

RANDOLPH COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Brief Sketch of This Famous Old County and Its Resources—Wheat-Growing and Fruit Section—Asheboro, the County Seat, Has Population of 2,500 and Many Important Manufacturing Plants—A Splendid County for New Farmers—Good Schools, Good Climate, Good People.

D. P. Waters in Carolina Democrat

Randolph county has a population of about 40,000 and is situated near the geographical centre of North Carolina. Its assessed property valuation, including all corporations, is placed at \$8,127,442, and it has no bonded debt. The total acreage is 479,605, and of this amount 465,223 acres are owned by white men and \$14,282 by the colored race. Politically, the Democrats and Republicans are almost equal in number, and elections, especially concerning county affairs are somewhat exciting. The Democrats, however, have been holding the balance of power in recent years.

This section of the state is rich in historical associations, and among the older families are to be found names connected with many notable characters of bygone days. Here at Asheboro is where Andrew Jackson was examined in law, and granted a license to practice on December 11, 1787. He remained a year or two before taking up his residence in Tennessee.

Educational work in the county has been active and a splendid school system now prevails. There are now 100 white schools (35 being special tax districts) and 21 colored; and in these schools 134 white and 22 colored teachers are employed. High school grades are taught in 11 localities, including Asheboro. The present county superintendent, S. T. Lassiter, has displayed marked ability and zeal in promoting the welfare of the schools. Having had 10 years experience as a teacher, and possessing a natural fitness for the work, his two years as superintendent have been warmly approved by the citizens of the county.

The climate of Randolph county is unusually healthful as compared with some portions of the state and pure water may be found in all localities. Malaria and ague are practically unknown. The temperature and climatic conditions have been exceptionally favorable to the growing of wheat and other cereals. Randolph being at the head of wheat growing counties in this state. Orchards, whether cultivated for apples, peaches, pears, apricots, or other fruits common to our zone, have thrived without exception, while the smaller fruits and berries grow in abundance. Truck farming, though still in its infancy, presents a highly profitable field of work as no better land for that purpose can be found anywhere in the state. In fact, the county as a whole may be regarded in its possibilities of development as agricultural, and home seeking farmers will find plenty of good and available lands at reasonable prices. Lands are especially good and productive in Trinity township, and also in the vicinity of Coleridge and Liberty. Rameuse, a thriving town twelve miles east of Asheboro, is steadily growing and is situated in the middle of a fine agricultural section, besides being a railroad terminal.

Some noted country estates have been established in this county on account of the splendid facilities for hunting, and the magnificent tracts of timber lands. The Brokaws and Goulds of New York have already spent large sums in improvements on their fine properties.

Randleman is also a town of importance, having an electric power plant, a bank and several industries.

The Deep River Chair Company (Incorporated) was established six years ago and is doing a prosperous business under the management of C. W. Petty. Rockers and dining chairs are manufactured, the capacity being 350 daily, and furnishing employment to about 40 men.

ASHEBORO

As the capital of Randolph county,

this city is naturally the centre of its commercial and industrial activities. It has a population of about 2,500, is substantially and compactly built, and its general aspect produces upon strangers a very favorable impression. A good water and sewer system is in operation, also an up-to-date electric light plant—all owned by the city. Two commodious hotels, a handsome court house, and miles of cement sidewalks add much to its air of comfort and prosperity. Two banks and a trust company indicate its financial importance, while three flour mills, two chair factories, a wheelbarrow factory, building material mill and hosiery mill—all in successful operation—represent the growth of manufacturing enterprises. One of the leading weekly papers of the state, The Asheboro Courier, is a noteworthy feature.

Asheboro has good railroad connections to the South and North by means of the Aberdeen & Asheboro R. R., and Southern Railway. Outlets to the East and West have been planned, and bonds voted by the towns most concerned, for the building of the Randolph & Cumberland R. R., and a depot site has been purchased here by the Raleigh, Charlotte & Southern R. R. When these lines are completed Asheboro will grow rapidly; and present indications are favorable to the completion of these new transportation facilities before the expiration of another year.

Farms and Town Lots

The fine farming lands of the county are still much cheaper than in many less favored localities than Randolph county, and property values in town are very reasonable. A complete list of farms and improved lands throughout the county is kept by Mr. John M. Hammer, of Asheboro, who makes a specialty of real estate deals. He is a life-long resident and a gentleman of strict responsibility and integrity, and will be pleased to furnish information as to property locations and values.

Asheboro Trust Co.

Unusual powers are invested in this corporation. It began business in January, 1912, under a special act of the legislature and is empowered to deal in real estate, stocks, bonds, and securities of other states, municipalities, corporations, etc. Other functions also are of much importance: To receive deposits of money for savings or investments; the right to become executor, guardian, or trustee for estates whether for corporations or individuals. The progress of the company has thus far been highly encouraging and its sphere of action is being steadily enlarged. The officers are: R. C. Kelly, president; W. C. Hammer, vice-president; Hal M. Worth, secretary and treasurer.

Home Building and Material Co.

In 1905 the company was incorporated with a capital of \$6,500. Since that year the business has steadily prospered and the capital has been increased to \$13,000. All kinds of wooden material for buildings are manufactured, and the product finds a ready market in North Carolina and Virginia. The company operates a branch plant near Sea Grove where 15 men are employed in sawing and preparing lumber for the finishing plant at Asheboro where 25 men are employed. The officers of the company are: W. J. Miller, president; J. D. Ross, vice-president; Arthur Ross, secretary and treasurer. The plant has a fine equipment in machinery, and the business is conducted with unusual enterprise and skill.

Bank of Randolph

As the oldest bank in the county the Bank of Randolph has steadily gained patronage since its organization in 1897, and ranks second in

the state in its surplus fund compared to its capital stock, the surplus being \$40,000 and the capital \$21,000. Deposits average \$200,000 and a yearly dividend of 12 per cent has been regularly declared since the bank was established. The officers are: D. B. McCrary, president; W. J. Armfield, Jr., cashier; J. D. Ross, assistant cashier.

Asheboro Chair Co.

Since it was established in 1908 the capacity of this plant has more than doubled, the daily output now being 600 chairs. These goods are sold to dealers throughout the country and have proved highly satisfactory in quality and price. About 75 persons are employed. The company is regularly incorporated and has a capital of \$20,000. The officers are: D. B. McCrary, president; W. J. Miller, vice-president; J. O. Redding, secretary and treasurer.

Southern Milling Co.

In August, 1911, this company was incorporated with a capital of \$25,000, \$18,000 of which has been paid in. The mill has no superior in the whole country in the matter of equipment. A solid three-story brick building contains the most modern machinery employed in the manufacture of flour and meal. The brands turned out are winning the very highest praise from all good housekeepers in the territory where they are sold. In patent flour, the Blue Ribbon and Southern Delight are great favorites, while the straight flour brands, Clever Leaf and Bob White, also have a large sale. The daily capacity of the mill is 100 barrels of flour and 400 bushels of meal. The officers are: S. L. Davis, president; L. F. Ross, vice-president; C. L. Cranford, secretary and treasurer.

Randolph Chair Co.

This company was established several years ago, and manufactures wooden rockers and double cane seat chairs for ordinary use. The present capacity is 50 for each working day, but during the present year new factory is to be built which will double the amount of product. These goods are sold throughout the country and the business of the company is in a prosperous condition. Virgil Presnell is president, and C. C. Cranford secretary and treasurer.

The Ashlyn Hotel

This hotel was opened for business in September, 1911. The new building is of handsome appearance and solidly constructed of brick, having 25 rooms besides the spacious office and dining room. Furnishings and fittings are also new throughout the hotel, and the excellent food and service are gaining much favor with the travelling public. J. Bart Webster, manager and lessee, is a hotel man of wide experience, being well known and popular, especially among commercial men travelling in this state.

County Officials

Geo. T. Mudock, register of deeds, was born in Randolph county in 1868. His early life was spent on the farm, and later on he was in the mercantile business. He served three years on the county board of education, resigning that position when nominated for his present office in 1908. In 1910 he was re-elected to the same office. Mr. Mudock is a son of A. G. Mudock, a native of Randolph county, who served in the Confederate army as lieutenant of Co. H, 38th N. C. regiment, and now a prosperous farmer of New Hope township.

John W. Birkhead, sheriff, was born in Randolph county in 1858, son of Milton Birkhead, who was also a native of this county and died while serving as a soldier in the Confederate army. Mr. Birkhead was for many years engaged in farming, milling and mercantile business. He taught school about five years in the county, is a member of the county board of education and has long held the office of magistrate in New Hope township. From 1900 to 1904 he served as register of deeds for county, and was re-elected to his present office in 1910. He has proved himself a very capable and courteous official, and is quite likely to be re-elected this year.

J. P. Phillips, county treasurer, was born in Moore county in 1848 but has been a resident of Randolph county since he was eight years of age. Mr. Phillips has served as

Trains Delayed

The train from High Point due in Asheboro about 9:30 Saturday night did not arrive until 3:35 Sunday morning. When passing Frazer's siding below Trinity the engine broke down, and the train could not move until an engine came from Greensboro.

The passengers were rather tired and sleepy when they at last reached Asheboro.

Richeson's Life Insured

The heirs of Clarence V. T. Richeson will collect on an insurance policy carried by him in an Illinois insurance company \$2,000.

"That policy will be paid," said Vice President Stevens. "I understand that we could avoid payment, but we shall not take advantage of a technicality."

The Southern Railway has given five hundred dollars for the betterment of the Spencer graded school.

The Armour Fertilizer Company, of Chicago, will establish a large plant near Greensboro in the near future.

Senator George S. Nixon, of Nevada, died of spinal meningitis at a hospital in Washington, one day last week.

A sprained ankle may as a rule be cured in from three to four days by applying Chamberlain's Liniment and observing the directions with each bottle. For sale by all dealers.

There is no real need of anyone being troubled with constipation. Chamberlain's Tablets will cause an agreeable movement of the bowels without any unpleasant effect. Give them a trial. For sale by all dealers.

Fire damaged the Nokimis Cotton Mills, at Lexington, last Sunday morning to the amount of eight or ten thousand dollars. A section of warehouse containing 295 bales of cotton was burned.

The United Fruit steamer, Carills, off Cape Hatteras, last Sunday morning, rescued seven men who had clung to the one remaining mast of their water logged and dismantled ship, the Captain Chase, or about 36 hours.

Died

Mrs. Will Lamb died at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Allred, in West Asheboro one day last week, and was buried in the M. E. cemetery.

Mrs. Lamb was about twenty-four years of age. She had suffered from the dread disease, consumption, for several months. The husband, father, mother, and several brothers and sisters survive.

Roosevelt 411 to Taft's 201

The Associated Press has compiled and sent out what is considered "reasonably dependable" figures on the delegates to the Chicago convention. According to this table Taft is given 201 votes and Roosevelt 411.

The 1,078 votes in the convention are assigned as follows:

Instructed for Roosevelt and uncontested, 411.

Instructed for Taft and uncontested, 201.

Instructed for La Follette and uncontested, 36.

Instructed for Cummins and uncontested, 10.

Uninstructed (and including New York's 96), 166.

Contested, 254.

magistrate 25 years, and taught in the schools of the county about 1 years. He is one of Randolph county's prominent farmers and a citizen of sterling worth. In November, 1910, he was elected to his present office, and has performed the responsible duties attached to it with care and efficiency. The popular sentiment is in favor of his re-election this year.

W. C. Hammond, clerk of the superior court, is a native of Randolph county, born in 1873. He was educated at Trinity and Guilford colleges, graduating from the latter institution with the class of 1901 and receiving the degree of Bachelor of Science. After one year spent as a teacher in Catawba College he was nominated and elected to his present office—1902.

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

Craig's Nomination Unanimous—Both Senators, Representatives and State Officers Endorsed—Wilson Endorsed by Great Majority—Wilson Delegates to Baltimore—The Lamented Aycock Honored.

The Ticket

State officers named: Governor, Locke Craig, of Buncombe.

Lieutenant Governor, E. L. Daughtridge, of Edgecombe.

Secretary of State, J. Bryan Grimes, of Pitt.

Treasurer, B. R. Lacy, of Wake. Attorney General, T. W. Bickett, of Franklin.

Commissioner of Labor and Printing, M. L. Shipman, of Henderson. Commissioner of Agriculture, W. A. Graham, of Lincoln.

Auditor, W. P. Wood, of Randolph. Superintendent of Public Instruction, J. Y. Joyner, of Guilford.

Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, W. A. Hoke, of Lincoln and George H. Brown, of Beaufort.

Corporation Commissioner, short term, E. L. Travis, of Halifax.

Presidential Electors at Large, Hon. F. D. Winston, of Bertie, and Hon. G. Ellis Gardner, of Yancey.

Just as it did twelve years ago, North Carolina Democracy met in Raleigh, last Thursday, and nominated without one dissenting voice a distinguished son for the highest office in the state. Then the chosen one was the beloved Aycock, now gone to his reward; now the Democratic champion of the mountains, the Hon. Locke Craig.

The convention was called to order at twelve o'clock by Hon. A. H. Eller, chairman of the State Executive Committee. He introduced Rev. H. M. North, pastor of Edenton Street Methodist Church, who made the opening prayer. Chairman Eller then introduced Mayor James J. Johnson, of Raleigh, who in behalf of the city, gave the conven-



Locke Craig, Our Next Governor

tion a most hearty welcome. During Mayor Johnson's address ex-Governor T. J. Jarvis entered the auditorium. All eyes were for a moment turned and round upon round of applause greeted the venerable and distinguished Carolinian. Then followed a further welcome in a happy speech by Mr. James H. Poe, in behalf of the chamber of commerce and people of Raleigh. Mr. Poe closed by inviting the militant Democracy to meet again in Raleigh November 12th to celebrate a victory for the ticket to be named and a Democratic president. Next the roll of counties was called and each of the one hundred found to be represented.

State Chairman Eller then addressed the convention, and briefly reviewed the record of the Democracy. He contrasted the harmony among Democrats as shown by the determination to nominate Locke Craig with the many dissensions in the Republican party. Mr. Eller called ex-Governor R. B. Glenn to the chair temporarily. Governor Glenn came forward and delivered the key-note speech. During his address the various Democratic presidential candidates Wilson, Clark, Harmon and Underwood each receiving applause, but none so great as that which greeted the New Jersey governor. The name of W. J. Bryan, also, brought forth resounding applause. Governor Glenn

told how North Carolina was progressing under Democratic rule, and also eulogized Hon. Locke Craig the next governor. He closed by wishing blessings on Carolina, and then declared that business would be taken up, and the first resolution would be by the "State's beloved ex-Governor and distinguished statesman, Thomas J. Jarvis."

There was great applause as Governor Jarvis appeared at the front of the platform. He asked for absolute silence and full attention, and then read resolutions paying high tribute to the memory of ex-Governor Charles Brantley Aycock, and giving support to the movement to erect a statue in his honor, and some further memorial in line with the work which had made him known as "The Educational Governor." The resolutions were then read-as follows:

Whereas, since the meeting of the last Democratic state convention a man who loved his fellowman, Charles Brantley Aycock, a Democrat as broad as the nation, and a true exponent of the best things in North Carolina life and character, has passed to his reward, he is resolved,

That this convention feels and expresses its deep sense of loss herein, it glories in his life of self-sacrifice and his unspcakable pride in the recognition of his greatness by all people of our common country.

Resolved, further, That we do heartily evidence the patriotic efforts of the Aycock Memorial Association to raise funds not only to perpetuate his noble form in bronze, but also to erect some other suitable memorial of his successful efforts in behalf of universal education, which won for him the name of the Educational Governor of North Carolina.

The resolutions were adopted by a rising vote.

By Unanimous Vote

Governor Jarvis moved the adoption of the resolutions and Governor Glenn, the chairman, said these would be seconded by every delegate and visitor rising. The call for this was made, and as one person the vast assemblage arose in silence, and paid tribute to the state's best beloved son, gone to the beyond.

Committees and Officers

Names of members of committees and officers of the convention were then read and set forward as follows:

The First District

Credentials and Appeals—T. W. Coates, of Gates.

Permanent Organization—Albion Dunn, of Pitt.

Vice-President—William Badham, of Chowan.

Assistant Secretary—D. J. Whichard, of Pitt.

Resolutions and Platform—R. S. Neal, of Beaufort.

State Executive Committee—C. S. Vann, of Chowan; W. G. Lamb, of Martin; E. F. Aydtlett, of Pasquotank; L. L. Smith, of Gates; E. A. Daniel, of Beaufort; L. W. Tucker, of Pitt.

The Second District

Credentials and Appeals—John Kerr, of Warren.

Permanent Organization—John E. Woodard, of Wilson.

Vice-President—George Turner, of Lenoir.

Resolutions and Platform—Claude Kitchin, of Halifax.

State Executive Committee—W. O. Howard, of Edgecombe; E. L. Travis of Halifax; W. D. LaRokus, of Lenoir; D. J. Macon, of Warren; W. A. Finch, of Wilson; F. D. Winston, of Bertie.

The Third District

Credentials and Appeals—J. A. Bell, of Jones.

Permanent Organization—P. S. Pearsall, of Craven.

Vice-President—Charles S. Wallace, of Carteret.

Assistant Secretary—Owen G. (Continued on fourth page)