

HARDING DALLIES STILL ON PROGRAM TO SECURE PEACE

President Uncommitted To Anything Definite But Lean- ing Away From Treaty

WAITING PROGRAM FOR SENATE MOST DESIRED

Administration Does Not Re- veal What Elements Are In- volved In Determination of Early Action; Message To Congress Will Be Studied

Washington, April 5.—Whatever may be the expectations of Republican Senators who want a nearly declaration of peace with Germany, it was made known authoritatively today that President Harding had not thrown the influence of his administration behind the movement but was inclined to look with disapproval on any prospect of precipitate action.

It was revealed that the President had not in fact committed himself to any definite program for the restoration of peace, though he was said to be leaning more and more to a belief that the Versailles covenant cannot in any practical way be used as a basis for his association of nations. He is canvassing the situation carefully in the light of information and advice which has come to him since inauguration and although a part of his program may be decided on soon, it probably will be many weeks before it is revealed in entirety.

Must Proceed Carefully.

In his consideration of the peace resolution, which some of the Senate leaders want to press to an early passage in the special session of Congress convening Monday, Mr. Harding is understood to have taken the position that in the settlement of so important a question the nation must proceed with care and prudence. It is said he has not withdrawn the approval he gave the resolution when he supported it in the last Congress and is convinced that the present situation does not require haste, so much as it requires painstaking deliberation.

The administration has not revealed what elements are involved in the determination of its attitude, but there have been indications that it would consider itself in a better position to make advances for an association of nations if the peace declaration were delayed. Intimations have come to officials here that somehow the leading allied statesmen would consider passage of the measure a great handicap in the negotiations for a peace concert, weakening the position of the American government with its former associates in the war and making them less susceptible to American suggestions.

Might Be Used As Lever.

It has been hinted to the President by some of his advisors that like the outstanding war debt, a pending resolution of peace might be used as a potential lever to bring the allied governments into accord with the proposals of this government. How serious a disagreement there may be between this viewpoint and that of the Senate advocates of the resolution remains to be developed after the special session meets.

At a dinner here last night some of the Senators most prominent in foreign relations are understood to have informed M. Viviani, the former French Premier, who is visiting here, that his government need not hope that a peace declaration would be long delayed. They plan to bring the measure quickly into the program of the special session and they express unbounded confidence that it will be adopted quickly.

There has been indications that the President would make an open fight to delay action, but what he says on the subject in his message to Congress will be studied carefully for delicate shades of meaning, and the impression he conveys is expected to have much weight with many Senators of his party.

KILLETTE WINS RACE FOR MAYOR IN WILSON

Wilson, April 5.—In today's primaries the following is the vote: For Mayor, first ward, E. Killetoe, 172; E. J. Grantham, 133; For Commissioner, Edgerton, 183; Sasser, 149; Mayor, second ward, Killetoe, 41; Grantham, 294; For Commissioner, Lewis, 40; Herring, 65; Miller, 107; Mayor third ward, Killetoe, 111; Grantham, 69; Woodard, Commissioner, no opposition. Mayor, fourth ward, Killetoe, 107; Grantham 41; For Commissioner, Daniels, 100; Barnes, 49; Mayor fifth ward, Killetoe, 339; Grantham, 156; For Commissioner, Boswell, 157; Dupree, 142; Tomlinson 143; Pearce, 92. In the fifth ward there will be a second primary with Boswell and Tomlinson in the contest.

TRIED TO END HIS LIFE BY USE OF A RAT SNAP

Lumberton, April 5.—Mr. Oliver Meares of the Bellamy section was brought to Lumberton Saturday night in a dangerous condition, resulting from eating rat snap. It is said that Mr. Meares ate the poisonous stuff with the intention of ending his life. He vomited it up, however, and his condition is reported as favorable today. Worry over the death of his daughter is said to have caused Mr. Meares' rash act.

MAYOR DILL DEFEATED IN NEW BERN PRIMARY

New Bern, April 5.—Mayor A. T. Dill was defeated in today's primary by former Mayor Edward Clark by a majority of 19 votes on the face of practically completed returns tonight. Chief of Police A. L. Bryan had an easy victory over W. H. Griffin, his majority being 726 votes. City Clerk F. T. Patterson and City Tax Collector T. H. Linn had no opposition.

Organized Cry of Negroes to End Segregation in Bureaus

Having Voted Republican Ticket, They Are Clamoring For Big Places in Harding Administration; Another Call Comes For Two Big Offices; Too Much Johnson Worries Old Guard.

News and Observer Bureau,
603 District National Bank Building.
By EDWARD E. BRITTON.
(By Special Lensed Wire.)

Washington, April 5.—"Gimmie" big offices, and endrace segregation in the departments in Washington, is the organized cry of negroes to the Harding administration. Having voted Republican they are clamoring for the pie in big pieces. They want jobs and they want to sit alongside white officeholders and employes. Close on the heels of the report that there is to be a negro register of the Treasury, a report that brought a vigorous protest from 507 white women of all sections of the country employed in that office, there comes a call from the negroes for two more big offices, showing that the register of the Treasury matter was just a starter.

Proof of this is to be found in the formal request just presented direct to President Harding asking him to appoint a negro as assistant secretary of agriculture, and a negro as assistant secretary of labor. These requests have been taken to President Harding by James Weldon Johnson, the secretary of the national association for the advancement of colored people, it being urged as part of the memorandum from that organization that the appointment of negroes to the offices named would be the two phases of our national life where he needs most and suffers most.

Want End To Segregation.

As to putting an end to segregation the memorandum from the association says this: "Finally, the national association for the advancement of colored people ask that the President, by Executive order, abolish all race segregation in the departments at Wash-

ington, and in the United States civil service, that most humiliating and undemocratic practice initiated by the Democratic administration."

Johnson's memorandum outlining the program desired by the negroes has in it also requests to the President asking that he recommend to Congress in his message at the extra session that it take action to end lynching, that there be an investigation of negro disfranchisement in the South; that peonage conditions be abolished in the South, with special reference to Jasper county, Georgia; and the Mississippi delta region be thoroughly investigated by the Department of Justice; that there be appointed a national inter-racial commission "to make a thorough and sincere study of race conditions and race relations in the United States with particular reference to the cause of friction; that there be made a thorough congressional investigation of both the military and civil acts of the American occupation" of Haiti.

Case of Too Much Johnson.

As Johnson was leaving the White House he was asked if he had said anything to the President about the protest against the appointment of a negro as register of the Treasury made by 507 white women from all parts of the country, Republicans and Democrats, employes of that office. In reply he said that he had intended to speak to President Harding about the controversy, but forgot to do so. And as yet there is no word from the Woman's Republican National Committee as to what action it will take with regard to the protest of the white women in this matter, sent by its chairman, Mrs. Virginia White Speed. At this rate the Republicans will have a case of "too much Johnson" on their hands in the dispensing of Federal pie.

FIGHT ON LIQUOR GROWING BITTER

Five Members of Law and Order League Placed Under Ar- rest On Assault Charge

Fayetteville, April 5.—Five members of the Law and Order League, one of them also a member of the County Board of Commissioners, were haled into court this afternoon charged with assault with intent to kill, and bound over to Superior court under bonds of \$500 each. Bond money to the amount of a quarter of a million dollars was offered for the indicted members of the League. The men under charge are F. L. Holcombe, county commissioner; J. E. McDonald, Calvin Sherrill, Neil and Arthur and Donald Sherrill. The assault charge grew out of an encounter between Earl McCaskill, son of A. L. McCaskill, prominent figure in State Republican politics, and Mr. Holcombe when McCaskill was caught in a raid on a suspected area last week. McCaskill himself was arrested this afternoon on a charge of manufacturing liquor and will be given a hearing Saturday afternoon before United States Commissioner H. L. Cook. The defendants in the assault case will be tried next week.

McCaskill claims to have been severely beaten when he was taken in last week's raid. He is alleged to have been found with a section of a still in his hands, endeavoring to escape and was taken in hand by the Leaguers, who started to a place of detention with him. Crossing a ditch, he jerked away from the Leaguers who had him in charge. Mr. Holcombe fell in a ditch. In regaining possession of McCaskill, the Leaguers inflicted some punishment upon him, it is explained.

No evidence was submitted by the defense today. The defendants' attorneys, Shaw and Shaw, were content to rest their case until it comes up before the Superior Court next week. The prosecution was in the hands of Strongfield and Brothers, who will also defend McCaskill at his trial Saturday afternoon. The hearing was largely attended, and the litigation is attracting wide attention in the community.

The Law and Order League was organized at Sherwood, Presbyterian church after services one Sunday early in the year and was the result of widespread liquor making and disorder that had grown up in the community. Appeals to the county officers had brought little in the way of relief and the leading citizens of the community banded together to take oppression of the liquor traffic into their own hands.

During the past three months since the League began its operations, more than half a hundred stills have been destroyed. Intense opposition and many threats have arisen among the element charged with making liquor, and the court action against the League members is said to be an effort to break down its operation.

Members of the league are all well-to-do farmers in their community, and they have collected a considerable sum of money for carrying on their work. Although evidence has been collected that is said will lead to later arrests, the arrest of McCaskill is the first that has been made since the operation of the league began. Thousands of dollars worth of property has been taken with the stills and destroyed.

MARINE FLIERS REACH POINT ON CUBAN COAST

Washington, April 5.—The two Marine Corps airplanes which are en route from Washington to Virginia Islands reached Camaguey, Cuba, from Havana today, the Navy Department was informed tonight in a radio message. The machines made the trip from Miami, Florida, to Havana Monday afternoon. Machines and fliers were reported in excellent condition.

WEALTHY CITIZEN SHOOTS HIMSELF

John Elliott of Cumberland Uses Double Barreled Shot- Gun To Commit Suicide

Fayetteville, April 5.—John Elliott, one of Cumberland county's wealthiest men, committed suicide about 10 o'clock this morning at his home five miles from this city, blowing the top of his head off with a double barreled shot gun. Mr. Elliott had been in ill health for a year and is said to have suffered from despondency.

His lifeless body was found in an outhouse at 1 o'clock this afternoon by his cousin William Elliott who lived with him. He had placed the barrels of the gun in his mouth and pulled the triggers of both barrels with a forked stick which was still held in his hand when his body was discovered. His cousin had spent the morning in Fayetteville and on his return home was informed that Mr. Elliott had not been seen for several hours, the search following. His housekeeper had been ill with pneumonia for ten days.

The news of the tragedy was a shock to many friends of Mr. Elliott in Fayetteville. He was very highly esteemed socially and his wound business judgment was much valued. He was a director of the national bank of Fayetteville and an executor of the large estate of C. L. Bevil. He was 62 years old and unmarried the son of George and Mary Smith Elliott of this county. None of his immediate family survive though he has a number of relatives in Cumberland and Barnett counties.

ELDER S. M'MILLAN CLAIMS HE WAS ROBBED

High Point, April 5.—According to a story members of his family told High Point newspapermen, Elder Samuel M'Millan, a Primitive Baptist minister of this city, was robbed of \$105 while a passenger on a Charlotte trolley car yesterday afternoon.

Mr. M'Millan is said to have been standing on the car, which was crowded with passengers, when the robbers slipped behind him, relieved the minister's pockets of the cash and escaped through the rear of the car, which was headed for Seversville. The robbery is said to have occurred near Independence Square.

Mr. M'Millan, who is well known in this city, where he has resided for a number of years, returned to his home today.

FORMER EMPEROR RETURNS TO HOME IN SWITZERLAND

Vienna, April 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—Announcement was made this evening by the foreign office that former Emperor Charles who had been at Steinhilfingen, arrived today at Fehring, where he went aboard the Austrian train bound for Switzerland.

Charles entered his compartment in the train at 2:45 o'clock this afternoon, having had to wait the arrival of the train at Fehring some time. Meanwhile, he had remained in the private car which had brought him from Steinhilfingen. The train left Fehring at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon and it is reported that the former monarch will reach the Swiss border early Wednesday.

The Viennese government is breathing easier since Charles has started on his return into exile. His visit, however, has resulted in two portfolios being vacated. Minister of War Mueller and Minister of the Interior Glaz having resigned. Both objected to a Volksguard being placed over Charles, claiming this was an indignity to the former emperor.

RECORD GROWTH OF CHURCH REPORTED BY BISHOP DARST

Declares East Carolina Diocese Makes Most Remarkable Record in 1920

CALLS EPISCOPALIANS TO ARMS TO PUSH WORK

Council of East Carolina Con- venes In Historic Edenton Church For Annual Meeting; Rev. E. B. Drake Named President; Women of Church Hold Important Meetings

By THEODORE PARRICK, JR.
Edenton, April 5.—The 28th annual council of the Episcopal diocese of East Carolina was called to order at 10 o'clock this morning by the Right Rev. T. C. Darst in historic St. Paul's church here. The Rev. W. B. Noe, of Wilmington, acted as secretary and organization was perfected by the election of the Rev. E. B. Drake, rector of St. Paul's parish, as president, and the Rev. Mr. Noe secretary. Bishop Darst who will preside at all the meetings, announced the appointment of special committees. The Board of Examining Chaplains for the diocese was nominated by the Bishop and elected by the council.

At 11 o'clock the opening service of the council was held. The church women of the diocese who are holding separate meetings in the Methodist church, were present at this service. After the annual address of the Bishop there was a celebration of the Holy Eucharist. The Bishop was assisted in this service by the rector and the secretary.

Bishop Makes Address.

In his masterful address, the Bishop declared in many ways the year 1920 was the most remarkable and fruitful year in the history of the diocese. It was an address worthy of the place in which it was delivered, a chance which is not only a spiritual shrine, but also a great historical significance. It was a call to arms to Episcopalians in East Carolina.

Spoken of the splendid results of the nation-wide campaign, the Bishop said in part: "At one time we may have looked upon the world's needs as our opportunity. Now we have accepted it as our responsibility. Last year we fled it comparatively easy to meet our pledges this year we are finding it hard. We gave of our abundance last year and received the praise of God. This year we will give out of our poverty and receive the praise of God. We have come to a time of testing and the future of spiritual life of the diocese depends on the way we meet this challenge."

The address made specification of negro work of the diocese and obtained recommendation for its enlargement. The address cited facts that have a grave bearing on the ministry. The number of candidates for the ministry is much less than in 1916. The Bishop made enthusiastic mention of the organizations of the diocese but urged the delegates not to lay too much stress on organization. Machinery is excellent, he said, but it is the spirit of the Lord that must move the wheels.

Women Hold Meetings.

In their morning session, the women attended to much business. The meetings are presided over by Mrs. James G. Staton, of Williamston, diocesan president of Woman's Work. Reports from all diocesan officers were received. Mesdames W. D. McMillan, Jr., and Richard Williams, vice-presidents, made reports of the work of the two convocations of the diocese. Mrs. A. M. Waddell, field secretary of the diocese, for Woman's Work, made a report reviewing her activities for the year. Miss Rena Harding reported for the church service league. Mrs. Sidney McMillan reported for the box work. Miss Minnie Albertson and Mrs. Guy Cardwell reported for diocesan educational work. Mrs. K. C. B. Wadsworth, of New York, supply secretary of the church service league, was present and gave a most interesting address.

All the visiting delegates were entertained at luncheon in the Historic Dupuis House at 1 o'clock. They were the guests of the ladies of St. Paul's parish.

The afternoon session of the council, which convened at 3 o'clock, was given over largely to the consideration of reports of diocesan officers and special committees.

M. W. POTTER TO SPEAK AT DRAINAGE MEETING

Chapel Hill, April 5.—The acceptance of Mr. Mark W. Potter, of New York, a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to address the drainage convention which meets at Elizabeth City April 12 and 13 was announced today by the secretary, Joseph Hyde Pratt. Mr. Potter is the owner of a large body of reclaimed land in Beaufort county. He is using this land mainly for the growing of fine breeds of hogs and cows and he will make dairy farming and cattle raising on the reclaimed lands of eastern North Carolina the subject of his talk.

STOPPAGE OF MINING IN GREAT BRITAIN COMPLETE

London, April 5.—By The Associated Press. The stoppage of all coal mining in Great Britain is an accomplished fact and the question the public is considering anxiously tonight is whether the paralysis will extend to the railways and other means of transport and even spread among the workers generally.

The most serious feature of the position continues to be the threat to ruin the mines by flooding. The miners took strong measures in several places today against the owners, who are protecting their property. There was a successful attack on the guardian of an important mine near Edinburgh, Scotland. A thousand miners marched to the pithead of the Ocean collieries in Rhondda Wales, and successfully demanded the withdrawal of all officials working the pumps.

STATE OFFICIALS OFF TO NEW YORK TO MARKET BONDS

Governor Morrison and Treas- urer Lacy Leaving Tomorrow

DECISION REACHED BY THE COUNCIL OF STATE

Demands of Institutions For Money To Begin Building, and Highway Commission's Need of Two Million Dollars Bring Action; May Issue Five Million In Short Notes

Governor Cameron Morrison and State Treasurer B. E. Lacy will leave later in the week for New York and other financial centers to investigate the feasibility of a present issue of bonds or the sale of short term notes to provide for road construction, and institutional expansion authorized by the 1921 session of the General Assembly.

The mission was determined upon after the Governor had discussed with the Council of State yesterday morning the general financial situation of the administration, and the necessity for action in regard to the pending program recently provided for by legislative action. The meeting lasted for nearly two hours, it is understood, and the Governor laid before the Council his impression of the present condition of the financial market.

Stop Over In Washington.

The Chief Executive will go by the way of Greensboro where he is scheduled to speak tomorrow. Mr. Lacy will join him in Washington, it is understood, from which place they will proceed to New York where they will take up with several banking institutions the pending issue of State securities. Yesterday's financial session of the Council with the Governor is the outgrowth of several requests from Boards of Directors of various State institutions for access to the funds authorized by the general assembly for construction work, and the general understanding that the Highway Commission is ready to utilize several million dollars toward building roads. The Council preceded a session of the Board of Directors of the State School for the Blind, which also wanted money.

Several leading bankers of the State have recently been in Raleigh at the invitation of the Governor to discuss with him the feasibility of immediate reduction on the authorized bond issues. Banker members of the Highway Commission, Ward H. Wood, J. Elwood Cox, John Sprunt Hill and W. A. Hart spent the evening with the Governor on Monday, and it is understood that finances were the chief topic of discussion.

Fifteen Million In Year.

Probable demands for upwards of 15 million dollars for roads and institutional buildings during the fiscal year is confronting the Governor and his cabinet. Some apprehension is entertained as to the probability of the entire issue being placed, and the immediate question is the feasibility of selling short term notes, bearing a somewhat higher interest rate than is authorized in the legislation for the bonds themselves. The total of the immediate issue is said to be around five million dollars.

Roads Will Require about Two Mil- lion Dollars for the beginning of the fifteen million program; the University contemplates the spending of a million dollars this year, the State Hospital for the Insane half that much, with lesser amounts for practically every institu- tion in which the State has an interest. All of these are desirous of beginning work by early summer, it is under- stood, and for this reason action is being urged.

CANVASSING TEAMS CONFER AT DINNER

High Point, April 5.—Captains and members of canvassing teams endeavoring to secure funds looking towards establishment of the proposed Methodist Protestant College in High Point were entertained at a dinner in the Commercial Club here last night at 6:30 o'clock. The canvassers were guests of Dr. J. T. Burrus, of this city, who has given much of his time and effort to the college drive.

Plans were put on an extensive membership campaign for the Chamber of Commerce on next Thursday and Friday were made at a meeting here Saturday night. It is planned to canvass the city and ask every business enterprise to become a member of the organization.

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ONE LEGGED DURHAM BOY STARS IN BASEBALL GAME

Durham, April 5.—Blackman, a one-legged youth, was the star in a baseball game between the Durham and West Durham high school teams played in this city today. He is the regular catcher for the West Durham team, receiving the ball while perched on the short leg, which has been amputated just below the knee. Besides playing errorless ball, Blackman obtained two hits, and stole two bases, the last stolen base being from second to third.

WILL PRESIDE AT GOLDSBORO MEETING

Mr. D. H. Dixon, President of Wesley Bible Class Federation, North Carolina Methodist conference, will be in charge of the meeting which convenes there Friday.

GOLDSBORO MAN TO LEAD CONVENTION

D. H. Dixon, Will Preside at Meeting of Wesley Bible Class Federation

Goldboro, April 5.—D. H. Dixon, of this city, will preside at the meeting of the Wesley Bible class federation of the North Carolina Methodist conference when it convenes here Friday. Mr. Dixon is the popular president of this organization of Sunday school workers and is a live wire. He has arranged an interesting program for the occasion, which was announced today. The complete program follows:

First Session, Friday, April 8, 3 p. m.
Devotional, Rev. F. M. Shamburger, P. E., New Bern district.
Welcome, Rev. G. T. Adams, pastor St. Paul church, Goldboro.
Response, Mr. D. H. Hood, teacher Wesley Bible class, Dunn.
Address, "The Challenge of the Hour," Mr. J. T. Jerome, Durham.
Registration.
Appointment of committees.

Second Session, Friday, 8 p. m.
Devotional, Rev. H. M. North, Raleigh.
Address, "The Purpose of the Wesley Bible Class," Mr. D. H. Dixon, Goldboro, president of the Wesley Bible Class Federation.
Address, "Wesley Bible Class and the Church," Rev. G. T. Rowe, Greensboro, editor North Carolina Christian Advocate.

Third Session, Saturday, April 9, 9 a. m.
Young Peoples and Adult Section, led by Rev. W. C. Owen, Nashville.
Intermediate and Senior Section, led by Prof. R. N. Wilson, Durham.
Elementary Section, led by J. T. Jerome, Durham.
10:00 a. m.
Devotional, Rev. R. C. Craven, Oxford.
Reports from Wesley Classes.
Round Table Discussion, led by Rev. W. C. Owen, superintendent Young Peoples and Adult Department.
11:00 a. m.
Devotional, Rev. T. M. Grant, Hart-
ford.

Address, "Wesley Classes and Christian Education," Rev. H. M. North, secretary Board of Education.
Fourth Session, Saturday, 2:30 p. m.
Young Peoples and Adults Section, led by Rev. W. C. Owen.
Intermediate and Senior Section, led by Prof. R. N. Wilson.
Elementary Section, led by J. T. Jerome.
Meeting of Executive Committee, led by Rev. H. E. Spence, Durham.
3:30 p. m.
Devotional, Rev. B. E. Stanfield, Chadbourn.
Business Session, D. H. Dixon, president, presiding.

Fifth Session, Saturday, 8 p. m.
Devotional, Rev. J. H. Buffalo, Dunn.
Address, Rev. H. E. Spence, Department of Religious Education, Trinity.
Sixth Session, Sunday, April 10, 9:30 a. m.
Sunday School, Wesley Class representatives meeting with the several departments; intermediate, senior, young people and adult.
11:00 a. m.
Worship, Rev. G. T. Adams, pastor St. Paul M. E. church.
Sermon, Rev. W. C. Owen.
Benediction.

Seventh Session, Sunday, 3 p. m.
Devotional, Rev. W. B. Bailey, Weldon.
Round Table Discussion, Wesley Class activities, J. T. Jerome.
Reports from Committees.
Plans for Another Year, the President of the Federation.
Ninth Session, Sunday, 8 p. m.
Worship, Rev. G. T. Adams.
Music by the choir.
Sermon.
Benediction.

HARPER LEADING IN THE KINSTON MAYORALTY RACE

Kinston, April 5.—Mills M. Harper, leading by nearly 200 in the biennial Democratic primary here, will go into a second primary with Mayor Dawson Thursday. Birch Douglass ran third and John R. Denton fourth. Joseph Kilpatrick failed to get a vote for re-election. Guy Elliott, a young lawyer, led three others, including Thomas C. Wooten, dean of the bar. Elliott may have a majority.

Racing At Goldsboro.

Snow Hill, April 5.—H. L. Dail announces that there will be a "real horse race" at Goldsboro on Thursday of this week. He says there will be fast horses and big purses. The racing, it is announced, will start at 2 p. m. sharp.

Third Annual A. K. C. Dog Show Today and Tomorrow. Races today 2:45 P. M. at Finchurst—Adv.

COUNTIES MAKE SWEEPING CUT IN PROPERTY VALUES

Wilson Reviewers Order Hor- zontal Reduction of 60 Per Cent

WAKE BOARD DEFERS FINAL ACTION ON MATTER

Duplin Commissioners Follow Advice of Farmers and Or- ders New Valuation of Prop- erty; Wayne Cuts Values of Farm Lands 33 1/3 Per Cent and Town Property 16 2/3

Sweeping reduction of property values in some of the counties of the State under the authority of the last session of the General Assembly were made by county commissioners and appraisers, sitting as county boards of review yesterday, some ranging as high as sixty per cent on farm property. Several counties, including Wake, deferred action.

The Wilson county commissioners authorized a horizontal reduction of sixty per cent in value of farm property and thirty-three and a third in town property; Wayne county, thirty-three and a third per cent reduction in farm values and sixteen and two-thirds per cent in town property; Vance county, thirty-three and a third per cent reduction. Duplin and Robeson county commissioners authorized a revaluation of county real property.

The Wake Farmers Appeal.

The Wake County Commissioners and the County Board of Commissioners sitting as a board of review yesterday heard the appeal of farmers and their representatives for a reduction of fifty per cent in the valuation of farm property in Wake County, considered the matter later in executive session and deferred action until today.

All of the farmers, under the leadership of J. W. Bailey joined in a uniform demand in regard to their lands, but views as to the valuation of the property ranged from the suggestion of Solicitor Herbert E. Norris that valuations in cities and towns should remain as they are to the demand of E. N. Simms that all property be treated alike. James H. Pou and W. N. Jones occupied a middle ground, suggesting a reduction of twenty-five per cent on urban property. Mr. Bailey stated that he represented the farmers alone, and made no suggestion as to urban property. T. E. Holding, of Wake Forest, was inclined to side with Mr. Norris and pointed out that income from urban property has not been diminished.

Mr. Bailey, managing the case for the farmers, held firmly to the position that the present valuation of farm lands is greater than the present actual value in many of such lands, and refused to be drawn into a discussion of how the Commissioners could raise the revenue to run the county. Mr. Jones and Mr. Holding both suggested sweeping reductions in the expenditure of public money, the former declaring that "Music and drawing in the schools are all right, but those are not Boston people, we are not Philadelphia people and we are not New York people and we must live simply."

Witnesses From Townships.

Mr. Bailey placed "witnesses" on the stand from each township in the county. All of the witnesses proved speech makers, but all of them, with one exception, agreed that there should be a reduction of at least 50 per cent, most of them contending for even more. The single discordant note as sprung by Mr. Bartholomew, from St. Matthew's township, which was pronounced that week the Wildes place in his township, which is listed at \$12,500—hold for \$10,000, cash, and thought that a 50 per cent reduction would be too much. However, most of the farmers speaking expressed the opinion that land in their townships could not be sold for more than 50 per cent of its present valuation.

The farmers based their case on conditions, the ratio of present valuations to valuations in the last prior assessment made in 1915, and the selling price of farm products now as compared to what it was when the present valuation was made. It was shown that average valuation of land has increased from \$10.50 to \$45.73 an acre, while during the last year cotton has dropped from 40 to 10 cents a pound.

There was general agreement a new valuation as provided for by the legislature would entail a useless expenditure of money. Mr. Pou urged a horizontal cut instead of individual adjustments on the ground that the latter course would result in relief only for those "able to plead their own cause or to hire a lawyer."

Predict Special Session.

Both Mr. Pou and Mr. Simms predicted a special session of the legislature during this calendar year and wanted Wake County's valuation "reduced to a level of other counties" in anticipation of what was declared to be inevitable an valuation tax. All suggestion that the present situation would end before the next assessment was also scouted.

Both at the three hours' session before the board and at the mass meeting of farmers which preceded it, there was a tendency to praise rather than reflect upon the men who made the present valuation.

Speaking before the farmers, J. W. Bailey contended that the legislature has put the issue squarely up to the

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