

STATE CONVENTION MAY 16TH

**State Committee Breaks
Precedent by Acting in
Advance of National Com-
mittee**

The Democratic State Executive Committee Friday night shattered all precedent by calling a Democratic State Convention to be held in Raleigh on Thursday, May 16, to elect delegates to a Democratic National Convention which has not yet been called to meet.

With 40 of the 138 members of the committee present in person and 52 others represented by proxy, a resolution fixing the time and place for the State Convention and calling precinct meetings for Saturday, May 11, was adopted without a word of discussion. The meeting was adjourned in precisely one minute after the presence of a quorum had been announced by Chairman R. Gregg Cherry.

Presidential Angles

The resolution was offered by Judge Walter D. Siler, of Pittsboro, who is informally representing the interests of Vice President John N. Garner as a Presidential candidate in this State. Chairman Cherry denied that there was any significance in that fact. The chairman pointed out that Judge Siler, a veteran member of the State committee, has frequently offered similar resolutions in the past. Chairman Cherry said that he had offered a proxy in his possession to Senator Joe T. Blythe, who has been formally designated as State manager for Federal Security Administrator Paul V. McNutt, another Presidential candidate. Mr. Blythe declined the offer and did not attend the meeting. However, he was busy conferring with committee members in hotel lobbies.

As Governor Wished

There was no question but that the stage was set last night to carry out the expressed wishes of Governor Hoyer for a State Convention prior to the Democratic primary on May 25. Chairman Cherry hurried through the routine business of having the roll called and ascertaining the presence of a quorum. Once that was done, Judge Siler sent forward his brief resolution. It was adopted by a voice vote without a word of discussion.

AGNES O'NEAL HARRIS

Agnes O'Neal Harris, 18, died at her home at 7 a. m. Monday, after an illness of five days.

Survivors are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Harris; three sisters, Mrs. P. F. Evans, of Henderson, and Mrs. L. V. Woodlief and Mrs. C. Roger Lamm, of Louisville; and two brothers, John David Harris, of Henderson and Thomas Harris, of Louisville.

Funeral services were held from the Louisville Methodist Church Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, conducted by Revs. J. G. Phillips and A. Paul Bagby, and interment was made in Oakwood Cemetery.

Both services were largely attended and the floral tribute was especially large and pretty.

The pallbearers were as follows: Active—W. R. Mills, Howard Gattis, Wm. Rudd, J. W. Weaver, W. M. Pleasant, W. A. Huggins. Honorary—N. H. Ayescue, Joe Leonard, W. C. Strowd, H. C. Taylor, Sr.

The deepest sympathy is extended to the bereaved family and friends.

Sir Malcolm Campbell commands a motorcycle unit, while Sir Anthony Eden is doing his bit commanding a rifle battalion. Recruits should enjoy plenty of action in Great Britain under either leader.

PROGRAM AT THE LOUISBURG THEATRE

The following is the program at the Louisville Theatre beginning Saturday, February 10th:

Saturday—Double Feature—Charles Starrett in "Spillers of The Range" and Johnny Downs in "Laugh It Off." Also Chapter No. 2 "Zorro's Fighting Legion."

Sunday-Monday—James Stewart and Marlene Dietrich in "Destiny Rides Again."

Tuesday—Edmund Lowe and Rose Hobart in "The Wolf of New York."

Wednesday—Vincent Price, Nan Gray and Cedric Hardwick in "The Invisible Man Returns."

Thursday-Friday—Douglass Fairbanks, Jr. and Joan Bennett in "Green Hell."

For Lieutenant Governor



REGINALD LEE HARRIS

His friends say of Mr. Harris: "For the benefit of those who know him best as friend and neighbor, permit us to present him as he is known in the legislative and administrative circles of the State. He is a Democrat, both by party affiliation and in the philosophy of political science. For five successive terms, 1927-1935, inclusive, it was his privilege to represent the people and interests of Person County in the General Assembly as a member of the House. In 1933 he was honored signally by fellow legislators, who elevated him by acclamation to the Speakership of the House, highest office in the Representatives' gift and third most distinguished position in North Carolina's political democracy."

Franklinton Man Is Shot by Tenant

**S. M. Dickerson Jailed In
Louisburg for Wounding
J. A. Cox With Shotgun**

Franklinton, Feb. 6.—J. A. Cox, Franklinton business man and farm operator, was wounded by a shotgun late today on a farm near here, and S. M. Dickerson, a tenant farmer, was arrested as his assailant.

Officers said that the shooting resulted from Dickerson's failure to leave the farm after Mr. Cox had given him notice to move. Mr. Cox told them that Dickerson had said he could not move because his wife is an invalid, and Mr. Cox went to the farm late today, he said, to offer to send an ambulance to take Mrs. Dickerson away and to take care of moving the family and their belongings.

Mr. Cox told officers that Dickerson became angry, and that he turned to leave. As he turned, he said, he heard Dickerson's children scream, and tried to dodge behind a tree. About 15 No. 6 shot struck him in the head. Late tonight he had not been taken to a hospital, and the seriousness of his wounds had not been determined.

Dickerson was arrested by J. A. Dennis, Franklinton chief of police, and taken to jail in Louisville.

Mr. Cox is in the veneer lumber business.

James E. West has served as Chief Scout Executive of the Boy Scouts of America since the early days of the movement's organization.

European Summary

Helsinki — Russian planes bomb prison full of Red army prisoners but Finns take Russians to shelter; Russians keep pounding in vain at Mannerheim Line after estimated losses of 20,000 wounded, killed in a week.

London—Britain reveals dispatch of "war material" to Finland, appoints new minister to Helsinki; Irish mourn two Irish republican army zealots hanged at Birmingham gaol.

Washington—House twice rejects effort to end diplomatic relations with Russia; Senate foreign relations committee approves measure to help Finland by \$20,000,000 loan.

Berlin—Authorized German sources disclaim existence of German-Russian military agreement.

GILLIAM CASE IN PROGRESS

**OSCAR RUBIN ACQUIT-
TED OF MAN-
SLAUGHTER**

**Many Cases of Robbery
Given Prison Sentences—
Judge Clawson Williams
Delivers Splendid Charge—
Grand Jury Still In
Session—Regular Term
To End Saturday—Special
Term To Begin Monday.**

Judge Clawson Williams, of Sanford, convened Franklin Superior Court for the trial of criminal cases in Louisville Monday morning and delivered a most interesting charge to the grand jury. In this he stated that not many have the opportunity to serve on the grand jury and help to perform the duties of government, showing it was a compliment. He reviewed the grand jury system stating that at first the body in custody of the Sheriff went about over the county making its investigations. He explained that our forefathers established this government which relies on the will of the people for its power and authority. Then he wondered if we realize the wonderful privileges and blessings we are enjoying by reason of the principles underlying the foundation of our government. The time in which we are now living is the most important of all times to defend and protect these principles, which safeguard our safety, while in other parts of the world everything gained by civilization and science is being destroyed. He explained the duties of the grand jury directing them to make full investigation of all public officials and institutions. He spoke very forcefully about the safety of our highways, taking the position that there are plenty of laws to provide the protection if observed and enforced. He told the jury that the power of the law came from public sentiment and that they were marked men and young acts will be scrutinized by the public. The protection the public gets will be just what the grand jurors make, no more, no less.

The grand jury was composed of the following old members—T. L. Timberlake, W. R. Harris, W. C. Perry, J. G. Andrews, W. L. Carden, H. S. Wiggins, J. B. Bunn, H. K. Privette, E. R. Perry. The new members—H. W. Burnette, W. I. Privette, Joe Dickerson, A. H. Fleming, Jr., A. C. Stallings, E. M. Burnette, R. Y. Gupton, N. C. Bullock, W. R. Vick. W. C. Perry was made Foreman and G. C. Parrish, Officer.

Solicitor W. Y. Bickett was present and ably represented the State. The docket was taken up and disposed of as follows:

The first case was that of State vs. Oscar Rubin for manslaughter, involving an automobile wreck near Youngsville in February, 1939, in which Elmer H. Uhl, of Lewiston, Pa., lost his life, and was strongly contested. The jury found a verdict of not guilty. The defense was represented by Sen. W. L. Lumpkin and John F. Matthews and Solicitor Bickett was assisted by Yarborough & Yarborough.

Harrison Green was found guilty of larceny of an automobile and given 2 to 3 years in State prison.

James Pettiford was found guilty of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and given 3 to 5 years in State prison.

Jack Frazier and Joe Silver pleaded guilty to housebreaking and larceny. Frazier was given 2 to 3 years in State prison and Silver was given 1 to 2 years in State prison.

C. H. Richardson pleaded guilty in two cases for giving worthless checks, judgment suspended upon payment of such costs as will leave the County harmless.

Buck Driver pleaded guilty to robbery from the person and was given 5 to 8 years in State prison.

Buck Driver pleaded guilty to assault, sentence included in case for robbery from the person.

Sidney Davis, John William Spivey, robbery with fire arms, guilty, 12 to 20 years in State prison each.

The case of William Gilliam for assault with deadly weapon and attempt at robbery, was in course of trial as the FRANKLIN TIMES went to press.

The grand jury was still at work when our report closed, but expected to complete its work yesterday afternoon.

This is a one week term and will probably continue till Saturday.

Beginning Monday a one week special term of Court for criminal cases will be held with Hon. W. C. Harris, Judge presiding.

SHERIFFS GET FOUR YEARS

**Supreme Court Holds Con-
stitution Provides Four
Year Term Before Of-
ficers Sworn in Office**

The case involving the terms of sheriffs and coroners attracted wide attention because of its political implications. A constitutional amendment extending the terms of sheriffs and coroners from two to four years was submitted by the 1937 General Assembly and adopted by the voters of the State in the general election in November, 1938. The amendment was certified by the Governor on November 30 and the next day Attorney General Harry McMullan ruled that sheriffs and coroners who were elected on the same day the amendment was voted upon would take office on the first Monday in December and would serve for four years.

The ruling was challenged in an action brought by J. M. Freeman of Alamance County, where a vacancy was created by the murder of Sheriff M. P. Robertson on the day after he was inducted into office. Freeman applied to the county board of elections to have his name placed on the ballot for sheriff in the Democratic primary to be held on May 25. The board refused and Freeman sought an order of mandamus, which was granted by Judge Leo Carr, who held that the amendment did not affect sheriffs elected on the same day it was adopted.

Lower Court Reversed
"It is manifest that though the sheriff was elected at the general election held November 8, 1938, the term of office for which he was elected commenced on the first Monday in December and is to continue for the number of years next thereafter as then fixed by the Constitution, four years."

MRS. JOHN A. RABIL
Mrs. John A. Rabil died early Saturday afternoon at Park View Hospital, Rocky Mount. Surviving are her husband and three children, Edmond, Mary Allen and Dorothy Jane Rabil, all of Louisville; and a sister, Mrs. John McCall, of Smithfield.

Funeral rites were held Monday at 3 o'clock from the home on Kenmore Avenue, conducted by Revs. A. Paul Bagby and J. G. Phillips, and burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

Quite a large number of friends and relatives attended both services and the floral tribute was especially large and pretty.

Boy Scouts took prominent parts in the New York World's Fair and the Golden Gate International Exposition at San Francisco in 1939.

MILLS P. T. A. TO MEET

The TIMES is requested to announce that the Mills P. T. A. will meet next Wednesday afternoon, February 14th, at 3:30 P. M., and a full attendance is desired.

RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTION!

BLOWS UP

The above is a picture of the exploded Range of Dr. A. Paul Bagby, Pastor of Louisville Baptist Church, which occurred on Saturday morning, January 27th.

TRANSFERRED FROM PACIFIC COAST

Petty Officer Jack Rouse, who was stricken ill last fall while on duty aboard ship off the California coast, and later moved to the Naval Hospital at San Diego, Cal., was transferred to the Naval Hospital at Norfolk, Va., on last Saturday, having left San Diego on Wednesday. His mother, Mrs. Ina Rouse, has been at his bedside since he was first confined; and she was appointed by the Government to attend Petty Officer Rouse during the transfer, which was made by train.

Mrs. Ina Harris, Misses Marguerite and Josephine Rouse, Miss Marguerite Tonkel and Mr. Frank Rose spent Monday in Norfolk at the bedside of Petty Officer Rouse, whose condition is considerably improved, although he will necessarily be confined to his bed for an indefinite length of time yet.

BEDDINGFIELD LOSES RESIDENCE

Mr. C. V. Beddingfield lost his residence in Bunn, and all its contents early Tuesday morning by fire. The loss is estimated at about \$6,000 with \$2,500 insurance.

The fire was discovered first in the top over the back porch and had advanced so far and so fast that it was difficult to wake the family and get them out before the building fell in. There was no time to attempt to save the contents.

It is when a man doesn't care what happens to him that it generally does.

CARD TOURNAMENT

The Junior Woman's League announces a card tournament to be held at Franklin Hotel on Wednesday night, February 14th, at 8:30 o'clock. At this tournament tables will be set for rook, bridge and setback and the proceeds will go to the League's Charity fund. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments served. Call Mrs. W. D. Egerton and make reservations.

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FARM SHORT COURSE

**Franklin County To Hold
Course For Farm Men
And Farm Women**

A Two-day Farm Short Course has been planned for February 28th and 29th at Louisville College Auditorium for the purpose of studying improved practices for 1940, announces W. C. Boyce, County Agent. Mr. E. Y. Floyd, State Executive Officer of the A.A.A. and Agricultural Conservation Programs, and known to Franklin County Farmers for his continuous services at tobacco specialist from State College; and Dr. Clarence Poe, Editor of the Progressive Farmer, head the list of Guest Speakers. Mr. Floyd is scheduled to discuss with the farmers and farm women the outlook for 1940 and with the men, the Agricultural Program and Tobacco Recommendations for 1940. Dr. Clarence Poe will discuss the Ten Year Farm Program for the South as adopted at recent Conference of Governors of the Southern States.

Other Speakers to appear on the Program are:

Mr. C. F. Parrish, Extension Poultry Specialist from State College, who will discuss Poultry as a Cash Income.

Mr. A. C. Kimrey, Extension Dairy Specialist from State College—"Care of Family Milk Supply."

Mr. J. O. Rowell, Extension Entomologist from State College, will discuss with men and women Garden Insects and their control. At the Men's Session, he will discuss "Controlling the Boll Weevil" and at the Women's Session "Control of Household Pests."

Miss Hunter, Extension Clothing Specialist from State College will discuss "Your Clothes and Personality."

The Short Course is planned to open in the College Auditorium Wednesday, February 28 at 10:00 A. M. The Morning Session will be devoted to a joint program for men and women. The afternoon Programs will be separate for men and women with a special program of interest to each group on timely subjects planned.

All Franklin County farm men and farm women are invited to attend and bring their dinner, with them. Arrangements have been made at the College for a place to spread picnic dinner.

The planned Short Course is the first Program of its kind ever conducted in Franklin County and will bring together in a short period the largest number of Specialists trained in specific agricultural lines to appear on a Program in this County.

C. I. NEAL DEAD

Mr. Charles I. Neal, one of Franklin County's oldest and most prominent planters died at his home three miles West of Louisville, Tuesday afternoon of an attack of pneumonia. He was in his 84th year.

He is survived by a sister, Miss Stella Neal and three nephews, A. S. Sherrod and C. N. Sherrod, of Franklin County, and Garrett Neal of Texas.

The funeral will be held from the home at 1 o'clock Friday (today) afternoon.

ADDS TO CEMETERY

The cemetery Committee of the Town of Louisville, composed of P. W. Elam, W. G. Lancaster and C. R. Sykes reports that the town has succeeded in purchasing an acre of land for an addition to the Louisville Cemetery and is having it properly laid off into lots and numbered. This addition is located directly behind that portion of cemetery extension developed by Mr. J. A. Spencer and is provided with proper drives on both sides.

It will provide a much needed addition to Louisville's city of the dead.

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EUROPEAN WAR NEWS

London, Feb. 7.—Britain underscored her support for Finland against Russia today with an official statement indicating that she is extending virtually every war aid short of active military intervention.

Assurance that Finland's appeals for help were being answered substantially were given in the House of Commons as Britain's own war was felt in a hitherto untouched maritime area. The 4,300-ton Irish mail steamer Munster sank between Liverpool and Ireland after an explosion apparently caused by a mine. The 200 passengers and crew were saved.

Replying to a question whether "every step is being taken to aid Finland quickly," Foreign Undersecretary R. A. Butler said "Yes. The urgency of this matter is very much realized by the government."

The Finnish war was in the forefront also in Berlin and Paris.

A movement to speed full material assistance to Finland gained steamroller strength in France as the authoritative newspaper Le Temps came out for "effective, complete and total" aid for the Finns.

French demands that the Allied governments give Finland "complete" aid in her fight against Russia increased amid press reports that Germany was seeking a Russian-French peace in order to release Soviet resources for her own use.

The authoritative Le Temps editorial was typical of demands which have come from many sources, including Premier Daladier's own radical-Socialist party.

The newspaper said it no longer was possible to separate the European war from the Baltic conflict because of the close ties between the Reich and the Soviet and "any blow against the aggressor in Finland is against the ally and helper of Hitler and directly affects him."

Authorized German sources in Berlin declared Germany has no commitments to give technical or military assistance to Russia in Finland and declared there is no German-Russian military pact.

Helsinki, Feb. 7.—The Finnish high command tonight announced the slaughter of 1,800 Russians in fighting north of Lake Ladoga along the eastern frontier and the crushing of six powerful Red army blows against the Mannerheim Line on the Karelian Isthmus.

The Russians, aided by fresh reinforcements and better communications lines to Leningrad, smashed against the Finnish fortifications in clear, sub-zero cold for the seventh consecutive day, but were hurled back in each successive assault, tonight's communique said.

Twenty-two Russian tanks were destroyed in yesterday's fighting. It was stated, bringing to 586 the number of tanks officially listed as having been captured or shattered by the Finns.

The number of Russian fighter and bombing planes shot down was increased to 314, it was announced, by the Russians' loss of six planes yesterday.

The high command said the Russians failed in their efforts to pierce the Mannerheim Line positions on the Isthmus.

The 1,800 Russians estimated to have been killed above Lake Ladoga fell in fighting near the Russian frontier northeast of the lake where an entire battalion of Russian ski troops was cut to pieces, and in the bitterly contested Kuhmo sector more than 200 miles to the north.

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