

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF HARNETT COUNTY PRIMARILY, AND OF THE STATE GENERALLY.

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, June 21, 1928

"If It Concerns Harnett, It's in THE NEWS"

PLATFORM OF NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRACY

Adopted at State Convention Last Tuesday in Raleigh When More Than 7,000 Were Present

The platform adopted by the Democratic convention Tuesday afternoon follows:

The Democratic Party of North Carolina, in convention assembled, reaffirms its devotion to the time-honored principles of our party and calls upon the people to renew their devotion to the institutions of our country and the Constitution of our State and Nation, and recognizing the right of the people in an orderly way to amend the Constitution of the United States at their pleasure, we declare that our party stands firmly for the enforcement of every provision of the Constitution of the United States, including the Eighteenth Amendment and point with pride to the fact that the Democratic General Assembly of North Carolina enacted adequate legislation guaranteeing concurrent enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. We pledge the Democratic Party to the enactment of such additional legislation as may be necessary for the better enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment and other laws against the sale of alcoholic liquors in the State.

We denounce the Republican Party for its failure to sincerely enforce the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and call the country's attention to the fact that the present Republican administration took away the duty of enforcing the prohibition law from the Department of Justice where it properly belongs and placed it under the Treasury Department, presided over by the leader of the corrupt Republican Party in Pennsylvania, and turned the forces provided by Congress at a cost of millions of dollars, for the purpose of enforcement into a mere political organization of the Republican Party, instead of a police force honestly endeavoring to perform their duty.

Republican Corruption Denounced

We denounce the Republican Party in the United States for its widespread corruption in the administration of the National Government, and in the election of Senators and members of the House of Representatives of the United States. We denounce their looting of public property of the United States and we view with even greater alarm the prostitution of the vital functions of our government for mercenary purposes. It is established that the Republican Party not only sold the oil properties of the United States, but that they have sold legislation and the control of administrative boards, set up to serve the people and necessary to the administration of the government, to selfish groups, for campaign funds, with which to perpetrate its powers in this republic.

We denounce the Republican Party for not having brought to justice and punishment those who corrupted high officials of the administration, and in contrast we point with pride to the administration of our country's affairs under Woodrow Wilson, and rejoice in the fact that the utmost scrutiny and investigation by the Republican Party absolutely failed to disclose the slightest corruption or graft during the difficult period through which that administration conducted the affairs of the Nation.

World Court Endorsed

Since the Democratic platform of 1924, endorsed the World Court and the Swanson resolution, passed by the Senate in January, 1926, provided, with certain reservations, for the adherence of the United States to the World Court, and the negotiations between this country and the signatory states which would, in the opinion of many eminent jurists, lead to the completion of American adherence to the court, have been abandoned by the United States; we urgently recommend the resumption of negotiations with a view to completing the adherence of the United States to the World Court.

Democratic State Record

We endorse the faithful and efficient administration of all departments of the State Government by Democratic State officials. We especially endorse and commend the administration of Governor McLean, the constructive legislation enacted with his recommendations and approval, and the careful supervision he has given to every phase

of the State's activities.

We approve the Executive Budget law. Under its operations business methods are employed in the conduct of the State's business, and careful checks and balances are employed in the expenditure of public funds by all departments, institutions and agencies of the State. It has demonstrated its great value in maintaining at all times a sound fiscal policy, and in giving strength and stability to the credit of the State, and its provisions have contributed to the important achievement of reducing to 4 per cent the interest basis on which securities of the State are sold.

State Highway System

Continuing progress has been made toward the objective of a complete, modern State-wide system of public highways. These highways have been constructed and maintained without any tax on property by the State and with a system of financing adequate to maintain all roads in the State system, pay interest on public road bonds and to provide for the full payment of all bonds as they become due and payable. The platform of the Party two years ago declared that "the State should render every assistance possible, after providing for the completion and maintenance of the State system, to aid the counties in organizing efficient systems of connecting county roads". In pursuance of that pledge, the State has, under Act of General Assembly of 1927, increased the mileage of the State system by more than twenty per cent, and relieved the counties of the burden of maintenance of roads formerly maintained by the counties. We renew the declaration of the 1926 Platform that, subject to the limitations therein imposed, the State should continue its policy of relieving the counties of maintaining public roads that should logically be considered a part of a State system of public roads. County roads are maintained by taxes on property, and State roads by gasoline and license taxes, and as the State may safely expand the mileage of highways in the State system it will, to that extent, remove the burden from property taxes.

Public School Education

Among its fundamental guarantees, the Constitution of 1868 declares that, "the people have the right and the privilege of education and it is the duty of the State to guard and maintain that right". And to make this declaration effective, the Constitution prescribed that "The General Assembly . . . shall provide by taxation and otherwise for a general and uniform system of public schools wherein education shall be free of charge to all children of the State between the ages of six and twenty-one years," with separate schools for white and colored, and that, "so much of the ordinary revenue of the State as may be by law set apart for the purpose shall be faithfully appropriated for establishing and maintaining in this State a system of free public schools and for no other uses or purposes whatever."

"The Democratic Party is the party of education and of progress in North Carolina and under Democratic leadership it added an educational qualification to the right of suffrage, while at the same time assuring its free exercise by a State-wide school term of six months at least, which, in most of the counties, has been increased to eight months and in many communities to nine months each year. It not only recognizes the constitutional obligation of the State to maintain the public school system, which our Supreme Court has held to be mandatory, but also the manifest duty of the General Assembly to appropriate revenues for that purpose, so that efficient maintenance of the minimum school term of six months guaranteed by the Constitution shall not result in oppressive taxation among the counties which, in large part, have been forced to begin an undue burden on land and personal property.

Equalization of Taxes

The Democratic Party, therefore, declares that the time has come in the economic progress and development of North Carolina when the cost of providing public education should be more nearly equalized and the burden more evenly distributed. We recognize that we have problems in taxation to be solved. The liberal program of expanding public service and public improvements by the State and by Counties and municipalities throughout the State, presents its increasing problems in raising necessary public revenue to sustain them. The last General Assembly, recognizing the importance of this question, provided for a searching party and investigation of all phases of this question by a Tax Commission, appointed by the Gov-

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ROAD BOARD HELD BUDGET MEET MONDAY

Will Ask Commissioners for More Money This Year—Not Enough Now for Maintenance, They Say

The Harnett County Highway Board was in session here Monday preparing a tentative budget to submit to the Board of County Commissioners. The Commissioners will meet in extraordinary session today, the 21st, for the purpose of going into the joint session with the Board of Education to talk over the school budget. The Road Board will also submit their budget, and so the session today will resolve itself into a finance meeting with the Board of Commissioners being the brunt of the battle of expenditure versus income. The school board asks for \$50,000 more than they had last year. The highway board will ask for a little more also, though not with the full hope of getting what they ask.

The highway board estimates that the following items of income will be necessary for the proper operation of that department of county government this year: Maintenance \$40,000, construction, \$12,000, bridges \$7,500, making a total of \$59,500. This does not take into account an estimated cost of around \$15,000 for maintaining the convict camp. Superintendent Ballard of the road forces says that it takes much more to maintain the convict force now than formerly. This is due, in great measure, to the fact that the number of "enlisted" men is much higher.

The road levy last year was 17 cents. The road board wants the Commissioners to make it 20 cents this year. On the 17 cents levy the road board netted about \$38,000 last year. They spent \$58,000, some of which was realized from a sale of bonds and funds left over from the year before.

Members of the road board Monday did not see minded to think the Commissioners would agree to any raise in the road levy, and therefore were not very optimistic over the prospect for an increased budget. They were free to say, however, that if the county expects to construct roads and protect the investment in them by maintaining what roads are built, more money must come into the highway treasury.

Members of the road board are aware, as are all other observant persons, that something must be done, and done quickly, if the great expenditure for construction of roads by the county is to be saved. The Lillington-Manchester road, a masterpiece in sand-gravel construction when it was completed, is fast becoming rutty and the fills are being washed out. The Upper Little River roads are doing the same. Only the dragging process is being used to keep these roads in good shape, and that process is far from satisfactory in this day of continuous heavy traffic. The Lillington-Manchester road cost the county about \$80,000.

Suggestion of a tarring process for the county roads brought enthusiastic endorsement from the road board, but members stated that while that process was the cheapest and best in the long run, the county would have to put out considerable money right now if it was adopted. Members of the board did not seem to think they could impress upon the Commissioners the wisdom of inaugurating such a system.

U. L. R. SCHOOL TAKING SHAPE

The big \$100,000 school building in Upper Little River township, which is being erected at a point about midway between Marners and Ryes, is rapidly taking shape. The walls of the building are almost completed and inside work will soon be started.

When finished the Upper Little River school will be the largest in the county. It is located in Harnett's largest township, which heretofore has been the only township in the county without a modern school.

Several new buses will be required to convey the children to this school. There are about 800 children of school age in the township, but some of them will go to other schools for the present. It is expected that the new school will open in September.

SMITH OR HULL? NEEHER! NO! JIM REED, SAYS LAWYER HOOD

The contest between Al Smith and Cordell Hull for the Democratic nomination for President of these United States is not as interesting to Lawyer John Hood as it is to some of the pros and cons who profess to be intensely serious about their leanings toward or from the Pope of Rome and the Bacchaerial shrine. The said pros and cons are having their hot discussions while Lawyer Hood is smiling his contentment over the eminent fitness of his favorite—Jim Reed.

Mr. Hood has watched Reed in action on the congressional floor and he loves to tell the fellows what a master orator, debater and general all-round efficient public service man his favorite is. If the Houston convention can't decide whether Smith or Hull is the best choice, an easy way out of a serious dilemma is to name Jim Reed, says Lawyer Hood. In fact, says Mr. Hood, the really best man in the whole bunch is Reed.

SUPERIOR COURT DELAYED A DAY ACCOUNT DEATH

Judge Nunn's Brother Dies in Newbern—Headway Being Made on Criminal Docket—Over 100 Cases

Harnett Superior Court convened Tuesday morning instead of Monday morning, the delay being due to the fact that Judge R. A. Nunn, who is presiding, went to Newbern Monday to attend the funeral of his brother, John Adolph Nunn, who died suddenly early Sunday morning from the effects of an injury he sustained some time ago in a mill accident. Judge Nunn came to Lillington Tuesday and opened court for the week term which is for the trial of criminal cases exclusively.

The calendar as prepared by Clerk Chaffin contains over a hundred cases. There are not so many jail cases, however, and it is expected that the jail will be cleared at this term. Several murder cases are on the docket. There being no May term on account of the Lawrence case in Chatham taking up the week that was set apart for the Harnett court, the criminal docket in this county is somewhat crowded.

With the headway being made by Solicitor Orwason Williams, it is expected that a considerable number of cases will be disposed of this week. There has been some talk of calling for an extra term of criminal court to clear the congested docket, but whether this course will be adopted is not definitely decided. Adsummer is a busy time for farmers, who are already behind with their work, and it is not at all certain that an extra term of court will be called.

Jurors and witnesses who came to Lillington Monday morning for the convening of court went back to their work and came again Tuesday morning. It is expected that the court will wind away on the docket till Saturday night in an effort to clear away all the cases possible during the short June term.

PEACH CROP PROMISING

Lillington's peach crop is well on the way to a good harvest this year. The outlook is promising, according to the local growers, who have finished thinning and spraying their fruit. If no untoward happening overtakes the peaches before the middle of July, when the fruit begins ripening, there will not only be a bountiful harvest but the peaches will be of the best type.

The local orchards have established a reputation for such an excellent variety of fruit that it has come to be much in demand. The entire crop sold at good prices last year. Only two varieties are grown here—Ebertas and Bellas. The former are usually in marketing shape a week ahead of the latter, but last year both varieties ripened at the same time.

CHILDREN'S EXERCISES AT PLEASANT UNION

Children's Day exercises will be held at Pleasant Union Christian Church next Saturday, June 23, beginning at 2:00 p. m. The public is cordially invited to attend. An interesting program has been arranged. This is an annual event at Pleasant Union and each year there is a large congregation present.

RUNNING THE RISK OF COTTON FARMING, 1928

Dr. Winters Reminds Cotton Farmers That Danger From Boll Weevil This Year is Serious

By Dr. R. Y. Winters, Director N. C. Agricultural Experiment Stations. (Taken from an article in the June issue of "Wachovia.")

The cotton-growers of North Carolina need not be reminded that the boll weevil is a serious menace to cotton production. Last year's experience is still fresh in their memory. The greatest difficulty in connection with this problem is the lack of confidence among cotton growers in the remedy for boll weevil control. This is likely to be a very serious source of loss unless something can be done to cultivate confidence in proven methods of control. The State Department of Agriculture Bulletin of March, 1924, gives the method of control and conclusive evidence of its value. The following bulletins of the U. S. Department of Agriculture also furnish valuable information on the control of this pest:

Boll Weevil Problems—Bulletin No. 1329.

How Insects Affect the Cotton Plant—Bulletin No. 890.

Dusting for Cotton Boll Weevil—Circular No. 374.

Poor Quality a Source of Great Risk

Quality is an important factor in determining the value of all farm produce. Particularly is this true during periods of surplus production. The grower who produces low grade short cotton is placing himself in direct competition with the growers of India, China and other countries having cheaper labor. Some studies have been conducted in the State to compare the quality of cotton produced with the qualities consumed by local mills. The following table contains a very interesting comparison between the types produced and those consumed by mills in the State:

Cotton Production and Consumption in North Carolina

1926 production—1,200,000 bales. Consumption by N. C. mills from all sources—1,690,000 bales.

The following shows production according to length of staple and consumption according to length of staple:

Length	Production	Consumption
7-8 inch	690,000	240,000
15-16 inch	236,000	423,000
1 to 1-1-16	218,000	664,000
1-1-16 inch and above	16,800	264,000

The comparison indicates a considerable lack of cottons running in length between 15-16 of an inch and 1-1-16 inch. The following table give a comparison of the prices quoted for middling cotton of the different staple lengths on the Gastonia, N. C., market, October 31st, 1927:

Length	Price per lb. at mill
7-8	21.00
15-16	21.50
1	22.75
1-1-16	24.50

These prices used in connection with the average yields of improved and unimproved varieties of higher quality will indicate the possibilities of reducing the risk of cotton production by growing the quality demanded by our local mills.

Yield and value of unimproved and improved cotton varieties according to length of staple—average of ten years' comparison:

Unimproved—Length 3-4 to 7-8, yield lint lbs. per acre, 446, value per acre \$93.46.

Improved—Length 15-16, yield 485, value \$104.27.

Mexican Big Boll—Length 1 and 1-1-16, yield 469, value \$106.70.

The North Carolina Cotton Growers Cooperative Association has made a distinct contribution to the reduction of risk from poor quality cotton by encouraging its members in the production of improved varieties. No other factor has had a greater influence upon the improvement of quality than the careful grading and stapling of this association followed by payment to the grower according to the quality of cotton delivered. The association has also helped to cultivate a higher regard for North Carolina cotton among mills by supplying their needs in uniform lots. This service should be supported and encouraged by the farmers and business men of our State.

Visits Here Sunday

A. Green of Durham spent a few days this week in Lillington.

COLLECTOR LEVYING ON ALL PERSONAL PROPERTY

Tax Collector John Green and his assistants, F. S. Culhom and J. N. Fuquay, are making a determined search for personal property these days. Whenever a sufficient amount of personal property is found to satisfy the tax claim, levies are issued and the delinquent is asked to come across or else see his property sold at auction.

In a great many cases, according to the collectors, it is not possible to get the taxes this way. In a number of cases, where it would appear that it might be an easy matter to levy on personal property and get taxes, after a search it is found that not enough values can be found to get the amount sought.

Personal property worth levying upon seems harder to locate than would appear upon the surface, says Collector Green.

JUNE POULTRY PAYS FARMERS GOOD PRICES

Shipment Last Friday One of Best Carloads to Go Out of Harnett—No More This Month

Prof. J. O. Anthony, vocational instructor in Lillington schools, who has been managing the Four County Poultry Association's cooperative shipments in Harnett county, is much pleased with the manner in which poultry shipments have developed an interest in this phase of diversified agriculture.

Returning from Dunn last Friday, where he finished the June shipments of live poultry to northern markets, he stated that poultry raisers of Harnett and adjoining counties are rapidly learning of the handsome profits to be derived from poultry raising.

The shipment last Friday brought to the car 5,749 pounds of live poultry from which the sellers realized \$1,263.97. This will be the last shipment in June. Mr. Anthony stated that he would probably make selling arrangements for poultry raisers in Harnett by having buyers go through the country and purchase poultry at the yards. The shipments last Friday, he stated, practically cleaned up the bulk of saleable poultry in this county. That does not mean, however, that there is no more poultry for sale, but that the raisers do not have sufficient numbers of chickens of marketable age on their yards just now to justify a shipment every two weeks as has been the case since the first of the year.

Prof. Anthony stated that he would announce through the papers the date of the next shipment, which will be some time in July. He expects the interest in poultry raising to grow, however, till shipments will have to be made regularly throughout the year. Only one car has been shipped at a time heretofore, but it is expected that by the beginning of the next season the volume of poultry for shipment will have reached such a point that it will be necessary to provide more ample shipping facilities and that special arrangements will have to be made for it.

MRS. LAVINA HOBSON NOW OVER 100 YEARS OLD

Mrs. Lavina Hobson, widow of Richardson, will be 101 years old if she lives to see her next birthday, September 15th. She makes her home with her son, Uriah Hobson, about a mile from Thornwell. She is blind but enjoys life. She draws a pension by virtue of the fact that her husband was a Confederate soldier. She has five living children.

There are several centenarians in Harnett county, which gives conclusive evidence that this is a healthy place in which to live.

ATTEND B. Y. P. U. CONVENTION

The following young people of the Lillington Baptist church are attending the B. Y. P. U. Convention at Meredith College this week: Misses Mamie Hagwood, Junior leader, and Agnes Gentry of the Junior department, Margaret Baggett and Adelaide Shaw of the Intermediate and Mary Gladys Womble and Mr. Robert Redfern of the Senior.

AT MOREHEAD CITY

Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Monroe and sons, Joe and Charles Sidney, are spending a few days this week in Morehead City.

WORK STARTED ON NEW GOOD HOPE HOSPITAL, ERWIN

Building to Cost \$50,000 Exclusive of Plumbing and Lighting—Byrd Bros. & Shaw Contractors

Byrd Bros. & Shaw of Lillington, contractors for the erection of the new plant for the Good Hope Hospital at Erwin, have begun work on the structure, which will cost, exclusive of plumbing, heating, lighting and fixtures, around \$50,000. The Lillington contractors do not have included in their contract anything further than the bare building. Other contractors will install plumbing, heating, lights and fixtures, which will run into total cost of the institution to about \$75,000.

The old structure, which stands near the site of the new hospital, has served for many years to patrons not only in Erwin but of the surrounding territory. It has long been noted for its efficient management. Dr. W. E. Holt is surgeon in charge. It is owned by the Erwin Mills Company, and the new hospital will be under the same ownership and management.

Since erection of the additional spinning mill at Erwin the population of the little city has increased till now the census would show about 5,000 people. Besides the modern hospital, Erwin has already two modern school buildings, which are equipped with playground and other recreational facilities that make it one of the most up-to-date schools in the county.

The Erwin community is noted throughout for its excellent management. Employees enjoy good homes and every other comfort that might be desired for such a community. The population is of a high type of citizenship, and the mills company has been complimented upon its splendid manner of conducting affairs there. All of the buildings in the town are owned by the Erwin Mills Company, and those occupied for the various industries and professions are leased to private concerns.

GRAVEL CO. TO RE-OPEN PITS?

Rumor is to the effect that the Standard Sand & Gravel Corporation, owner of the largest gravel mining plant in this section of the country, is entertaining the proposition of reopening their plant here. Although nothing definite as to the plans of the company is available for publication, it is intimated from reliable sources that an early resumption of operations is within the probabilities.

Mr. G. D. Monroe, local representative of the company, is now operating a plant at Summerville. He has nothing to say in regard to the Standard's opening. He is in charge of the company's property.

LOCAL BAPTIST CHURCH TO ELECT NEW DEACONS

At a conference of the deacons and deaconesses of Lillington Baptist church, held in the church after preaching service last Sunday night, it was decided that the entire board of deacons retire in order that the church may go into the election of a board of deacons. The election will take place at a conference of members of the church after the morning service the second Sunday in July.

Pastor Gillespie will make the report to the conference. The board of deacons, which will in future be composed of five male members of the church, will be elected so that one member will retire each year. Thus the members will be elected one for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years and one for five years.

The retiring board of deacons and deaconesses is as follows: Dr. J. W. Halford, chairman, E. P. Gentry, W. M. Bryan, A. M. Shaw, J. E. Womble, Mrs. J. B. Tugwell, Mrs. J. G. Layton.

MR. THOMSON LEAVES TODAY FOR HOUSTON

Mr. John C. Thomson expects to leave today for Houston, Texas, where he goes as a delegate from the Sixth Congressional District to the Democratic convention. The convention will meet on the 24th.

Mr. Thomson plans to be away for several weeks. He will visit relatives and many points of interest, taking his summer vacation in the meantime.