Becomes Ill With Meningitis. Pneumonia Develops and Ends Comes in Charlotte Hospital. Funeral Saturday.

William Y. Farthing, 45 years old, prominent citizen of Sugar Grove community, died in the Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte, Friday morning at 7 o'clock, after an illness with pneumonia, following meningitis which developed five days previous. Mr. Farthing had been in rather poor health for several months, but it was not thought his conditions was serious. When he became seriously ill it was soon discovered by attending physicians that meningitis was the trouble, and he was rushed to Charlotte for treatment, where it was believed he had chances for recovery. When pneumonia developed, however, he survived only a few hours.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday from the Bethel Baptist Church, of which deceased was a worthy communicant for about thirty years. The Reverends McKaughn and E. J. Farthing conducted the services, while Rev. H. M. Wellman paid brief tribute to the life of deceased. Interment was in the neighboring cemetery. A large crowd was present, gathered from all parts of the county to pay their respects to the memory of a deceased friend and neighbor.

Surviving are a widow and five children, four boys and one daughter, Perry, David, Dana, Ivan, and Miss Nannie Farthing, all of whom are residents of this county. Three sisters, Mrs. J. T. Farthing, Boone; Mrs. Clyde Perry and Mrs. Carter Farthing, Beaver Dam, also survive.

Mr. Farthing was a native of Watauga, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Farthing of the Beaver Dam section, and had spent practically his entire life in this region. He was a most pious farmer and for about twelve years was owner of the telephone lines serving this entire section. In 1928 he sold the part of the system serving the town of Boone to the Southern Bell Company, but retained the ownership of the rural lines. The business will be carried on under the original name, Watauga Telephone Company, by his sons, Will Farthing, as he was familiarly known by fellow Wataugans, was a leading spirit in the community, in which he lived, public spirited, kind and just. He was in the forefront of all movements calculated to better his people, and he will be sorely missed not only in his own community, but in the county at large.

Miss Hattie Greer Bride Of Prof. R. H. Askew

Miss Hattie Greer, well known and accomplished daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Greer of Middle Fork, was united in marriage last Friday to Mr. R. H. Askew, recently of Clovis, New Mexico. The ceremony was performed at the home of the bride with only the members of the family and a few intimate friends present. Rev. P. A. Hicks, pastor of the Boone Baptist Church, tied the nuptial knot. Immediately after the ceremony the happy young couple left for Seattle, Wash., where they will do special scholastic work at the Washington State University summer school.

Mrs. Askew is a member of one of the county's most prominent families, is extremely popular with a wide circle of friends throughout this region, and for the past several years has been engaged in teaching in the schools of the county. Last year she was principal of the grammar school at Blowing Rock.

Mr. Askew is a native of Richland, N. C., was a former student at the Normal College here, later taught in the county schools and during the past year has been teaching at Clovis, New Mexico. He is popular with his acquaintances in Watauga. Whether the Askews will decide to make their future home in the west or return to this section to locate is not known.

JUSTICE ACQUITS ED. STOKES ON HOMICIDE COUNT

Cove Creek Man is Freed by Justice of Peace McBride at Widely-Attended Hearing Last Thursday. Was Arraigned for Fatal Shooting of Ivy Greene. Direct Evidence Revealed Self-Defense

Ed Stokes, native citizen of the Cove Creek section, was acquitted by J. S. McBride, Justice of the Peace, last Thursday afternoon, when he was tried at the Cove Creek school for the firing of the shot on May 21, which ended the life of a neighbor, Ivy Greene. He had surrendered himself to Deputy Sheriff Lee Mast on the one previous. Evidence introduced fully convinced the court that the fatal shot was fired in self-defense and that the deceased man had made repeated threats against the life of the defendant. While it has been explained that the dismissal of the case by the Justice does not necessarily take the defendant out of jeopardy, it is believed generally that there will be no grand jury investigation of the case.

Several hundred people from all sections of the county attended the preliminary and a number of witnesses were introduced. The defense was represented by the Honorable W. R. Lovell, an attorney appearing for the State, Charles McConnell, the only eye-witness to the shooting, gave evidence corroborating the generally-understood story of the crime. He was accompanying Greene when the shot was fired and the evidence indicated that the slain man was looking for Stokes, came in sight of him, beckoned, but that the defendant refused to go near him, and attempted to change his course so as to avoid a meeting. He was not successful in this, however, and when the two came face to face, Greene was said to have accused Stokes of poisoning his dog several years ago, told him he could prove he did it, and cursed him when he made earnest denials of harming the canine. Meantime Stokes is quoted as having told Greene he wanted no trouble, knew nothing of the dog, and when Green's anger continued to mount asked him to lay aside the shotgun he was carrying. Instead of complying with this request, Greene, the testimony revealed, took the gun in both hands, pointed it at the ground, and began raising it toward Stokes. He was again told to drop the weapon, and when he continued to raise it and had it almost in position to fire a deadly shot, Stokes fired, the loud tearing away a portion of the thigh below the hip. Loss of blood caused his death before the hospital could be reached.

A number of witnesses testified as to the bad feeling which had existed between the two men for several years, and evidence was introduced of repeated threats made against the life of Stokes by the slain man. Some of this evidence is said to have come from witnesses connected with the family of deceased.

Just as we close our doors we hear of the very serious illness of Mr. Philip Greer, of Zionville. The three sons who reside in Boone, Professor I. G. Greer of the College, T. M. of the J. & E. Store, and George, of the Farmers Hardware Company, were summoned to his bedside this (Wednesday) forenoon. Much anxiety is felt here over the illness of the venerable gentleman.

BOONE... SKETCHES

Bouquets on flapping fenders of ancient Model T. . . . Man inquires way to Boone coal mine. . . . A derelict car loaded with rubbish taken from a vacant lot some time since and allowed to remain at the curb of one of the principal streets. . . . Some kids playing hide and seek in the tall grass which surrounds the public square. . . . Man preparing to light cigarette in wind storm, shields match until burning well, and discovers he forgot to place cigarette in mouth. . . . A fight in which only one lick is struck. . . . Small boy finished conversation with another lad by lightning draw of cap pistol, pulls the trigger, looks "lard" from one corner of an eye, and departs for other conquests. . . . A general air of interest as summer school students begin to arrive. . . . Pedestrian thoughtfully tossing banana peel from murderous position on sidewalk. . . . Advertising card billing circus for last September still in readable shape after having withstood the rigors of the winter on an electric pole. . . . Small boy drops ice cream from cone, and doesn't cry. . . . Flapper stands outside car in driving rain and converses with boy friend. . . . Man asks to purchase candy at print shop. . . . Man with twenty-dollar bill chances upon a man able to change it for him.