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COUNTY CONVENTION QUIET.

Delegates to Judicial Convention instructed for Lyon for Judge and McLean for Solicitor—Overman and Travis Also Endorsed—McKinnon's Plan for Commission Form of Government for County Meets Cold Reception.

The county convention held in Lumberton Saturday instructed the delegates it elected to the judicial convention, which meets at Red Springs Wednesday of this week, to cast the vote of the county for Judge C. C. Lyon of Elizabethtown and Mr. S. B. McLean of Maxton for judge and solicitor, respectively of the ninth judicial district; instructed its delegates to the State convention, which will be held in Raleigh June 4, to vote for Senator Lee S. Overman and Chairman E. L. Travis, of the State Corporation Commission, to succeed themselves; and voted down a resolution to instruct the county's Senator and Representatives in the next General Assembly to enact for Robeson county a commission form of government.

The convention was in session a little more than two hours and was attended by a representative crowd of Robeson county citizens.

Mr. S. B. McLean, the retiring county chairman, called the convention to order promptly at noon and called on Rev. Dr. H. G. Hill, the venerable pastor of the Presbyterian church at Maxton to lead in prayer. Mr. Jas. D. Proctor of Lumberton was asked to act as secretary, Mr. J. Dixon McLean of Lumberton as assistant, also members of the Democratic press of the county.

Every township was represented except Pembroke. Shannon, formed from Red Springs and Lumber Bridge townships, and Gaddy's, from White House and Rowland, were formed since the last election, so the chair appointed committees to determine the votes to which they should be entitled in the convention. Messrs. Martin McKinnon, M. L. Marley and J. L. Walters to determine Shannon's vote, Messrs. E. C. McNeill, C. A. Oliver and Worth Burns to determine Gaddy's vote. These committees gave Shannon 1 vote and Gaddy 4, taken from the townships from which they were formed, and the reports of the committees were adopted.

At this point Mr. McLean invited Hon. G. B. Patterson of Maxton to the chair as temporary chairman and on motion the temporary organization was made permanent.

It was determined that each township should elect two delegates for each vote to which it is entitled in State and judicial conventions—21 in State and 102 in judicial.

As stated above, resolutions were passed instructing delegates to the judicial convention to cast the vote of the county for C. C. Lyon for judge and S. B. McLean for solicitor, and delegates to the State convention were instructed to cast the vote of the county for Lee S. Overman for Senator and E. L. Travis for Corporation Commissioner.

A resolution asking for explanation of commission form of county government, passed by the Alfordville township precinct meeting on the 16th was read and Maj. A. J. McKinnon of Maxton, who has been advocating this form of government through the press, was asked to explain. Maj. McKinnon introduced the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. J. C. Stansel of Allenton:

"Resolved 1st. That we think our county needs to adopt more economical and business like methods in the administration of its affairs.

"Resolved 2nd. That we hereby recommend and urge that our Senator and Representatives in coming Legislature have enacted into law a well-regulated commission and manager plan of government for Robeson county."

Maj. McKinnon, addressing himself to the motion, explained that the plan contemplated dividing the county into districts—not less than five—the election from each district of a commissioner, and this body of commissioners to elect a manager for the county, the manager to be responsible to the commissioners for the economical administration of the affairs of the county and to employ all help that he might need. By this plan, having a manager who should be responsible for all expenditures and results, Mr. McKinnon said he was confident a great saving could be made and the county would get a dollar's worth of service out of every dollar raised by taxation, whereas now he is sure not more than 50 per cent of the tax money is wisely spent.

Messrs. Geo. B. McLeod and R. D. Caldwell made short talks in opposition to the adoption of the resolution. They seemed to express the sentiment of the convention that it would not be wise at this time, with nothing more definite than that before the convention, to pass a resolution giving 3 men power to change the entire system of county government, and an amendment offered by Mr. Caldwell, that the resolution be referred to the county Democratic executive committee with instructions to report to the next county convention, was carried, and the resolution, as amended, was defeated.

No further business came before the convention.

—Mr. M. A. Duncan and family will move this week from East Lumberton, Dresden Cotton Mills, to St. Pauls, where they will be employed in the St. Paul's cotton mills.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNICKERS

Marion, S. C., Sunday School Folks Spend Day in Lumberton—Tables Erected at Artesian Well—Ball Game.

About 200 people came in on the Marion, S. C., Sunday school excursion train Friday. The train arrived here about 9:45. The superintendents and teachers of the various Sunday schools of the town met the excursionists at the train and invited them up to the court house, where Mr. H. E. Stacy, town attorney, in the absence of Mayor White delivered a short welcoming address. Mr. Stacy assured the visitors that the town was theirs for the day. Rev. B. R. Turnipseed, pastor of the First Methodist church of Marion, responded and assured Mr. Stacy that the way they had been received in Lumberton would be long remembered and would cause them to come this way again.

Mr. J. P. Russell, president of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. R. D. Caldwell, superintendent of the First Baptist Sunday school, made short addresses expressing their delight in having the Marion Sunday school folks come to Lumberton. After the speaking was over the picnicers were ushered down to the artesian well beside the river, where a table had been erected for the use of the picnicers about lunch time.

In the afternoon at 3:30 the Lumberton and Marion baseball teams crossed bats and pulled off a fast game. The game was called off after the seventh inning in order for the Marion team to catch the train. The score was 5 and 5. The feature of the game was the pitching of Stone of the home team, who struck out 14 men, only allowing 4 hits. Stone also got a home run on the sixth inning, which tied the score. Batteries were: Marion, Wesley, Snipes and Wilcox; Lumberton, Stone and Deese. The crowd seemed to enjoy the day immensely, it is hoped to such an extent that they will come to Lumberton again.

TWO NEGROES KILLED

One Shot at Red Springs, Another Passes by Poison Route at Rozier—Joe Small Charged With Red Springs Killing.

Joe Small, colored, was placed in jail here Saturday to await trial on the charge of killing Son Townsend, also colored, at Red Springs Friday night. Coroner, G. E. Rancke and a jury investigated the killing Saturday. Small claimed that they were playing pool, that the police got after them and several shots were fired and he thought a policeman fired the shot that killed Townsend. The jury believed, however, that Small fired the fatal shot.

Coroner Rancke and Dr. B. W. Page, county health officer, went to Rozier Friday to investigate the death of Robt. Lewis, colored, who died on Dr. R. G. Rozier's place last Tuesday after being sick since the Saturday before. It was the opinion of Drs. Page and Rozier that deceased had been poisoned, and the jury so found, but the jury did not attempt to say by whom the poison was administered.

Chicken Thief Left His Patent Leather Slippers Behind.

If Capt. A. B. Small, who lives on East First street, could have gotten his shooting iron unlimbered in time Thursday night about 11 o'clock he would have given a chicken thief "what for." As it was the captain fired two or three times and made the marauder leave so hurriedly that he left behind his footwear, a pair of patent leather low-quarters. Capt. Small says the owner can get the shoes by calling for them. But the thief seems to have gotten a chicken or two before he was discovered.

Bell Telephone Hearing Again Postponed.

The hearing which was to have been given before Recorder J. A. Rowland Friday in regard to the moving of the poles off Elm street was postponed till Wednesday of this week at 11 a. m., on account of the fact that part of the witnesses for the defense were not on hand. This is the second or third time this hearing has been postponed.

Two New Store Buildings.

Mr. A. W. McLean has let the contract to Contractor Sam Branch for the erection of two store buildings on Elm street, between the office building of the Lumberton, Dresden and Jennings cotton mills and Mr. J. P. McNeill's store. The buildings will be 25x100 each and will be three story structures. They will be ready to occupy by early fall.

McKenzie Taken to Raleigh.

W. T. McKenzie, the Scotland county man whose sentence was commuted last week by Governor Craig from a death sentence to life imprisonment in the State prison at hard labor, was taken to Raleigh and turned over to the superintendent of the prison by Sheriff R. E. Lewis Friday.

Next Conference at Parkton.

The Fayetteville district Methodist Conference will be held next year at Parkton. At the 3 days' conference which closed at Sanford last week the invitation of the Parkton church, extended by the pastor, Rev. H. B. Porter, was accepted.

NEAR-SERIOUS AUTO ACCIDENT.

Car Turned Turtle Into a Ditch and Pinned Two Girls and a Boy Beneath—Girls Had Narrow Escape—Injuries Not Serious—Car Had to Be Raised to Free Girls—Car Damaged Considerably—Steering Wheel Came Off and Caused Wreck.

An auto accident that came near costing lives occurred Thursday afternoon about one mile from town, on the Fayetteville road, when a car driven by Master Clinton Norment, son of Mrs. Mollie Norment, turned turtle into a ditch about six feet deep. Miss Ruth Norment, sister of Clinton, and Miss Marie Thompson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Thompson, were in the car with Clinton and all went into the ditch, being caught under the car. Clinton managed to get from under the car, but the girls were held fast till enough people could be gathered to lift the car off of them. Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Carlyle happened along just after the car went into the ditch, also Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McDonald, and Messrs. McDonald and Carlyle, with the help of another man, whose name has not been learned, lifted the car off the girls.

Mr. Carlyle, who was the first to arrive on the scene, said it was a frightful time. He was unable to get the car off the girls, who were in much pain, the car being on Miss Norment's side and Miss Thompson burning from the heat of the engine. After Mr. McDonald arrived they could only get the car up the least bit, for a short time, and then would have to let it back down on the girls, who would beg them not to let it back down on them. After the third man arrived, they by hard straining managed to get the girls out. Clinton was somewhat scratched up, and Miss Ruth was painfully hurt, some small bones about her back being broken, and Miss Thompson was slightly scratched up. Those who saw the wreck say it was a close call for all three of the occupants of the car. The thing that saved them was the fact that the weight of the car was held off of the girls by the ditch bank and a small tree.

The car belongs to Mr. J. A. Boone and was damaged to the extent of \$50. Clinton says the steering wheel came off and caused him to lose control.

News of the accident spread over town like wildfire and was a shock to the entire community. It seems a miracle that no one was hurt seriously, and it is to be hoped that this will be a lesson that will not go unheeded.

Contract Awarded for Episcopal Church Building.

The Episcopalians of the town have let the contract to Contractor M. M. Burney for the erection of a modern wood structure house of worship on North Chestnut street. The building will cost about \$2,000 and will speak well for the devotion of the Episcopalians of the town, who are few in number. The name of the church will be Trinity Protestant Episcopal church. It is expected that the building will be ready for use in about six weeks.

Rev. T. P. Noe of Wilmington, who has been conducting services once every month for the last three years in the Presbyterian church and in the homes of Messrs. E. L. Holloway and J. Q. Beckwith, will be rector of the church.

Antioch School Closes.

Antioch school, near Allenton, Miss Ruth Britt, of Ten Mile, teacher, closed with appropriate exercises Friday. County Superintendent J. R. Poole and Supt. R. E. Sentelle, of the Lumberton graded school were expected to make speeches and their intentions along that line were good, but their auto broke down and they did not arrive until the exercises were over and the folks had started back home. Miss Britt was a Lumberton visitor a Saturday.

Steel-Soled Shoes for Chain Gang.

County Auditor J. M. McCallum recently bought 18 pairs of steel-bottomed shoes to be used by members of the county chain gang. If these prove satisfactory the whole gang will be shod with the steel-bottom kind, as it is thought that it will be much cheaper than to keep them shod with the leather bottom shoes. According to Mr. McCallum's statement, it doesn't take a convict working on the roads many days to wear out a pair of leather-soled shoes.

Praying for Rain.

A good many of the country churches are beginning to hold fast days and prayer-meetings, praying for rain. At Long Branch Baptist church about five miles south of Lumberton, services were held several days last week, and fast day is being observed today by the Mt. Elisham Baptist church, near Orrum. Services were held at 10 a. m. and it is expected that the services will continue each day until it rains.

Winner of the Dollar.

Little Miss Dorothy Steele won the dollar last week for securing the most votes in the Belle Meade Pony Contest. Little Dorothy has been hustling, and that's what it takes to win the pony.

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THE MEXICAN SITUATION

Absence of Tension Marks Situation in Washington—No Further Battling of Moment.

Washington Dispatch, 24th. Evident absence of tension marked the Mexican situation in Washington today. No foundation for alarmist rumors concerning the basis of mediation negotiations developed; there were no tangible developments in the matter of Constitutional representation and after a morning conference at the White House between the President and Secretary Bryan, those officials abandoned consideration of the Mexican problem for the day.

The President and Mr. Bryan went over the entire situation, discussing particularly a long report from the American commissioners at Niagara Falls. No statement regarding details of the mediation was issued and it was made perfectly clear that none will be made so long as the negotiations continue in their present status. There is reason to believe that responsible officials look upon the mediations as still in their preliminary stage and think they are progressing smoothly. They would be pleased were representatives of General Carranza present at Niagara Falls to pass upon definite suggestions for a solution when these are presented, but while regarding Constitutionalists representation as desirable do not consider it indispensable.

No further battling of moment between Constitutionalists and Federalists was reported from the front. Constitutional headquarters here confirmed the report of the retirement of General Villa from Saltillo, but explained that it was due purely to military consideration, Torreón being a better base for the advance Southward than Saltillo. The retreating Federalists destroyed the railroad from Saltillo as they returned Southward, and General Villa has transferred his base of operations to Torreón, the principal railroad center in Northern Mexico, whence he has a railroad in operation almost to San Luis Potosi, the next point of attack. The escape of the retreating garrison from Saltillo is admitted.

T. A. McNEILL CHAIRMAN

Elected Chairman of the County Democratic Executive Committee—Frank Gough Member Congressional Committee.

At the meeting of the county Democratic executive committee held Saturday after the county convention Mr. T. A. McNeill, Jr., of Lumberton was elected chairman to succeed Mr. S. B. McLean, who resigned on account of his candidacy for the office of solicitor. The chairman appointed a central advisory committee as follows: A. P. Spell, H. E. Stacy, L. H. Townsend, Graham McKinnon, S. B. McLean. This committee will meet at Red Springs Wednesday of this week, at the judicial convention, to confer with the chairman. The executive committee will meet in Lumberton on the first day of June to formulate rules and regulations for the county primary to be held August 8. Chairman McNeill was authorized to employ a secretary.

Mr. Frank Gough was elected a member of the sixth district congressional committee to succeed B. O. Townsend, who has moved out of the county. In announcing the result of the vote on Mr. Gough's nomination the chair forgot himself and announcing that "Mr. Godwin is elected." Which announcement was greeted with a laugh. The boys say the Godwin machine was working so smoothly that it ran over itself. Mr. W. K. Bethune who has been in the county for some days looking after the Godwin fences, presumably thought the election of a congressional committeeman was about to be overlooked and reminded Mr. S. B. McLean of that fact. So when the nomination was made the chair forgot himself.

A Hoe 200 Years Old.

Mr. G. W. West, who lives on route 5 from Lumberton, was among the visitors in town Friday. Mr. West says speaking of old things, Mr. R. D. Taylor of Wisharts township has a hoe—a common weeding hoe—that has been in constant use for more than 200 years. He said the hoe was bought by Mr. Taylor's mother's grandfather, and that it is good for several more years, as it looks almost like a new one.

High School Magazine Just Out.

Volume 2, No. 1, of the Lumberton High School Magazine, is just out and is on sale at the local drug stores.

The National Forest Reservation Commission has approved the purchase of the Pisgah forest from the Vanderbilt estate. The average price is \$5 an acre. The tract consist of 86,700 acres and the total cost is \$433,500. This price is much less than the average for other tracts of land already acquired, although the Pisgah tract is considered much more valuable than other properties. The tract includes portions of Transylvania, Henderson, Buncombe, and Haywood counties.

The county-to-county canvass in South Carolina for United States Senator will begin at Matthews June 17, and the canvass for Governor and other State offices will begin at Sumter on the same day.

CHURCH NOTES.

Rev. C. L. Greaves Accepts Call to First Baptist Church.

Rev. Charles L. Greaves, who has been pastor of the First Baptist church of Hawkinsville, Ga., for five and a half years, has accepted the call which was extended him a week ago last night by the First Baptist church of Lumberton. This announcement was made yesterday at church by Mr. S. McIntyre, who received a telegram to that effect yesterday morning from Mr. Greaves.

Mr. Greaves is considered one of the ablest preachers of the Southern Baptist Convention. He is a native of this State and a graduate of Wake Forest College and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He preached in Lumberton last Sunday morning and evening, and at the close of the evening sermon was extended a unanimous call to the pastorate of this church. It is not yet known just when Mr. Greaves will take up his work here. Announcement that he had accepted the call to this place was received with great joy yesterday by the First Baptist congregation.

There will be preaching at this church next Sunday morning and night.

Sunbeam Rally at Broad Ridge.

There was a Sunbeam rally at the Broad Ridge Baptist church, about 10 miles south of Lumberton, yesterday afternoon. The exercises consisted of speeches, dialogs and music by the children. The children did themselves proud, each one acting his or her part well. After the children had entertained the large crowd present for about one hour, Mr. E. J. Britt of Lumberton, president of the Mt. Elisham Sunday School Institute, made a good and much-enjoyed talk. His subject was, "Is Life Worth Living?" His speech was full of encouragement. His subject was a broad one and he handled it in a broad way. He urged that everybody, who could possibly do so be present at the quarterly meeting of the Institute, which will be held at Barnesville next Sunday. He said that all who wished to go down on the R. & C. train could go at excursion rates, as arrangements had been made so reduced rates would prevail on that road on the day of the quarterly.

Among those present from Lumberton were Mr. H. M. Beasley and Miss Agnes Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Grover Britt.

Rev. C. A. Upchurch of Raleigh preached at the First Baptist church yesterday morning and evening. He preached two excellent sermons which were enjoyed by a large crowd.

Robeson County Boy Wins Medal at Wake Forest—Report of Trustees.

D. M. Johnson of Robeson won the John E. White medal at Wake Forest this year. It was presented Friday by President W. L. Potat when other medals were presented. Mr. Johnson was one of the 68 graduates and also one of the six seniors who entered the oratorical contest Friday for the A. W. Ward medal, which was won by G. L. Jarvis of Cleveland county.

Mr. John A. Oates made the following report for the trustees: Endowment fund increased from \$472,000 to \$496,000. Mr. W. O. Allen had contributed \$1,000 to the board of education of this institution; a contribution of \$1,250 by W. F. Marshall, of Raleigh. New dormitory to accommodate 75 students. The erection of the new church bath to be completed by September 1st. There will be a re-adjustment of the medical department and summer law school, to be taken in as integral parts of the institution. Faculty will have charge of athletics. Prof. J. B. Hubbell, professor of English, was given a leave of absence for a year. New trustees: W. H. Reddick, R. A. McFarland and T. H. King.

Recorder's Court.

Geo. Calhoun was before Recorder Rowland Friday charged with distilling, but came clear, the evidence being that the stuff manufactured did not have sufficient strength to make the drinker "tipsy."

Before Recorder Rowland Thursday will be tried a case from Fairmont in which prominent people are interested. Dr. J. P. Brown was in town Thursday with a broken arm which he says was the result of an assault upon him Wednesday on the streets of Fairmont, by Mr. G. W. Thompson, also of Fairmont with an axe handle. Dr. Brown swore out a warrant against Thompson charging him with assault with a deadly weapon and also swore out a peace warrant against Thompson. Messrs. McIntyre, Lawrence & Proctor and McLean, Varner & McLean have been employed by Dr. Brown to prosecute the case, while Mr. E. J. Britt of Lumberton has been employed by the defense.

Among the Sick.

Mr. Owen Davis of Raft Swamp, son of Mr. Giles Davis, was brought Saturday to the Thompson hospital, for treatment.

Mr. W. S. Wishart has been confined to his room since a Saturday morning with an abscess. He is thought to be somewhat improved today. The condition of Mrs. Lina McLean, who has been sick for some months at the home of her son, Mr. A. W. McLean, Chestnut street, is unimproved.

BRIEF LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

—Messrs. Stephens & Barnes, undertakers and furniture dealers, received last week a handsome flower and casket wagon.

—Lumberton Lodge K. of P. will meet tonight in the hall in the post-office building. All members are requested to be present.

—Messrs. S. McIntyre, R. C. Lawrence and L. R. Varner attended Wake Forest commencement last week. They report a great time.

—One might think there were not so many candidates in the field, but to see them bunched like they were on the streets here Saturday they make a big show.

—Messrs. Eli and H. P. Ratley of St. Paul's, route 2 were among the visitors in town Saturday. They report a rattlesnake with five rattles killed in Mr. H. P.'s cow stall Sunday.

—Several Lumberton folks are planning to attend the great gathering of the clans at Fayetteville Thursday, when the fifth annual meeting of the Scottish Society of America will be held.

—By using a water hose on the streets Saturday morning a dustless town prevailed throughout the day, in the business section, which made it much more pleasant for the many visitors in town.

—Mr. Frank Gough and son, Master Frank, Jr., and Miss Amelia Linkhauer left yesterday for Raleigh, where they will attend Meredith College commencement. Miss Lina, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gough, graduates this year.

—Mr. J. P. Townsend, chief of the fire department, received a telegram Friday to the effect that the auto fire truck, which was supposed to have been shipped the 15th inst., would not be shipped before June 5, because of the fact that the painting was not dry.

—Mr. Frank Warwick, who drives a team for the Jennings cotton mill, was somewhat scratched up Saturday morning when the mules he was driving became frightened and proceeded to run away near the mill, throwing Mr. Warwick out of the wagon on his face.

—Mr. B. Tolar and Postmaster C. W. Watson of Renner were among the convention visitors in town Saturday. Mr. Tolar says they expect to complete their new school building this week. This building is a handsome one of 8 rooms, conveniently arranged, and cost about \$3,000.

—Messrs. S. S. Stephens and E. A. Faulk have recently completed a white roadster automobile. They are auto experts, judging from the looks of the one constructed by them. It's a dandy. They took the parts of an old car or two and equipped one car which looks good, runs good and is good.

—King Baggot, recognized as the greatest moving picture actor in the world, will be seen at the Pastime theatre tomorrow afternoon and night appearing as leading man in Ivanhoe. No better feature in four reels has been offered in Lumberton. Show will open at 2 o'clock, prices 10 and 20 cents. "The Black Countess," a magnificent 4-reel picture will be shown this afternoon and evening.

—Mrs. W. T. Hutchinson and daughter, Miss Lillian, arrived Saturday night from Charlotte and joined Mr. Hutchinson, who has been here about two months. Mr. Hutchinson is connected with the undertaking and embalming department of Messrs. R. D. Caldwell & Son as embalmer. They will board at Miss Kitty Tait's until their furniture arrives, they will begin housekeeping in a house belonging to Mr. Sam Branch, Third and Pine streets. Lumberton gladly welcomes this Charlotte family.

—Mr. Lawrence Parker returned Thursday evening from Goldsboro, where he was best man at the wedding of Mr. R. H. McMillan of McDonalds and Miss Louise Outlaw of Goldsboro, which took place Wednesday at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. V. Outlaw. Mr. McMillan is cashier of the Bank of McDonalds and has a number of close friends who wish him success. An account of the wedding given in a dispatch from Goldsboro, is published elsewhere in this issue of The Robesonian.

STATE NEWS.

Gov. Simeon E. Baldwin of Connecticut delivered the annual address at Wake Forest College Thursday.

At Fayetteville Thursday Peter Martin shot and killed Will Evans. Both negroes. Trouble over Martin's attentions to Evans' wife.

Fire of unknown origin Friday destroyed the large building of the Central school of Gastonia. The loss is about \$40,000 partially covered by insurance.

Norman H. Hapgood, editor of Harper's Weekly, will be the orator for the annual convention of the North Carolina Press Association at Wrightsville Beach June 24-25.

The First National Bank of Lenoir opened its doors for business Friday after being closed two weeks pending an examination of its affairs by National Bank Examiner J. E. Doughton.

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