

HARNETT COUNTY NEWS

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Lillington, N. C., Thursday, November 3, 1938

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

Election County Committee Completes New Set-up For Administering Soil Programs

J. B. COLLINS IS NAMED HEAD OF COUNTY GROUP

E. H. SASATER OF GROVE VICE-CHAIRMAN; G. L. CAMERON, W. H. STEPHENSON AND J. W. GREGORY ELECTED

Assembling last Saturday morning in the courthouse auditorium, convention delegates who were elected at the series of township meetings conducted earlier in the week appointed members and alternate members of the committee which will supervise the government-sponsored agricultural programs in Harnett county for the ensuing year.

Chairman W. L. Matthews of Lillington, route 3, presided, over the convention and C. R. Ammons, secretary of the Harnett County Soil Conservation Association, served as secretary. Although the meeting was thrown open to the public, the only voting delegates were those selected by Harnett farmers at the community gatherings. Alternates were allowed to vote if the official delegate was unable to attend.

J. B. Collins of Lillington, route 3, was elected chairman of the county-wide committee and Eugene H. Sasater of Erwin, route 1, was selected as vice-chairman. Regulations governing the election provided that the nominee receiving the highest number of votes be declared chairman and the second highest be vice-chairman. The third member of the committee is G. Lawrence Cameron of Olivia. W. Harvey Stephenson of Angier, the fourth ranking nominee, is first alternate and will meet with the committee. J. W. Gregory of Buie's Creek was the second alternate.

Interest in the elections mounted to a high peak as farmers realized the importance of selecting for committee members growers who will administer without favor or partiality the program which will be followed in 1939. Tentative plans for the 1939 set-up provide that more power than ever will be vested in the county controlling group. For this reason the success or failure of whatever policies will be invoked for the next growing and marketing season rests largely upon the members of the county committee.

Most opinions expressed since the elections reveal the growers are pleased with the outcome. Community elections were continued on page eight.

PRAISE MEMBERS OLD COMMITTEE

Delegates To Soil Conservation Association's Convention Adopt Resolution Thanking Out-Going Group

Delegates to the Harnett County Soil Conservation Association's convention in the courthouse last Saturday morning adopted a resolution expressing appreciation for the fine work and cooperative spirit members of the out-going committee displayed while they were at the helm of the county's agricultural program.

The resolution was offered by A. B. Curran, Jr., of Angier after the work of the convention—naming three members and two alternate members of the committee administering the AAA program in Harnett county—had been completed. The out-going group is composed of the following: W. L. Matthews, Lillington, route 3, chairman; S. H. Broadwell, Angier, route 2; G. L. Hemmingway, Dunn, route 4; E. L. Jones, Bunnlevel.

Members of this committee were appointed two years ago while J. O. Anthony was County Agent. They supervised the 1937 conservation program and administered this year's compulsory crop control program. Their successors are: J. B. Collins, Lillington, route 3, chairman; E. H. Sasater, Erwin, route 1, vice-chairman; G. L. Cameron, Olivia; W. Harvey Stephenson, Angier.

Delegates representing every Harnett farmer who has participated in the program and is eligible for a benefit check unanimously adopted the resolution and ordered that a copy of it be placed on the minute book in which is recorded the work of the convention.

Without Strings

Most of the funds coming into Harnett's treasury represent a direct burden on the taxpayers—they are either collections on levies or are loans floated to tide the county through a financial storm. But Superintendent of Schools B. P. Gentry was recipient Monday morning of a fat check to which no strings whatsoever were attached. The check, a government voucher for \$5,150, was the Public Works Administration's initial payment on a \$9,000 grant recently approved to assist with construction of a gymnasium and primary classrooms at Angier.

DISTRICT EDUCO CLUBS WILL MEET IN BUIE'S CREEK

PRINCIPALS AND MEN TEACHERS OF 10 PIEDMONT COUNTIES WILL ASSEMBLE IN THIS COUNTY NOV. 11TH

Members of Harnett's Educo Club will be hosts to principals and men teachers from 10 counties in Piedmont North Carolina Friday night of next week when affiliated Educo Clubs of the district hold their annual fall meeting at Buie's Creek.

Indications are that more than 100 visiting teachers will be guests at the dinner and at the business session which is to follow. This number, in addition to the 30 or 35 from Harnett who will be present will raise the aggregate number attending to 130-140. Dinner will be served in the Campbell College dining room.

Feature address of the evening will be by Dr. W. A. Frazer, president of Queens-Chocora College in Charlotte. Prominent school men from the district will also appear at the program.

The nine counties in the district with Harnett are Cumberland, Hoke, Montgomery, Moore, Anson, Richmond, Robeson, Bladen and Lee. Sampson and Duplin are also affiliated but are without active Educo Clubs.

First club in the district was organized in Cumberland county more than 10 years ago. Three years later, Moore and Hoke affiliated. Montgomery was next to fall in line and since that time the growth has been rapid. Harnett, the "baby" member of the district, was given a charter last year.

F. H. Richardson, superintendent of Troy schools, is president. H. Lee Thomas, superintendent of Moore county, is secretary-treasurer. Among the past presidents are Horace Sisk of Fayetteville, Edwin West of Hemp, A. B. Wilkins of Fayetteville, W. P. Hawfield of Ansonville and W. F. Morson of Pinehurst. Officers for next year will be elected at the spring session, the meeting place for which will be decided next Friday night.

C. Reid Ross, assistant superintendent of Harnett, has been heading the committee making arrangements for the district meeting at Campbell College.

FIRST HEARINGS ON WEED QUOTAS SET FOR NOV. 10

GROWERS WHOSE WORKSHEETS FAILED TO PICTURE TRUE CONDITIONS TO APPEAR BEFORE OUT-OF-COUNTY GROUP

County Agent C. R. Ammons announces that the first Board of Review, established to adjust quotas calculated from worksheets which contained errors, will be conducted in Harnett county Thursday, Friday and Saturday of next week. Tobacco growers who wished their cases to be reviewed by this board were allowed 15 days after final notices were received in which to file an official protest. For most growers, this deadline will not be reached until this week-end and failure to file within the period specified will automatically bar the farmer from appearing before the board.

The work of this review group is further clarified by a statement from the county agent who explained that the only farmers whose appeals will be allowed are those who failed to give correct information when committees were collecting data on which quotas were based. Past production, number of curing barns, number of tenant families, and other factors entered into the establishment of these poundage allotments and the review board will hear the appeals of farmers who can prove that their quotas were calculated from incorrect figures.

To facilitate the hearing of these appeals, County Agent Ammons has explained that a rigid schedule will be followed. Twenty minutes will be allowed to hear the case of each grower who is permitted an appeal. Growers will be notified when they are supposed to appear before the group. Failure to be present on the time appointed will result in forfeiture as the review boards must work systematically in order to give a non-partial hearing.

Where possible, the county committee and Agent Ammons are making adjustments so the growers will not have to appear before the board. In most cases, however, regulations governing the program place power to adjust difficulties in the review group.

The board, assigned to hear appeals for additional poundage arising in this county is composed of Chairman W. T. Temple of Sanford, Wade H. Paschall of Siler City and John B. Mills of Apex, route 2. E. W. Paschall of Sanford, route 3, is alternate.

Although the exact number of growers eligible to appear before the board will not be known until the deadline has passed, County Agent Ammons says that between 40 and 50 appeals have been allowed.

Farmers appearing before the board must confine their arguments to their own farms. Under no conditions, Ammons says, will they be allowed to base their request on grounds that the per acre quota given an adjoining farmer was larger.

Harnett Officer Assists In Solving 3-Year-Old Murder

Harnett officers assisted last week in clearing another murder committed several years ago when Deputy Ken Matthews drew from a Negro placed in his custody a confession that he killed his Columbus county sweetheart three years ago.

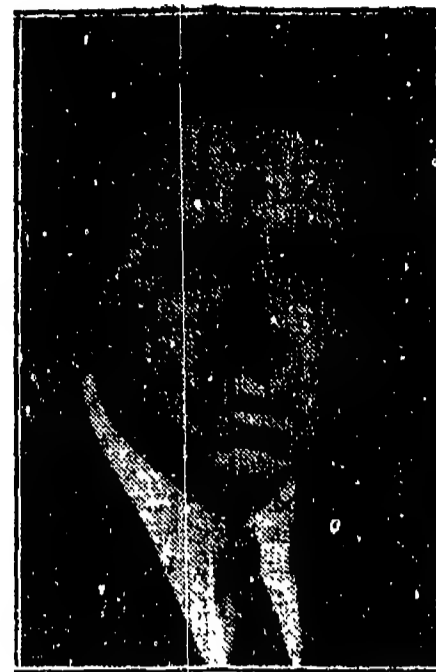
The Negro, Edward Baker alias Roland Brown, was last week bound over to Superior Court after he had been arrested and charged with shooting at residents of a dwelling in Coats. When the Negro was carried back to jail, Deputy Matthews quizzed him in an attempt to learn if he had not been implicated in previous crimes. He had no idea, however, that the Negro was a killer. His examination netted startling results when his prisoner voluntarily burst out with the admission that he shot and killed Lola Johnson at Chadbourne in the spring of 1935. The Negro's confession came when

he believed Deputy Matthews knew he had been involved elsewhere and that the Harnett officer could trace the killing back to him.

Columbus county officers notified that a man wanted in their county for murder was safely stowed away in Harnett's prison, came here and identified the Negro. According to the Negro's statement, he fled to Virginia—after he committed the murder and evaded arrest until he returned to North Carolina. Although he did not say so, the Negro implied that he would still be at large, if he had not made the fatal error of running afoul of Harnett officers.

The Negro will be tried in the session of Superior Court which convenes November 14th and then he will be turned over to officials of the county in which he is wanted for a more serious offense.

Climax Speaker



J. M. BROUGHTON

The Democratic whirlwind campaign for re-election will be climaxed Friday night of this week with an address in the Dunn Municipal Building by Attorney J. M. Broughton of Raleigh, one of North Carolina's outstanding Democrats. Leaders are making efforts to have a capacity audience out to hear Mr. Broughton.

BROUGHTON TO CLOSE CAMPAIGN FOR DEMOCRATS

PROMINENT RALEIGH ATTORNEY WILL SPEAK AT FINAL RALLY FRIDAY NIGHT IN DUNN MUNICIPAL BUILDING

With a gigantic rally in the Dunn Municipal Building for all Democrats in the thickly populated eastern half of the county, Harnett Democrats will tomorrow (Friday) night wind-up their drive for re-election.

Attorney J. M. Broughton of Raleigh, one of North Carolina's outstanding Democrats and a prospective gubernatorial candidate in 1940, will deliver the principal address at the gathering which will close the campaign Harnett Democrats have been waging to maintain their supremacy in this county.

Chairman Henry Strickland of Angier, who is supervising the drive which Democrats anticipate will result in their fifth consecutive victory over their friendly opponents, is especially anxious that every seat in the auditorium be filled. Coming as it does, just four days from the election date, the final rally will have an important bearing on the outcome and Democrats all down the line are urged to be present and to pass word along to their neighbors, urging them to do likewise.

Additional importance is attached to the rally because it is one of two such gatherings planned by Chairman Strickland for the entire county during the Democrats' whirlwind campaign. Congressman J. Bayard Clark of Fayetteville inaugurated the drive two weeks ago with an address in the courthouse. Secretary of State Thad Eure was slated to continue the campaign with an address last Friday night in Buie's Creek. Previously planned events in the Neill's Creek community forced Chairman Strickland to cancel this appearance and the inability to secure a school auditorium at another key point in the county prevented him from having the rally elsewhere.

Although only two county-wide rallies will have been staged by the time the election is conducted, meetings have been scheduled for each of the 21 precincts. The precinct workers form the back-bone of the organization and it is through these that the Democratic leaders are expecting another of their top-sliced victories. While dependency is placed in the precinct organizations, the public at large needs to be reminded of next Tuesday's balloting and Chairman Strickland, together with other members of the executive committee, are relying on the Dunn rally (Continued on page two)

2 AMENDMENTS BEFORE VOTERS

Voters in next Tuesday's general election will be given an opportunity to record their opinion of the two proposals to amend the State constitution. One provides for increasing the terms of sheriffs and coroners from two to four years and the second provides for the establishment of a department of justice. The change in the basic law doubling office terms will become effective, if a majority of the voters approve its adoption, as soon as the amendment is certified by the Secretary of State.

County Apparently Snapping Out Of Political Doldrums As Election Day Approaches

CONTRACTS LET FOR BEAVER DAM, ANGIER SCHOOLS

RALEIGH FIRM SUCCESSFUL BIDDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ANNEX AT ANGIER; HAIRR REBUILDS NEGRO SCHOOL

Letting contracts for two building projects forced minor educational matters into the background last Saturday morning when members of the Board of Education reconvened to canvass bids for construction of a gymnasium and classrooms at Angier and for rebuilding the Beaver Dam school which was recently burned.

The Angier school, calling for an expenditure of more than \$21,000, attracted many bidders. Trying to land this contract were 11 general contractors, six heating and plumbing firms and two firms which submitted bids for plumbing only. Under-bidding the others by several hundred dollars, J. N. Bryan and Sons of Raleigh was awarded contract for constructing the building. This firm's bid was \$18,500. Both the heating and plumbing contracts went to a Wilmington contractor, A. E. Cumber. Cost of installing the heating system will be \$1,149 and installation of the plumbing system calls for an outlay of \$1,900.

These three contracts provide for an expenditure of \$21,549, a thousand dollars more cash than the county has for the construction of the building. The deficit will be offset by the donation of a large number of brick which citizens of the district gave as their contribution to the much-needed building. These bricks will be purchased by the contractor.

The Angier building will be constructed with county funds, supplemented by a \$9,225 outright grant from Public Works Administration funds. It provides adequate space for a basketball court, quarters for the home economics department and classrooms for the primary grades. Educational authorities again encountered financial difficulties when they received costs of rebuilding the Beaver Dam school for Negroes. The only funds available for this project were the sums realized from the insurance policies, \$4,750. Lowest bid submitted by A. Y. Hairr of Fuquay Springs, was for \$5,765. He was awarded the contract but the building will not be completely finished until next year, when additional funds will be available. The four classrooms will be fixed but the interior of the auditorium will not be completed.

MISS HELEN BYRD PRESIDENT MEREDITH SOPHOMORE CLASS

Miss Helen Byrd, president of the sophomore class at Meredith College, will lead her class in the school's annual stunts night which will be celebrated Saturday night. Miss Byrd is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Byrd of Erwin, route 1.

Weird Claims Witchcraft Heard In Recorder's Court

The story of "witch doctors" who attempted to make an abandoned Negro husband believe they could return his wife to him and who also tried to lead the wife into believing they could cause her unwanted husband's death was unfurled last week in Judge Floyd Taylor's Recorder's Court.

The Negroes involved lived in the eastern section of the county. On learning that domestic troubles had invaded the home of William McNeill and his wife, Annie, and that Annie refused to live with her husband any longer, the masters of witchcraft went to William and told they had the power to make her return. Their usual fee for such service was \$25 but for him they consented to make a cut-rate, \$10.50. But from two to four years and the second provides for the establishment of a department of justice. The change in the basic law doubling office terms will become effective, if a majority of the voters approve its adoption, as soon as the amendment is certified by the Secretary of State.

Cotton Report

Harnett's 1938 cotton yield trails the 1937 production by more than 10,000 bales.

According to the latest reports issued by Special Agent J. H. Withers, 10,918 bales were ginned in this county from the 1938 crop prior to Oct. 16. This is considerably less than the 21,149 bales which had been ginned prior to the corresponding date in 1937.

Ginnings in Harnett last year neared the 30,000 mark. Ginnings and agricultural leaders have predicted this year's harvest will be less than 15,000 bales.

PROSPECTS FOR VOTE ON LIQUOR SLOWLY FADING

LUKEWARM ATTITUDE OF PROMINENT CITIZENS SEEN AS REASON FOR FAILURE TO PUSH DRIVE FOR REFERENDUM

Prospects for an early vote on the establishment of legal liquor stores in Harnett have dimmed perceptibly within the past few days and an informal poll of several prominent citizens disclosed the majority of them are against forcing a showdown of the bothersome issue.

Garland Adams of Angier, instigator of the drive which last spring was suddenly called off when approximately two-thirds of the required number of signatures had been affixed to petitions requesting the Board of Elections for a referendum, reopened the drive more than a month ago when he announced petitions would be distributed and kept in circulation until the quota was reached.

The law provides that the elections board shall order a special referendum when ever it is presented with petitions signed by qualified voters totalling 15 per cent of the number of votes cast in the preceding gubernatorial contest. This provision, it appeared to Harnett before 1940, requires signatures of 1473 voters. Adams hinted that attempts would be made to have the petitions completed and submitted to the board by mid-October. So far, however, none have been circulated. The forthcoming election, evidently influenced the decision to delay their appealing. Although the referendum would be non-partisan, both Republican and Democratic leaders have been anxious not to have the liquor question broached as a side issue. This would have happened if a date for a referendum on the establishment of county controlled whiskey stores had been ordered before the general election is completed.

Not only are political leaders against forcing a show-down but many observers who keep fingers on the pulse of public opinion predict failure for the control forces unless a concerted campaign, backed by

(Continued on page eight)

ACTIVITY NOTED AS CANDIDATES SPUR UP VOTERS

INTEREST IN TUESDAY'S BALLOTING INCREASING BUT TOTAL VOTE WILL BE LESS THAN RECORD SET IN 1936

Eyes focused on offices at stake in next Tuesday's general election, Harnett Democrats and Republicans headed down the campaign's home stretch this week with last-minute attempts to mend political fences and to arouse party members to such a point that not one will fall to vote.

Until a few days ago, so little interest had been displayed in the forthcoming battle with ballots that many old-timers termed it the quietest campaign in Harnett's history. Within the past week, however, the trend of public opinion seems to have been reversed and interest in the approaching election is steadily mounting. Specific issues have been injected into the campaign. Republicans are attempting to capitalize on these issues by driving a wedge into Democratic ranks but Chairman Henry Strickland and his party workers are more determined than ever to make it "five in a row" over the GOP.

Although interest in the approaching election is on the upgrade, there is little chance that the total number of votes will reach the aggregate of two years ago when more than 10,000 Harnett citizens participated in the Democratic landslide. Leaders have estimated the total figure will be around the 9,000 mark.

Officers lining up on the outcome of next Tuesday's vote range in importance from township constable to one of North Carolina's two seats in the United States Senate. Harnett voters will participate in only two State or district-wide races. One of these is the battle between Senator Robert R. Reynolds and Republican Charles A. Jones for Senate. The other is a district affair, in which Congressman J. Bayard Clark of Fayetteville is being opposed by E. C. Geddie of Erwin, who this fall is managing the Republican campaign in Harnett county. In the judicial district, Claude C. Canaday of Benson is unopposed for the solicitorship.

Since there is little chance for either Senator Reynolds or Congressman Clark to be up-set, Republicans are centering their attention on the county races. The only open gap in their county ticket is in the coroner's contest, in which they failed to enter a candidate. J. Melvin McLean, the Democratic nominee, will thus ride into office unopposed but the other Democratic choices, with the exception of Solicitor Canaday, will encounter formidable opposition in the form of the Republican candidates.

Officers at stake and aspirants are: Fred S. Thomas of Erwin and M. G. Boyette of Carthage are Democratic nominees for the 12th district's two seats in the North Carolina Senate. Claude H. Pope of Dunn and Harwood Graves of Moore county are the Republican candidates. Neill McK. Ross of Lillington is (Continued on page two)

SIX CONSTABLES SEEK ELECTION

Democratic Township Officers Will Be Unopposed In Tuesday's Ballotting; Are Already Serving

To next Tuesday's general election, a bit of local color will be added as Democrats in six Harnett townships go through the formality of electing unopposed candidates for constable. No Republicans filed for the township posts but ballots must be in each of the districts where a Democrat is seeking office because at least one vote must be cast for the nominee.

Most of the candidates are already serving, by virtue of their appointments by the Board of Commissioners. The half dozen races and the candidates are: C. C. McLean, Duke township; E. B. Beasley, Avasboro; O. H. Mangum, Johnsonville; W. Fletcher Bethune, Lillington; N. T. Wilkins, Buckhorn; L. A. Stephens, Black River.