

THE BEAUFORT NEWS

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Chairman Wheatly Answers Criticism of Opponents

Large Crowd Highly Entertained By Debate Between Democratic and Republican Champions—Former County Home Superintendent Raised Some Excitement

The debate Tuesday night between Messrs Luther Hamilton of Morehead City and C. R. Wheatly of Beaufort attracted a crowd that completely filled the county court house and overflowed the corridors of the building. Most of the crowd was from Beaufort but they were there also from many parts of the county. The meeting was the result of a challenge issued last week by Mr. Wheatly to Mr. R. T. Wade of Morehead City in particular and any Democrat who might choose to accept it.

The crowd began coming early and by 7:30 the hour set for the speaking to begin the house was full. After the band had entertained the audience with a selection Mr. E. W. Hill who acted as Chairman and timekeeper called the meeting to order. He explained the purpose of the meeting and requested a respectful hearing for each of the speakers.

Each speaker was to have forty minutes for his opening and twenty minutes for his rejoinder. In accordance with this arrangement Mr. Hamilton was introduced and amid considerable applause began his remarks. He said he was glad to see so much interest in politics and was particularly glad to see so many ladies present. He had once been opposed to woman suffrage but was not now and thought the women ought to take as much interest in political matters as the men. Mr. Hamilton devoted a part of his time to a discussion of school matters. He said the Republicans ought not to blame the high taxes on the schools. He talked about the State's equalizing fund, teachers salaries and the County Superintendent's salary. He said the State levied no taxes now on property and that the county commissioners were solely responsible for taxes levied. He said he did not think the taxes were likely to be lower any time soon, the main thing was how the money was spent. He talked in general terms about extravagance and said the board had shown too much partisanship, in turning out the former welfare officer. He referred to the horizontal cut in assessments of property made by the board and then restored. He referred to the fact that the county had a road superintendent and county farm agent, whom he called a veterinarian, did not say whether he opposed them or not. He discussed the County Health Officer matter and said the board had shown partisanship here again. He took a little wail at national politics, talked about the tariff and closed by asking his opponent to give an account of his stewardship.

When Mr. Wheatly arose to speak he was greeted with a tremendous burst of applause and without any preliminaries he waded into the discussion. He said the county business was divided into three subdivisions: the Board of Commissioners, the Board of Education and the Board of Elections; the two latter are dominated by the Democrats. He said every dollar paid for education was disbursed by the Board of Education and the Commissioners had nothing to do with the matter. Republicans here have favored education; Democrats have opposed it. He got tremendous applause when he stated that the fight for schools in Beaufort several years back the Democratic leaders opposed the bond issue and went so far as to register and vote forty negroes against it.

Mr. Wheatly discussed thoroughly county tax matters, showed that the county rate is 45 cents on the hundred, that the school rate had been advanced to 50 cents. He said the preceding Board of Commissioners had collected \$52,700 and that his board had collected \$49,700.33 in taxes. Under the preceding board the County Home had cost \$7,709.06 and under the present board it had cost \$4,137.07. Old board had made a lot of obligations which the new board had to pay amounting to

\$178,000. The new board has spent only \$22,000 of bond money. He discussed revaluation briefly, paid his respects to "Old Hoss" Watts, touched on the schools again saying the county had bought bonds for Davis, Stacy and Sea Level schools and sat down amid great applause.

Mr. Hamilton began rejoinder by saying he was glad the Republican leader favored education, the Republicans in the State always opposed it.

He discussed the County Home more than any thing else in his rejoinder. Said Mr. Wheatly's figures were misleading, that the former superintendent got \$75 a month against \$100 for the new man and that he raised a lot of hogs, potatoes and so on. He talked about revaluation a little, said the commissioners have failed to economize and their sins were sins of omission and after running a few minutes over time closed amid applause.

In his rejoinder Mr. Wheatly was very vigorous and effective. He took up the County Home matter again, showed that the former keeper's salary was a little less but that his pay roll was a great deal more amounting to \$2,243. He said that the inventory of what the former superintendent had raised did not include the bed bugs which the grand jury's report showed were there. This brought a great roar from the crowd and also a remonstrance from Mr. Wiley the former superintendent of the home who came on the rostrum and spoke to Mr. Wheatly. After this interruption the speaker went into discussion of the cost of roads and bridges comparing the present administration with the former one and showing that the work was being done now for less. His time having ended he closed with an eloquent appeal to the voters of the county and was liberally applauded and congratulated.

Judging from the applause the audience at the debate must have been fully two thirds Republican. Comments heard on all sides after the discussion showed that the general opinion was that Mr. Wheatly had decidedly the better of the discussion and that the other side had failed completely to make good its charges of "wastefulness, incompetence and pinhead partisanship"

REPUBLICAN SPEAKINGS.

Superior Court which is in session this week, has interfered somewhat with the political campaign now going on in the county but nevertheless both Democratic and Republican spell binders have gotten in some work and will continue to do so for the rest of the week. The Republican nominee for Congress Reverend T. J. Hood has spoken in a number of places in the county to large audiences. He spoke this afternoon in the county court room here and tonight he is to speak in Morehead City Friday night he will visit Atlantic and Saturday afternoon he closes his campaign in the county at Newport.

Saturday night C. R. Wheatly and other candidates will address the voters of Straits. County Welfare Officer Jas. Wallace Mason and W. G. Mebane will speak to the voters of Harker's Island Saturday night. Next Monday E. Walter Hill and other candidates will speak at Bogue, and C. R. Wheatly and others will at the same time visit Pelletier. Tuesday night Mr. Hill will go to Eldorado and Mr. Wheatly will be at Holly Springs. Wednesday night Messrs Jas. W. Mason and W. G. Mebane are scheduled to speak at Sea Level.

The production of crimson clover seed in the United States has never equaled the planting requirements in this country and considerable quantities are imported each year from France and Germany, according to the United States Department of Agriculture.

TOBACCO PRICES IN SEPTEMBER WERE GOOD

RALEIGH, N. C.—Thirty nine markets reported operations during September with 81 active warehouses. Prices during the month have averaged \$25.15, or \$3.22 better than the average for September last year.

The Mebane market reported \$31.85, the highest average price during the month, though the amount of sales on this market has been very small. The Wilson market reported producers sales during the month amounting to 11,868,920 pounds. This was 3,600,000 more than was marketed there during September last year, and the prices have been better on this market than they were then. All sales included in this report came from the independent warehouses. To date, this department has been unable to secure any report from the Cooperative Marketing Association.

There were eight warehouses operating during the month that have failed to send in a report for which probable sales would make the producers total about 48,000,000 pounds for the month.

The quality of the tobacco crop at time of harvest was 78.9 per cent of a normal. The heavy early rains followed by the severe drought through the tobacco belt resulted in a very light weight crop, though the color of the leaf has been good.

Remarks from Warehousemen "Quality poor at average" Farmers pleased with prices. "Crop half sold" "Green from second growth on account of too much rain" "Average grades" "Mostly legs" "Better grades coming now" "Large per cent of offerings for September were primings with some good tips" "Crop badly damaged by rain, very little good tobacco being sold."

FREE MAIL DELIVERY STARTS NOVEMBER FIRST.

On and after November the first Beaufort is to have a free mail delivery. Messrs Eugene Carrow and W. D. Skarren who are on the civil service list will be appointed by Postmaster Raymond Wheatly as letter carriers. There will be two deliveries a day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The boxes for receiving mail have not arrived yet but are expected soon and when they come will be installed at convenient places in the town. The rate for drop letters will be two cents instead of one cent as it is now, which is the rule in all towns where free delivery is observed. After the new service starts the postoffice will not be opened after 6 P. M. for any purpose whatever. Under the arrangement it is likely that there will be a considerable falling off in the attendance at the postoffice at the time of the incoming mail. Of course persons who wish to get their mail in boxes can continue to do so. The postoffice building here is rather small for the amount of business handled and it is thought that the new arrangement will relieve the congestion there considerably.

SPEAKER LOST HIS WATCH.

Political campaigners have a variety of experiences some of which are pleasant and some not quite that way. Sometimes the weather is bad, their cars may break down or get stuck in the mud other disagreeable things happen. Mr. E. Walter Hill Republican nominee for the Legislature had rather a unusual one recently when he lost his valuable watch. While delivering a speech at Otway he laid his watch down on a desk in front of him in order that he might not speak too long. When he finished his speech he forgot about the watch and left it on the desk. Discovering his loss after leaving the building he came back to look for it and found that it was gone. He hopes whoever found the watch did not know that it was his and that upon ascertaining that fact will restore it to him.

BROUGHT HOME FOR BURIAL.

The body of Dr. John Stewart of Washington, D. C. was brought here Tuesday on the way to Straits for burial. Dr. Stewart died a few days ago after a protracted illness. He has a number of relatives and friends in this county who greatly mourn his death.

SUPERIOR COURT IN SESSION NOW

Criminal Docket Light And Soon Disposed of—Few Receive Road Sentences

A one week's term of Superior Court convened here Monday at 11:30 o'clock. Judge Thos. H. Calvert of Raleigh who is presiding over the court, in the charge to the jury explained the functions of that body, referred to some of the acts that constitute crime and stated that a greater respect for the law was needed fully as much as law enforcement. Too many violate laws thinking it is all right to do so if they can manage to get by with it.

Mr. Alvin L. Hamilton of Morehead was presented to the court by Mr. Chas. L. Abernethy and was sworn in as a practicing attorney by the Judge who made appropriate remarks as to the responsibility and duties of the legal profession.

The criminal docket at this term of court was rather light and was disposed of in the first two days of the session and some other matters transacted besides. A number of the criminal cases were continued for one reason or another. The injunction proceedings started some weeks ago against Mayor C. H. Bushall and City Attorney G. W. Duncan were heard by the Court. Judge Calvert stated that it was clear to his mind that no moral turpitude had been shown in either of the cases but he thought that Mr. Duncan could not legally hold the office of City Attorney and act as Commissioner at the same time. As to Mayor Bushall's doing the work of inspecting the sewer construction that he would hold that this did not constitute two offices but that he could not draw a salary as Mayor and as inspector also. He would have to give up one job or the other, but he need not pay back the money paid him for the inspecting up to the time the injunction was started.

The following cases on the criminal docket were continued or otherwise disposed of:

T. T. Garner and Luther Garner trespass continued.
Alex Curtis and Joe Blount violating shell fish law, continued.
B. E. Garner assault with deadly weapon continued.
M. F. Spear, abandonment, continued under former order.
Carl Gabriel, trespass, continued.
Julius Dunn, larceny, continued.
Jno. Hester, larceny, continued.
Joseph Eldred, violating shell fish law, continued.
Jno. E. Willis, assault, continued.
Jas. F. Webb, trespass, continued.
Enoch Small, carrying concealed weapons, continued.
F. O. Dickinson, selling mortgage property, continued.
Victor Gabriel, and Frank Taylor disturbing the peace, continued.
Alvah Taylor and Isaac Taylor violating stock law, remanded to Justice H. D. Norcom.
A. C. Darling, violating prohibition law continued.
William Bell, larceny, guilty four months of Green county roads.
Charlie Johnson, passing worthless check, capias and continued.
Henders and Mobley, fornication and adultery, continued.
Robt. Hudgins, Lester Newkirk and W. C. Davis, violating prohibition law, continued as to Hudgins, Newkirk and Davis, plead guilty sentenced to four months on Green county roads.
Joe O'Neal assault with deadly weapon, four months on Green county roads.

W. A. Willis, plead guilty to mistreating his wife let off with cost of case.

Albert Willis, exposing his person unduly, let off with payment of costs.

Henry Johnson, David Lewis, Ivey Gaskill, disturbing public worship, capias and continued.

The grand jury made its inspection of the courthouse, jail and County Home yesterday, found every thing in good order. The jury was composed of the following: H. B. Salter, foreman, D. N. McCain, Henry V. Harris, W. Z. McCabe, Jno. W. Willis, Levy J. Goodwin, Elmer Willis, Loren Mason, Ralph Mason, Claude Garner, E. W. Hardesty, T.

TOBACCO FARMERS ON TRIAL AT NASHVILLE

RALEIGH, Oct. 16—With the largest array of counsel ever seen in any civil case of recent years in Eastern North Carolina the suit of the Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association against Z. A. Harrell and W. T. Jones, alleged contract breakers and members of the big cooperative came to a close at Nashville last Friday after more than a thousand farmers from all parts of Eastern North Carolina had crowded the court house during the greater part of three days.

Never had such interest in any civil case in this section been evidenced by so many people as hung upon the words of opposing counsel which represented the best lawyers of the State and included such names as H. G. Connor, Jr., of Wilmington, Frank Sprull, Jos. B. Ramsey and L. V. Bassett of Rocky Mount for the defense; Aaron Sapiro and Lawrence Levy of San Francisco, James H. Pou of Raleigh, Stephen C. Bragaw of Washington and W. T. Joyner from Raleigh for the Association.

Judge Frank Daniels after a three day hearing of the case reserved decision until this week with the statement, "I have had no case in my court that involved greater issues or one that was discussed with more ability and learning by counsel."

The very able argument of the lawyers for the defense was largely centered on what they termed the unconstitutionality of the law and the creation of what they argued would become a monstrous monopoly in tobacco which they claimed would threaten the welfare of North Carolina and the United States.

The lawyers defending Harrell and Jones, who plead not guilty to a breach of contract, pointed out in the case of Harrell that he was in partnership with a non-member and that, therefore, it would not affect the other, namely, B. F. Eagles, who is not a member of the Association.

In the case of Jones it was pointed out that he has tenants who are not members of the Association and that it would be difficult to make an injunction apply to him without affecting the rights of his tenants.

Affidavits and testimony to the effect that Jones and Harrell had signed the contract unconditionally as bona fide members of the tobacco cooperative were presented by the attorneys for the Association and James H. Pou of Raleigh made a forceful plea for the integrity of the contract, stating that the cooperatives were asking no public favors, were spending no public money and had no selected membership. Its only capital is the loyalty of American citizens and the good faith of North Carolinians. Take that away from them and the cause of the cooperative was hopeless, he declared.

INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT.

Approximately 60,000 more children attended the public schools of North Carolina during the terms 1921-22 than during the 1920-21. That is to say at a rough estimate, something like 443,000 children between the ages of 7 and 14 were in public schools in this State last year as against 383,000 between the ages of 8 and 14 enrolled the year preceding. These figures are based upon those from 65 counties reporting to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. In these 65 counties there has been an increase of 40,000 children enrolled since the extension of the age limit of the period of compulsory school attendance from 8 to 7 years.

TRIAL AT MOREHEAD CITY.

MOREHEAD CITY, Oct. 14—A case of local interest came up before the Judge Jas. R. Bell to-day. State vs James Willis and Dan Piner charging the defendants with assault on Mr. and Mrs. Stancil Buck, Attorney C. R. Wheatley of Beaufort appeared for the State and Attorney Luther Hamilton for the defendants. The court found the defendants guilty, and fined Dan Piner \$30 and Jas. Willis \$20 and cost.

E. Gibbe, P. D. Murphy, W. J. Johnson was special officer in charge of the jury.

NORTH CAROLINA CROP REPORTS

Tobacco Shows an Increase Also Sweet Potatoes and Irish Potatoes are Plentiful

(By Frank Parker)

RALEIGH, Oct. 14—TOBACCO An increase of 13 per cent in the tobacco acreage, and a slight increase of yield, at 807 pounds per acre, insures an increased production of about 22 per cent. The average prices on the auction markets are not yet equal to those of last year. The total value of the crop is less than two per cent more. The value-per acre is \$152.80, based on the present information available. This over two per cent less than it was last season.

WHITE (IRISH) POTATOES—Irish potatoes are too abundant this year. Great stocks are going into storage and many left to rot. This state's late crop is grown primarily in the western counties. The combined early and late crops occupy about the same acreage, have the same yield and production as last season. The value, however, is much less. At 75 cents per bushel, it would mean an 87.5 bushel yield, \$65.25 per-acre-value, and 4,025,000 bushels mean \$3,018,900 value. They were worth twice as much last season.

SWEET POTATOES—The acreage of sweet potatoes was increased four per cent, as well as the yield. The price has declined rapidly and an over-supply is reaching many markets. The Southern sweet potato is not appreciated in the North because they do not know how to cook them. As with prunes and raisins, the demand must be created. At 75 cents per bushel, the average acre of 106 bushels will be worth \$79.35 this year; if sold.

PEANUTS—As the digging of peanuts is just begun and the previous weather was so unfavorable in the commercial northeastern counties, it is difficult to estimate the results. The acreage was reduced; the yield expected will be perhaps nearly 900 pounds per acre, giving approximately 115,000,000 pounds production, which, at 90 pounds, will give 1,280,000 bags in this state if all were marketed. There is quite a large acreage that is not pocked and not counted in the above.

HAY—The wet weather and prospects of failures of several crops has resulted in far more hay than was expected. This is particularly true in the eastern half of the State. The yield, as well as the acreage, is increased. It will be needed to tide the farmers over an unprofitable year. Many acres of soy beans, intended for picking, have been cut for hay. The same was true of cowpeas. Crab grass mixtures have been unusually good.

In spite of the adverse wet and dry weather extremes experienced here this year, we have already reached the goal ahead of last year in several crops and sure to get there with others.

CORN—Corn at 80 per cent of a full crop is better than last year, excepting in certain drowned-out areas of eastern counties and in excessively dry parts of central sections.

OATS—Oats are much the same at 86 per cent quality on the same acreage, but much better in yield at 22 bushels per acre, when last year they averaged only 18 bushels, but the average is lower at 63 cents. The total crop value ranks us with the average state.

The area has been much the same for three years, as also was the yield per acre. The total production of barley misses 50,000,000 bushels, but the value of the present crop is about 20 per cent more at 96 cents per bushel than last year's. On the per acre basis of \$18.43 at present quite an improvement is apparent over the \$15.05 of a year ago. The state's rank in total value is perhaps 18th.

COTTON—The large increase of 12 per cent in the acreage of cotton to be picked this year over a year ago doesn't net nearly the production 730,000 bales, made last year 776,000, but the average price is better having increased, whereas it decreased during the previous season. The 218 pounds this year mean an

(Continued on page five)