

## CONTINUATION OF DUNAGAN SPEECH

Remarks of Democratic County Chairman in His Debate at Rutherfordton Monday, Sept. 22.

The following is a continuation of the speech made by Mr. S. P. Dunagan, in his debate with Mr. Fred D. Hamrick, at Rutherfordton, Monday evening, September 22. The first part of this speech appeared in last week's issue of The Courier:

From all the facts I have in hand I charge that there was a conspiracy to aid in the development of Chimney Rock Mountains and this enormous sum of money placed in circulation in Rutherford County was solely for that purpose. Whether this conspiracy existed before the bonds were issued or as an afterthought,

the conspirators alone can tell us. The County Commissioners were innocent victims of the conspiracy. I do not charge you with being one of the conspirators, but if you were not, then you permitted yourself to become a tool and helped to put over the conspiracy. As a result of this conspiracy the banks bled Rutherford County, and Chimney Rock Mountains, and those who would invest there bled the banks. Such a situation could never have occurred in any community with disinterested attorneys representing the County of Rutherford.

I am charitable enough to say this, that I believe that Mr. Hamrick, the County Commissioners, the bankers and everyone connected with the development of Chimney Rock Mountains were sincere in the belief that the development would be a success, and, feeling that way, did not consider the serious consequences that would result.

Did you have the interest of the

taxpayers at heart, Mr. Hamrick, when you spent eight days in the city of Washington and charged expenses for hotel bill and taxi fare \$105.00, more than \$13.00 per day? at the time you were living so luxuriously hundred of taxpayers of Rutherford County and I may say thousands have been forced to cut down on their food and clothing expenses in order to pay taxes and save their homes and farms. But Mr. Hamrick says that the present Board of County Commissioners, (two of whom are not on the ticket for election,) have fallen down completely.

You know this present board of County Commissioners went into office with a debt against Rutherford County of more than \$3,600,000.00.

I am frank to say to the people that under the conditions and circumstances, while they have made some mistakes, as a whole they have accomplished much for Rutherford County. The first year showing an entire fiscal year in road and bridge work they spent approximately \$74,000.00 as compared with the previous Board's expenditure of more than \$199,000.00 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1928, and \$243,676.05 in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1927. It seems that they have very much reduced the expenditures of the County in that respect. And the record shows also that the total bonded indebtedness of the county as shown by audit of June 30, 1930, shows a total indebtedness of \$3,149,149.08—more than one half a million dollars less than what the indebtedness was when they went in office. So, Mr. Hamrick, they could lose the \$300,000.00 that was on deposit in the banks of Rutherford County and still the county of Rutherford would be \$243,000.00 better off than you left it. The mistakes made by the present Board are mistakes that any conscientious individual might have made under similar circumstances and conditions.

### Tax Fees.

I understood that you are complaining very much over a contract with Mr. Jones to receive 15 per cent for handling the foreclosure suits. That contract also provides that all fees allowed by the courts for handling these suits shall be paid to the Treasurer of Rutherford County. Therefore the 15 per cent is the only fees that Mr. Jones will receive and for your information I will state that he has filed more than 200 tax foreclosure suits. The attorney's fees based on the minimum fees charged by you would be \$25.00 in each case. Therefore 200 suits would bring into the County Treasury \$5,000.00 to offset the 15 per cent. Personally, I think from Jones' standpoint he is the loser and but for two particular collections made by him, namely, Chimney Rock Mountains and Carolina Mountain Power Company, he could not have made expenses out of his contract. When your firm handled the foreclosure suits you charged the County per diem and expenses. The amount actually expended by Rutherford County in paying you based on the amount of taxes collected by your office amounted to 22 53/100 per cent. In addition to that I am reliably informed that you had the taxpayer to pay you a fee, the minimum of which was \$25.00 in each case handled, and that amount is not considered in arriving at the percentage stated for the reason that there is no record in the Treasurer's office to show the amount of those fees, but I would not be at all surprised if figured all up together the percentage would amount to more than 50 per cent. Furthermore, during the time that you represented the County you refused to make your clients, Chimney Rock Mountains and Carolina Mountain Power Company pay their taxes. Perhaps you can explain to the smaller taxpayers of Rutherford County whom you filed suits against why you picked them out but let these corporations ride, so to speak. If your office had performed your duty in that respect Jones, instead of making more than enough to pay his expenses and a reasonable compensation for his time, would today be occupying a room out at the County Poor House in order to comply with the contract made by him.

### Republican Extravagance.

In spite of all of the extravagance of your administration there was some faint hope even for the banks of Rutherford County. If Rutherford County could function normally, the industries operate and payrolls continue in circulation; if our farmers could get a decent price for their produce, especially the money crops, the banks would have pulled through and in spite of the extravagance people would be able to pay their

taxes! In 1928 the Republican Party talked about the prosperity that that party had given to the nation; the spell-binders all over the country proclaimed that they, and they alone, had the power to give this prosperity; that they had done it for the past several years and would continue to do so. President Hoover in his acceptance speech, speaking of the prosperous condition of the nation says: "At one time we demanded for our workers a full dinner pail. We have gone beyond that conception. Today we demand larger comfort and greater participation," etc.—a direct promise to increase the prosperity and conditions of the working people. He likewise promised great relief to the farmers. Personally, I doubted whether the Republican Party was responsible for the conditions existing before and I am frank to say that I do not believe that they are altogether responsible for the conditions existing now. However, they made the promises and assurances and went into office under false pretenses. Instead of doing anything whatever to better conditions, as one speaker has said, there has been a 100 per cent failure to do anything promised by their spokesman. I do know this, that today the mills and industries all over the United States are curtailing or are at a standstill; that the farmers are enjoying a situation where the farm produce must be sold for less than the cost for production; that there are some six or seven million of people out of employment and instead of the comforts promised by the Republican Party the people today have even lost the full dinner pail which the Republican Party has talked of for more than thirty years in campaign times, and they feel lucky if they have a sufficient amount of food and clothing to give them sustenance. Unless conditions change materially during the coming winter months millions of people will suffer from cold and hunger with insufficient clothing, etc.

### Realizes Mistakes.

The Democratic Party in Rutherford County has long ago seen their mistakes. In 1927 the Party discovered the situation—and it acted promptly—cutting off the political heads of its officials who were a party to the extravagance. Those officials acted in good faith as they were mis-advised by you and others. I personally know them to be good men, and they I believe will do as much as anyone to aid a re-organized militant Democracy to put Rutherford County back on a sound basis.

Will the people of Rutherford County follow this re-organized Democracy pledged to every great principal of that organization; or will it follow that other political party dominated by Mr. Hamrick, who I say again is more responsible than anyone else for our situation. I wish I had time to go over all the records.

With never a word of protest—and actively advocating and encouraging (1) Nearly \$3,000,000.00 of indebtedness was added on our citizenship. That debt together with the taxes collected made the average expenditure of Rutherford County during his connection nearly a million and a quarter dollars each year.

(2) The credit of Rutherford County was loaned to the banks amounting to more than a million dollars at times—greatly inflated the finances of the county—gave the banks too much money with which they made unwise and unsafe loans. These were the seeds planted that wrecked the banks—even though the crash didn't come 'til nearly two years later.

He, I say is responsible for our county being as he himself says "flat on its back with its hands and feet in the air—practically bankrupt."

Does he still deny the policies he dictated caused this condition? The old board of Commissioners had been in office before this period and under the advice and counsel of a good Democrat, this same board gave us a good and economical administration. Therefore it was not the policy of the board.

No other but Mr. Hamrick ever publicly advocated these wild expenditures. You did advocate them at the road meeting and other public places. The other institutions referred to followed the same kind of wild extravagance. Therefore, in your public appearances, you've furnished the people the evidence to convict you of any charges—and to convict you on every count.

**Bank Failures.**  
On rebuttal Mr. Dunagan answered Mr. Hamrick's attack on the banking department of North Carolina, and showed that during the eight years of Democratic govern-

ment under Woodrow Wilson there were only 77 national bank failures; whereas under the Republican administration from 1920 through 1929 there were 689 national bank failures. "If the state banking department is rotten, as Mr. Hamrick says, what would you say about the national banking department?"

Three cars of fat hogs fed by Craven farmers topped the Richmond market at 11 cents a pound net to the growers and brought them the tidy sum of \$3,635.34 last week.

Sandhill peach growers encouraged by prices for their fruit this summer are giving their orchards better attention this fall, finds farm agent J. L. Dove of Richmond county.

## AVONDALE NEWS

East Avondale, Sept. 20.—Miss Lucile Nanney spent the week-end in Rutherfordton with her parents.

Miss Amanda Haynes spent Friday night at her home in Cliffside.

Mr. Robert Wells left recently to attend school at Chapel Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. B. P. Caldwell, Miss Beth Caldwell, and Mr. C. H. Harnes were visitors at the home of Mrs. Z. O. Jenkins Sunday.

Mr. Charles Dalton and Prof. F. S. Hall attended the fair Tuesday afternoon.

Mr. Roy Corn was a visitor at the Haynes House Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Graham Hamrick are visitors of the former's parents.

Mesdames J. M. Layne, and H. M. Owens were hostesses at a lovely bridge party Wednesday afternoon.

## NOTICE!

### LAST CALL FOR DELINQUENT TAXES

I have been appointed town tax collector and have been instructed to sell property for unpaid taxes. The list is now being prepared and will appear in the Forest City Courier, October 9th.

You are urged to pay your taxes before the above date and save expense of advertising.

J. E. CALDWELL,  
City Tax Collector.



## ANY DAY

Your auto may any day meet with an accident or some disaster—the fist of fate may strike you a grim crushing blow.

You can never tell when this may happen. Yet complete automobile insurance from this agency will keep you out of trouble—and save you from serious financial loss.

Phone today—you may be glad you did tomorrow!

For safe and sure insurance, call 64



**SECURITY**  
Insurance & Realty Co.

G. B. HARRILL, Sec'y.-Treas.

—: PHONE 64 :—

Forest City,

N. C.

LAST CALL AND FINAL WIND-UP

# Fire Sale!

OF STEIN'S DEPARTMENT STORE

We are moving away from the temporary location. In order not to have anything left you can buy this merchandise at almost YOUR OWN PRICE. Everything must go! This is THE END, THE FINAL WIND-UP.

Now located in the Building next to Forest City Courier Printing Office.

Temporary Location and Remodeling

**SALE BEGINS FRIDAY, OCT. 3, 8:30 A.M.**

- Remnants, yard ..... 2c
  - 200 Pairs Childrens' Shoes and Slippers, worth up to \$3.00 a pair ..... 87c
  - Men's High Grade Work Shoes values up to \$4.95. Your choice of any pair ..... \$1.95
  - Ladies' Slippers and Shoes, values up to \$12.50. Your choice of any pair ..... \$1.47
  - One big lot Sweaters ..... 53c
  - Full Fashioned Ladies' Silk Hose, values up to \$2.00. Your choice only ..... 49c
  - Men's Hose, pair ..... 3c
  - Men's Shirts, \$1.00 value ..... 12c
  - Childrens' Hose, ..... 3c
  - Octagon Soap ..... 2c
  - Piece Goods, yard ..... 2c
  - Ladies' Silk Hose, a real value at only pair ..... 18c
  - Underwear, ..... 10c
  - Childrens' Shoes, pair ..... 23c
  - \$5.00 Men's Dress Pants going at ..... \$1.93
  - One big lot Ladies' and Men's Sweaters, light and heavy weights, values up to \$10.00 ..... \$2.88
  - Brass Pins 2c. All kinds of Buttons 2c doz
  - 1 lot Boys' Suits going for ..... \$1.83
  - Men's 50c Sox, seconds at ..... 14c
  - \$4.00 Ladies' Shoes ..... 59c
  - \$1.00 Men's Ties ..... 5c
  - \$1.00 Boys' Pants ..... 12c
  - 100 Washable Dresses, Ladies' and Misses sizes, your choice ..... 47c
  - \$3.00 Work Shoes, pair ..... 69c
- Rugs, Carpets and Art Squares at half price and less. Ask to see them.

FIRE SALE OF  
**STEIN'S DEPT. STORE**  
Forest City, N. C.