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DOUGHTON FINDS GRAVE ERRORS IN STORY OF LINNEY

Eighth District Congressman Takes Issue With Woltz on His Congressional History. States that Linney and Claude Kitchin Were Not in Congress at Same Time. The Complete Letter.

Hon. Robert L. Doughton, Eighth District Representative in Congress for more than twenty years, has found the story carried in last week's Democrat relative to the career of the late Col. Romulus Z. Linney, altogether incorrect in so far as the historical data is concerned. The biographical sketch referred to was prepared by Professor C. B. Woltz.

Mr. Doughton submits a letter to The Democrat in which he sets forth the discrepancies found in the story, and the same is published herewith in full:

"My dear Mr. Editor:

"I have read in your paper of October eighth, an article by one Claude Bernard Woltz, entitled 'The Bull of the Brushies.' This article purports to give some very interesting information touching the life and public services of Colonel Romulus Z. Linney, who represented a North Carolina District in Congress in the Fifty-fourth, Fifty-fifth, and Fifty-sixth Congresses, or from March 4, 1895, to March 3, 1901.

"In this article a most graphic account is given of an alleged debate in Congress between Colonel Linney and the late Claude Kitchin, who defeated the last negro member of Congress up to the advent of DePriest, a Republican of Illinois. In glowing rhetoric Mr. Woltz recites how Colonel Linney, or as Mr. Woltz terms him, 'The Bull of the Brushies,' won a great victory over Mr. Kitchin in a debate in Congress, and how Champ Clark, who Mr. Woltz says was Speaker of the House at that time, threw his arms about Col. Linney's shoulders and congratulated him.

"The absurdity of this part of the story is shown by the fact that Claude Kitchin and Colonel Linney never served in Congress a single day simultaneously. Mr. Kitchin did not enter Congress until the beginning of the Fifty-seventh Congress, March 4, 1901. Mr. Linney retired at that time, so there could never have been any debate in Congress between these two distinguished statesmen. Moreover, Champ Clark did not become Speaker till 1911, ten years after Mr. Linney's retirement.

"So far as I know or have ever heard, Mr. Woltz is the only man living or dead, Democrat or Republican, to assert that Claude Kitchin ever had a superior in Congress as a debater, or that he was at any time waxed in a forensic discussion, either in or out of Congress. I have heard many distinguished men who served with Mr. Kitchin, including Speakers Champ Clark, Democrat, Joseph G. Cannon, and Nicholas Longworth, Republicans, say so far as they knew, Claude Kitchin was without an equal as a debater. In a memorial address, delivered in memory of the late Claude Kitchin, Speaker Longworth spoke in part, as follows: 'Mr. Speaker, Claude Kitchin's good nature and his sense of humor were always with him. I never heard him in debate or in private conversation apply a harsh or coarse epithet to any man, and yet he was, among all I have known in this House, the most dangerous man to meet in debate. The memory of my association with him will always be one of the pleasant recollections of my life, and particularly will the memory of our close and enduring friendship abide with me always.'

"Mr. Woltz has the effrontery to insinuate that Claude Kitchin was lacking in courage. I quote the following remarks which he says were directed by Colonel Linney to Mr. Kitchin: '...but I wish to say that no man, and I emphasize no man, not even the young, dashing representative from North Carolina, will dare make these statements to me outside the walls of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States.' Anyone who knew Claude Kitchin is aware of the fact that he possessed as much courage both moral and physical, as any man who ever lived, and no one would have ever challenged him in vain to repeat any statement outside of the Hall of Congress which he had made within its walls.

"When one writes fiction he is permitted to give his imagination unrestricted latitude, but when he assumes the role of historian he should state facts and speak the truth, especially when writing of the dead.

"Nothing in this letter must be construed as in any way criticizing or in disparagement of Colonel Linney, as nothing could be farther from my thought or purpose.

"Very sincerely yours,

"R. L. DOUGHTON."

Just at press time news comes to Boone that L. L. Taylor of Route 2 suffered a second stroke of paralysis Tuesday evening and his condition is said to be critical.

Local Poet Recognized By the Writers League

An attractive little volume, "North Carolina Poets," issued by the International Writers League, 1930, selects twelve North Carolinians for distinction. One of these is James Monroe Downum, of the Appalachian State Teachers College.

The honor comes to him, in part, as a recognition of the merit of his "Lays of Life from the Southern Appalachians," a hundred-page book of lyric poetry which has claimed a ready sale and now calls for a second edition. In his poems, the author reveals himself as a master of melody. The choice vocabulary, the charming imagination, the rhythmic beauty and the sympathetic human quality of the writing assure him a place among the bards of the country.

W. H. PENLEY DIES IN STATE OF WASH.

Was Native of Watauga But Had Resided in Northwest for Forty-four Years. Survived by Nine Children.

A clipping from an Okanogan, Wash., newspaper tells of the death on September 17th of W. H. Penley, former Watauga man who had been a resident of the northwest for forty-four years. He died at a hospital, the clipping states, following a serious operation, and had been in ill health for more than a year.

Mr. Penley was 74 years of age, having been born in Watauga County in 1857. He went to Washington in 1887 and settled in Skagit County, where he engaged in farming. In 1917 he located on a homestead in the Colville Reservation which had just previously been opened for settlement. For the past four years he had lived with a son, Scott Penley, on his orchard tract near Okanogan.

For several years Mr. Penley resided at the old Floyd place in Boone, where he was most popular with a large circle of friends. Many of the older residents of the county who knew him will hear of his demise with genuine sorrow.

Deceased is survived by the following sons and daughters, his wife having preceded him in death several years: Mrs. Jack Morrison and Mrs. T. G. Batenburg, of Seattle; Mrs. David R. Gilkey of Anacortes, Wash.; Mrs. L. J. Solberg of Okanogan, Wash.; Clint Thomas, of Trade, Tenn.; Chas. Penley, of Sedro-Woolley, Wash.; Scott and Harry Penley of Okanogan, and Robert Penley, of Yakima, Wash.

Expects to Gather 6,000 Bushels Apples

Mr. B. T. Taylor, commercial orchardist in the Deep Gap section, reports perhaps the largest yield of apples in his career. The Stark's Delicious, which comprise a large part of the orchards, have already been gathered and stored for shipping, while a large crew of men began picking the Ben Davis, Winesaps and Royal Lamberts on the first of the week. Mr. Taylor sprayed the trees three times this year as usual and the quality of the fruit is exceptionally high. He estimates that his total marketable harvest will be no less than six thousand bushels. A glimpse of the overburdened trees, before picking began, would rival the plates of a nursery catalog.

CARS BADLY DAMAGED IN COLLISION NEAR BOONE

A near-fatal accident occurred on Sunday afternoon one mile west of Boone when a car driven by Lester Ragan, local young man, collided with another driven by H. C. Webb of Winston-Salem. The collision took place on the sharp curve at Hines Burying Ground, and both of the automobiles were badly damaged. Mrs. Webb, who was in the car with her husband, received a rather severe cut on a lower limb, and members of the party in the Ragan car received minor bruises. Ragan was arrested on a charge of reckless driving and driving under the influence of liquor. He will be given preliminary hearing next Monday. Mr. and Mrs. Webb spent Sunday night at the Daniel Boone Hotel and went on to Winston Monday.

MT. VERNON CLASS ATTENDS MEETING AT JOHNSON CITY

The singing class of Mount Vernon Church attended a home-coming event at Bethel Church in Johnson City, Tenn., last Sunday and rendered several delightful vocal selections for the occasion. Bethel Church is one of the oldest churches in East Tennessee. Many notable men have been reared under its influences, the Honorable Carroll Reese being one of the most outstanding. Dinner was served on the ground. At no time during the day did the large church hold as much as half the crowd.

First to Make Non-Stop Pacific Flight



Clyde Pangborn and Hugh Herndon, Jr., were handed a check for \$25,000 when they stepped out of their plane at Wenatchee, Washington, by the Japanese newspaper, Asahi. There's plenty more in sight.

BARGAIN CARNIVAL OPENS THURSDAY; RUNS THREE DAYS

Thirty-three Boone Business Houses Join Together in First Co-operative Selling Event. Valuable Cash Prizes to Be Given. Seasonable Merchandise Offered at the Lowest Prices Since Pre-war Days.

Last minute plans are now going forward for the staging of Boone's first co-operative selling event, and from indications the first of the week it is deduced that the Fall Bargain Carnival will bring an unprecedented number of visitors to Boone the last three days of this week, when more than thirty business houses of the city are joined together in giving shoppers the greatest degree of value for a dollar attained since before the inflation of the World War. Priced matter is being distributed over the local trade territory, and a page ad appearing today in The Democrat gives detailed account of the inducements being held out to the thrifty buyer.

The widely-heralded event will come to a close Saturday night when four substantial cash prizes will be given away to as many shoppers who have patronized the co-operating merchants during either of the three days. Names and addresses of customers must be written on the trade checks, available at the several stores, which in turn will be deposited in boxes located at strategic points along the street, three of them, and at 9:30 in the evening a committee of merchants will meet, assemble the coupons, and a child will select the winners. Should one of those eligible be unable to be present for the awarding of the prizes, it is explained that money will be mailed direct to their address. Present plans call for the locating of a receptacle in the block of the Theatre, one between the two drug stores, and a third in the vicinity of the Eller Produce Company. The merchants are anxious for customers to deposit the trade coupons, properly filled in, at either of the repositories.

Business men of Boone believe that never in the history of this city, where the time for buying has been more opportune. With the approach of winter and the increase in the bill for necessities, together with the lowest prices since 1914, they feel that trade records should reach a new high peak during the Bargain Carnival. At any rate, they want the folks to come to town this week and give them an opportunity to prove that Boone is the logical trading center in the northwestern hills. Readers will find paying information on page three.

ATTEND BIRTHDAY DINNER

On Wednesday, October 7th, a party from the Sugar Grove section motored to Elizabethton, Tenn., where they attended a birthday dinner spread in honor of Mr. M. P. Johnson, former resident of Beaver Dam. They reported a most delightful occasion. Those who went from Sugar Grove were: Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Vines and daughters, Mary Lou and Carolyn; Mrs. Sena Cable, Miss Hattie Vines; Messrs. Frank Vines, Spencer Cable and Mike Ward.

SOME PUMPKINS!

Mrs. P. C. Wyke's garden in Boone this season produced probably the champion pumpkin vine of the county. The vine, a "volunteer" came up in an onion bed, branched out in four prongs that measured more than two hundred feet each way, and thirty pumpkins set, all of which have ripened to a golden yellow. The editor will enjoy pumpkin pie, too, for Mrs. Wyke kindly sent him one of the largest. Can anyone beat it?

CATTLE MOVED TO VIRGINIA

More than two hundred two and three-year-old steers, which were recently bought by local cattlemen for Ex-Governor Stuart of Virginia, were taken up Monday, assembled at Sugar Grove, and driven from there to the Governor's broad acres in the Old Dominion. The steers were of exceptionally high quality, Shorthorns predominating, and the price paid was around six cents.

Grading Goes Forward On Link of Boone Trail

Rapid progress is being made on the grading of the stretch of Boone Trail Highway from the end of the crete to the intersection of the Blowing Rock road in East Boone. Anderson and Hauser Construction Company has the contract and cut-verts are being placed, the right-of-way has been cleared and a steam shovel is making rapid roadway on the grading, which is expected to have been completed before Christmas. None of the old grade is being utilized, and the new road will provide almost an air line approach to the city. While nothing definite has been given out it is understood that the link of road will be paved during next summer.

TO GATHER FOOD FOR ORPHANAGE

Appeal Being Made Through Baptist Churches for Produce for Thomasville Home. Needs of Institution Are Urgent.

Professor I. G. Greer, trustee of the Thomasville Orphanage, is issuing the annual request to the Baptist Sunday Schools of Three Forks Association to furnish provisions to the orphans this fall, as has been the custom for many years. Practically everything is desired, says Mr. Greer, with the exception of cabbage, and apples are particularly in demand. It is felt that with the super-abundance of food crops in the mountains this year and low market prices, that the churches will even beat last year's accomplishments, when they furnished more edibles to the home than came from any other association in the State. The full text of the letter being mailed to the Sunday Schools is as follows:

"Last week I was in Thomasville, saw the children, and discussed with Dr. Kester the situation at the Mills Home. The children are already beginning to look to the hills for trucks that come down each fall to bring them something to eat. They're like the child standing at the window or waiting at the gate for the return of their parents to bring them something to make them happy. But the parents of these children are not coming. We must take the place of the fathers and mothers.

"In this time of great need let's see if every church in the association can't send a truck or help make up a truck load of provisions. This fall our contribution should consist largely of potatoes, good apples that can be kept during the winter and canned goods. Of course, such produce as

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Valle Crucis People Visit Canadian Points

A motor party composed of Rev. L. F. Kent, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Massey and Mrs. W. H. Wagner, all of Valle Crucis, leaves Thursday morning for Toronto, Canada. They expect to be gone about ten days and will visit Montreal, Quebec and other points in the Dominion, as well as in the eastern section of the United States. Mr. Kent will visit his father in New York while away, Mr. and Mrs. Massey will call on a daughter in Providence, R. I., and Mrs. Wagner will visit a sister near Boston.

CHILD HEALTH CLINICS TO BE HELD DURING OCTOBER

During the spring and summer months local physicians have been very generous in giving their services once a month for free health examinations for Watauga children. There are times when every mother needs advice as to the feeding and care of her baby. Your neighbors' advice is rarely ever worth taking; your doctor has had both training and experience, and he alone is qualified to guide you in solving the particular problems of your child.

The October Child Health Clinics will be the last for this fall and will be held as follows:

Boone, at Miss Fisher's home in Cabin Colony on Thursday, October 15th, at 1 p. m.

Bailey's Camp at St. Mark's church on Wednesday, the 21st, at 2 p. m.

BIRTH ANNOUNCED

A son, Bynum Bidding Banner Jr., was born on Sunday, October 11th, to Mr. and Mrs. Bynum Bidding Banner of Banner Elk at Grace Hospital. Mrs. Banner before her marriage was Miss Marion Hubbard of Wilkesboro, N. C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hubbard of that place. The baby's great-grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Hubbard, are still living at Wilkesboro, N. C.

MAMMOTH APPLES

Mr. R. L. Baldwin, of the Silverstone section, has the thanks of the Democrat man for more than a dozen enormous apples recently sent from his Rich Mountain Orchards. The specimens are of a yellow tint, verging on green, and weigh an average of three-quarters of a pound each.

ART COLLECTION DERRAL DROUGHT ANSWERS IN WATAUGA

State Seed Loan Agent Spends Last Two Days of Week in County. Has Arranged Schedule for This Section Calling for Presence Each Thursday. Seed Loans May Be Paid and Interest Saved.

Mr. F. B. Benson, assistant seed loan agent for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, spent the first two days of the week in Watauga, preparatory to the collection of the monies advanced local farmers by the Federal Government last spring for the production of this year's crop. Mr. Benson is in charge of these collections in the counties of Watauga, Alleghany, Ashe, Alexander and Wilkes and is maintaining his headquarters for the present in Wilkesboro.

Beginning with Thursday of next week, Mr. Benson will spend each succeeding Thursday in Boone at the Building and Loan office, giving the farmers any information they may desire and receiving payments of the Federal loans. He is anxious that farmers not understanding fully the proposition get in touch with him, and points out that should it be desired he will be glad to meet with groups in any section of the county provided he has about a week's notice. Those who desire to communicate with him should address their letters to him at Box 244, Wilkesboro, N. C.

Prompt payment of the loans is urged, one of the reasons advanced being that the interest is computed to November 30th, and that immediate payment will result in a rebate to the extent of the unearned portion thereof. It is further urged that farmers make payments in cash, if being explained that if personal checks are tendered, receipt for payments will be held up until the check is cleared. Mr. Benson is authorized to give receipts for all moneys, but states that payments may be made direct if desired.

The agent explains that partial payments may be made, but states that there has been no announcement of any extension after the date of maturity of the loans.

The amount of the loans made to Watauga farmers to buy fertilizer and seed aggregates \$32,334.14, some portion of which has already been paid. The largest loan noted is \$900 and some are as low as \$15.

FORMER WATAUGAN VISITS HERE FIRST TIME IN 48 YEARS

Mrs. J. M. Moretz, Dr. J. C. Farthing and T. Hill Farthing of this city are greatly enjoying a visit from an uncle, Mr. Q. C. King, of Seattle, Wash., and his sister and her son, Cey, of Somerset, Ky. Mr. King was formerly a resident of the Zionville community and left this country about forty-eight years ago, never having returned until last week. He first located in Nebraska, where he married, and for the past thirty years has been a resident of Seattle.

He has been engaged during the most of his adult life in railroad work and was retired last February on a pension at the age of 70. He has succeeded well and his niece and nephews are delighted that he should have made the long trip back, just to visit with them. His sister, Mrs. Cook, has been away for about fifteen years but visited for a short time here last year.

U. D. C. HONORS VETERAN ON 87th BIRTHDAY HERE

The Watauga Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy, met last Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Spambour, honoring Mr. Spambour on his 87th birthday anniversary. In addition to the members, the following special guests gathered for the occasion: Mrs. A. V. Bennett and daughter, Mrs. Roland, Messdames Frank Miller and H. G. Farthing. Refreshments were served, which included portions of an enormous birthday cake. The meeting was a thoroughly enjoyable one, and all the guests and the people generally join in wishing for our widely-loved Confederate soldier many happy returns of the day.

CORN STALK IN INDIANA REACHES 17-FOOT HEIGHT

Washington, Ind.—Davies County, Indiana, issues a challenge to beat its record for tall corn. A stalk that towers 17 feet, 1 3/8 inches was taken from a field on the farm of Edgar Shoaff, south of Washington. It had one large ear of corn more than 10 feet up on the stalk.

Albert Beck, another farmer, submitted a stalk that reached 16 feet 3-8 inches into the air in a newspaper contest in which there were 23 entries.

"You are lying so clumsily," said the judge to the defendant, "that I would advise you to get a lawyer."