

WOULD RUN WEBB FOR PRESIDENCY

Colorado Man "Stuck" on N. C. Congressman—Liquor Bill The Cause—W. L. Ray Says His Name Will Go Down in History as a National Figure. H. E. C. Bryant in Raleigh News & Observer.

Washington, April 4.—W. L. Ray, of Victor, Colorado, wants to run Representative E. Y. Webb for the Presidency. The Webb liquor bill is the cause. Mr. Ray has written Mr. Webb as follows: "You have no doubt been swamped with congratulations over your stupendous and matchless victory over the most powerful political forces and influences in our great republic. However, I want to add my mite of praise to you as the author of the most important piece of legislation accomplished in this generation.

"Your name will go down in history as the first victorious champion of national legislation against the greatest enemy of the human race. The next great issue to be decided by the American people is the annihilation of the great curse which threatens the very foundation of good government.

"The next national convention of the great Democratic party will be forced to meet this issue, and you might as well begin grooming yourself for the fight, since you are the logical leader with which we can win.

"Put me down as the original Webb man. I am already negotiating a transfer to your district in anticipation of becoming a resident of the home district of the statesman who has accomplished more for his people than any of his colleagues, and, who is destined to become the future president of the country he has already served so magnificently.

"You have no conception of how famous you have become all over this great country. Your victory against such very formidable enemies, is regarded as one of the greatest achievements of modern times.

"As the father of four boys allow me to crown you as chief among American statesmen. You occupy this position in the hearts of thousands of true Americans from the Atlantic to the Pacific. With sincerest gratitude and best wishes."

Progress in Hookworm Eradication—122,656 Persons Treated in State.

The quarterly report for the State Campaign against Hookworm disease shows that for the three months ending March 31st, State and county dispensaries for the free examination and free treatment of hookworm disease were conducted in twelve counties; that 35,472 persons were microscopically examined for hookworm disease; and that 10,784 persons received free treatments for the disease. Counting the work previously reported there have been examined to date in the State 216,616 persons, and 122,656 persons treated. Work was conducted during the past three months in the following counties: Pamlico, Tyrrell, Washington, Union, Montgomery, Hoke, Moore, Henderson, Camden and Currituck.

Sixty-five counties have now had the dispensary work, and six additional counties have provided for it, making a total of seventy-one counties. Five counties have provided for a second round of dispensary work. Campaigns are now opening in Beaufort (second round), Mecklenburg, Perquimans and Forsyth counties.

Dr. H. L. Sloan, a native of Sampson county, an A. B. graduate of the University of N. C. and a medical graduate of the University of Penn., has entered the services of the State Board of Health as Assistant Director of the Hookworm Campaign to succeed Dr. C. F. Strossider, resigned.

SCHOOL CLOSING.

The Oak Grove school will close Saturday, April 12th, with a picnic. Rev. J. L. Cromer will make an address at eleven o'clock and Rev. J. H. Robertson in the afternoon. Everybody cordially invited to come and bring well filled baskets. Misses Jessie and Ruby Ramsey, Teachers.

DANIELS GOES IN FOR SAVING UNCLE SAM'S THOUSANDS

Believes It Can Be Done by Substituting Oil for Coal, for Fuel in Battleships—And Secretary Lane Also—The Latter Recommends That the Government Acquire Sufficient Oil Fields to Supply Demand.

(By H. E. C. Bryant, in Raleigh News & Observer.)

Washington, March 2.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels believes that the government can save thousands, if not millions of dollars, if our battleships, instead of being supplied with coal as a motive power, oil in its place is substituted.

Ever since Mr. Daniels became head of the Navy Department, this question has been one uppermost in his mind. He had no definite knowledge of the extent of the oil fields of the United States, neither did he possess sufficient information which would convince him that our men-of-war in the future can be equipped with a fuel supply at a cost largely in decrease of that which Uncle Sam is now compelled to pay.

In other words, Secretary Daniels has been of the belief that oil, instead of coal, could be substituted to move our greatest dreadnaughts and that through such substitution the government of the United States would save many thousands of dollars annually. He wrote to Secretary of the Interior Lane, in charge of all public lands and all oil fields, about the matter. Secretary Lane, who is a native of California, stated in his reply that his native state will be the only one from which will be drawn the supply of fuel during the next score of years.

Secretary Lane recommends to the Secretary of the Navy that the government acquire sufficient oil fields to supply the present demand of our fighting fleet, operating them, as they can do, at a less cost than under private contract. Secretary Lane states that the life of a battleship will have become long since exhausted before our oil supply burns out.

In writing to Secretary Daniels, Secretary Lane said, among other things:

"The production of heavy oils in California has now been under way for thirty-five or forty years, although it did not become important until the middle 80's. Furthermore, it is the only state, with the possible exception of Illinois, in which production has not begun to decline. Its rate of production has continued to increase as new fields have been opened and as additional industries have come to depend upon oil as a fuel, for it is the only important producer of fuel oils. It is probable that the majority of the oil-bearing areas within it are now known, and that there will be few important discoveries in the future, while the demand will doubtless continue to increase. The development of the known fields, however, is at present somewhat retarded by the existence of the temporary government reserves. The reserves will eventually be opened by legislation and when that event takes place all of the known supplies except those retained in the permanent naval reserves will be available for commercial extraction. The development of promising Mexican territory may check the rate of this extraction when supplies in the California fields run low and costs there increase for this reason. This development, with its tendency to retard the rise in price, will probably prolong the period of production within the oil fields of the United States. Nevertheless there can be little doubt that prices of fuel oil will rise as the supplies decline. This tendency toward higher prices because of lessening reserves is further stimulated by the improvement in technological processes by which the fuel oils are broken up into more valuable lighter products and are thereby more fully utilized.

"Twenty years hence the price of fuel oil, which then as now will be produced chiefly in California, will be much higher than at present and the production will probably have declined seriously, although it is likely that it will still be large."

"The failure of the oil supplies in the United States will not take place suddenly. The decline will be gradual and will tend constantly to be checked by rising

WILSON A PUZZLE TO POLITICIANS

His Profound Silence Awaits the Office-Seekers—Mr. Simmons Admires Him—Expects Him to Make One of the Greatest Executive Officers the Country Has Had.

(By H. E. C. Bryant)

Washington, April 2.—President Wilson is a puzzle to Washington politicians. His like has not been seen here in many a day. He receives callers, listens to their troubles or rejoicings, and resumes the even tenor of his way. His profound silence awes the office-seeker or the favor hunter. Three times the suffragists have visited him, and three times he has said nothing to indicate his attitude toward the cause of woman suffrage.

Senator F. M. Simmons, of North Carolina, who, as chairman of the finance committee, will help Representative Oscar W. Underwood and President Wilson frame a tariff bill, thinks that the President is going to make one of the greatest executive officers the country has had.

"President Wilson weighs men and their statements," said Mr. Simmons. "He listens, absorbs and then acts. President Taft took up a thing today and dropped it tomorrow. Roosevelt watched the popular wind and sometimes rode it. Mr. Wilson is weighing everything and everybody. It would be a difficult task to impose upon him."

The impression that Senator Simmons got from a visit or two to the White House is in line with what other congressmen get. Mr. Wilson is keeping his head and does not let any sort of story throw him off the track.

We know that filth breeds flies and that flies spread disease. So, if we tolerate filth in our communities, we may expect to have lots of sickness and many heedless deaths.

prices. This illustrated by the fact that in the oldest field in the United States, Pennsylvania, where production was important as early as 1861, recent increased prices have changed a former decline, sometimes as rapid as 15 per cent, into a slight increase for the year 1912. Production from fields abandoned earlier may be resumed when prices advance to a point which permits of more expensive extraction at a profit. Declining production and increased demand will be announced by rising prices, but there will be no sudden cessation of supply. Indeed it is believed that the decrease in California will be much less rapid than the increase has been. The latter has risen from twenty-four million to eighty-one million barrels per annum during the last decade, and one of the oldest fields—that of Kern River—maintained a nearly constant production for nine years before decline begun.

(3) As nearly as can be estimated the privately owned lands within and surrounding the present naval petroleum reserves will, when developed, result in a depletion of the supply in these reserves by not more than 20 per cent. Twenty years hence, therefore, and thereafter until the reserves are abandoned or developed by the government, 80 per cent of the present roughly estimated amount of two hundred and fifty million barrels, namely, two hundred million barrels, should be available.

(4) No relief can be expected in the price of fuel oil at Atlantic ports for commercial uses. There prices will probably tend upward thereafter, although of course there may be brief periods during which lower prices will rule as a result of the development of new fields, for example, those of Western Mexico. Relief to the navy from increasing commercial prices can probably be secured only by the development of its own reserves, where it should be possible to produce oils at approximately the present cost of production, fifty cents or less per barrel, plus transportation to the point of use.

(6) It is believed that the Department of the Navy may rely upon the reserves already existing for a supply of fuel oil for a period greater than the life of any battleship to be constructed within the next decade."

FORMER LINCOLNTONIAN VISITS PANAMA

Mr. L. C. Paysseur Who Lived in Lincoln County Several Years Ago, Now a Leading Citizen of Lancaster, S. C. Writes of The Panama Canal.

Lancaster (S. C. News.)

Editor News:—I thought a letter from this section of the country might be of interest to your readers as they have been hearing of the Panama canal so much. It is certainly a wonder to see and I can't imagine such an undertaking; in fact it is beyond describing. It is about 42 miles long. They are now working forty thousand men and about three hundred dirt trains of 25 cars each. One big job is to get some place to put the dirt and rock that they take out. They haul most of it 20 miles and make regular mountains of it. They get a train of dirt out every three minutes. The big steam shovels fill a car at three dips. I went on a sight-seeing train. This train runs every day and carries from two to three hundred visitors to see the wonder works. Nearly all the visitors are Americans. This train carries you down in the canal for nearly ten miles, where they have cut it through Culebra mountain. At one point it is 530 feet deep and a half mile wide at the top and is nearly all rock. The canal is three to five hundred feet wide at the bottom and the water must be not less than 41 feet deep at any place in the canal.

The French government worked on this canal for a number of years and it was about to break the government so they gave it up. Then a private company undertook it and spent forty or fifty million dollars and they fell down and gave it up. Then the work stopped for about twenty years when the United States bought it and are hard at work at it. Some of the natives here say that it will never be finished. The engineers say they expect to turn water in it next September at the Atlantic end for six or seven miles and at the Pacific end a mile or so. Through the swampy parts they dig it with suction dredges and force the mud out through 20-inch pipes into hollow or low places. Some places they run it out a mile or more. The unfinished parts have eight or ten railroad tracks and as they get the dirt out they shift the tracks back and forth.

When the French abandoned the job they left most of their machinery, steam plows, locomotives, cars, and thousands of things standing right where they stopped work and today you can see miles of old cars, engines, etc., rusted to pieces, the tracks rotten and trees and bushes growing among them. At one place they turned the course of a river. The river is nearly as large as the Catawba at home. They built a dam one mile and a quarter long and a half mile thick at the bottom. This turned the course of the river and made a lake which covers three hundred and thirty square miles.

Panama City is a considerable place of 75,000 inhabitants. The streets are all paved with Pittsburg, Pa., brick and the pavements all cemented everywhere, all done by the United States.

The United States has built hundreds of homes, in fact they have a town nearly the full length of the canal for the employes of the canal. Most of them are nice large houses of from 8 to 25 rooms, and some large fine hotels. I also visited Old Panama City, which is out seven miles from the present city. This old destroyed city is on the Pacific coast and has a long sea wall to protect it from the water. It must have been a considerable place. It was destroyed and its inhabitants killed by pirates, I think, in 1474. Anyway, it was not Captain Kidd but Captain Foster and his men. There old walls and towers are standing, some in good shape and as much as four stories high. Especially one very old church is in fair shape. It is five times larger than all the churches in Lancaster put together; is of stone except the arch work is brick. A large stone fort is standing and has trees 2½ feet thick in it which have grown there since the destruction. In fact it is all a wilderness of trees and vines and is a sad place to see.

I did not get to mail this letter at Panama and am now at Colon, and will sail for Kingston, Jamaica.

PRESBYTERIANS WITH US NEXT WEEK

Deacons Convention to Be Held—Session Will Last Two Days—Presbytery Convened Tuesday Night.

The second Annual Convention of the deacons of Kings Mountain Presbytery will convene in the Lincolnton Presbyterian church on next Monday night, April 14th at 8 p. m. First in the order of exercises will be devotional exercises followed by the enrollment of delegates. An address on "Office, Duties and Responsibility of a Deacon" will then be made by Rev. W. S. Lacy of Belmont, N. C. Rev. J. H. Henderlite of Gastonia will wind up the exercises of the night by delivering an address, his subject being "The Attitude of a Church Toward Its Deacons."

The convention will again convene promptly at 9:30 a. m. Tuesday morning. This will be an executive session for deacons only. The following program will be carried out:

1. Devotional Exercises
2. Enrollment of additional Delegates
3. Question Box
4. Committee of the whole or a free, full, frank and informal discussion of the work in the respective Churches Methods, successes and failures—Difficulties and how to overcome them.

Again, on the afternoon of the same day, April 15, at 2 p. m. the final session will be held. An address, the subject being "The Deacon, the Elder and the Preacher," will be delivered by Rev. R. A. Miller of Lowell. This will be followed by the election of officers, fixing time and place for next meeting, appoint a program committee, reading and correction of minutes and attend to any other business that may come before the meeting before adjournment. The public at large is cordially invited to attend these meetings. The program committee consists of Dr. J. B. Wright, L. M. Hull, J. Lee Robinson, P. P. Murphy, and J. W. Mullen.

Tuesday night at eight p. m. the spring session of King's Mountain Presbytery will convene, following the Deacons meeting and will be in session for about three days. The program will appear in Friday's issue of The News.

SOUTH FORK WINS GAME.

Maiden, April 5.—Special.—South Fork Institute today defeated Catawba's second team 14 to 2. Neither side scored until the 4th inning. The Institute started the wheel to rolling when Keener was walked, followed with a single by Benbow. Catawba didn't reach 3rd until the 9th inning. The features of the game were the pitching of Taylor and double plays by Lippard and Benbow. Ingle of Catawba had nothing, while Taylor for the Institute pitched good ball. Batteries—Ingle and Reinhardt; Taylor and Reniger.

Miss Alpha Goode, who has been stenographer for the Dixie Grocery Company here for several years, left Friday for her home at Rutherford College.

a, this evening. I have been watching them taking part of the cargo on the steamer. This boat goes to New York. They are loading it with bananas, coconuts and coffee and I notice 300 bales of cotton in the cargo, 50,000 bunches of bananas, 8,000 sacks of coconuts, five or six carloads of general merchandise and lots of different kinds of things, including three automobiles. They have as fine roads as I ever saw anywhere all about here, as well as at Panama. The roads are graded and macadamized for miles and miles. All kinds of tropical fruits grow here; much of it grows wild. The steamer put on a thousand boxes of oranges. In the country the natives are a dark shade of Indians or South America negroes. They seem to be clever folks; wear little clothing. The men are dressed up when they have on a cap and a pair of overalls. The children do not wear anything but a shirt and those under about five or six years of age go naked. All are very slow moving and happy looking. I would like to write more but know this is now too long. Regards to all Lancaster people.

L. C. PAYSSEUR.

THE WATERS ARE PLACID

The City Election Now Only Four Weeks Off With No Avowed Candidates Announced As Yet—To Be Quiet Affair From All Indications.

The folks are too busy watching Lincolnton grow to take much interest in town politics and from all indications it will be a quiet affair this year. The News has been unable to get in touch with anything of a sensational nature and we have just about come to the conclusion that the people are pretty well satisfied with the burg and that the party who attempts to kick up a hullabaloo will "get his," as the street urchins would say. However within the next few days a mass meeting will be called, and a ticket named, this being the usual custom. The present board has a good record to go before the people with if they decide to run. At a meeting of the board held on last Friday the following registrars and judges were appointed for the election which will be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday, the same being May 6th:

Ward One—Guy Haynes registrar. Henry Camp and J. B. Johnston Judges. Voting place Haynes shop.

Ward Two—J. Thos. McLean registrar. E. James and R. M. Petrie judges. Voting place Cline building.

Ward Three—J. A. Epps registrar. D. P. Rhodes and N. M. Dellinger, judges. Voting place North State hotel.

Ward Four—J. O. Allen registrar. G. E. Crowell and W. M. Hoke judges. Voting place—J. A. Burgin & Co's store.

Report that the Left State Farm is Erroneous

Shelby Star. The report was circulated over the county this week that John Ross, the negro who is serving a life sentence for the murder of the Dixon family, had escaped from the state farm. As soon as the report was learned here, Sheriff Wilkins immediately telegraphed the superintendent of the State Prison and had an answer yesterday morning that John Ross had not escaped, but was hard at work on the State farm. The report of his escape came from a very reliable source. Two or three ladies from the Elizabeth section attending the meeting of Baptist Women's Missionary Society in Raleigh last week visited the state prison. They asked the guard to show them John Ross but they said the guard showed a disposition to ignore their request. After going through the prison they repeated their request to see Ross, whereupon he told them that Ross had escaped from the State farm several weeks ago, but the prison officials wanted to keep it a secret in the hope of re-capturing him. Coming from such a reliable source the reported escape spread rapidly. The guard evidently mistook the name of Ross for some other man and misinformed the ladies.

Mr. and Mrs. Jennings Anniversary Dinner.

Gastonia Gazette.

In celebration of their tenth wedding anniversary Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Jennings gave a sumptuous six-course dinner to a number of their friends Tuesday evening at their home on South Broad street. The occasion was greatly enjoyed by all present. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. John L. Beal, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ford, Miss Frances Saunders of Batesburg, S. C., Mrs. C. L. Branch, of Charlotte, and Miss Louise Hopkins, of Lincolnton.

Fine Egg Records.

Shelby Star. Rev. W. H. Braswell who is as good in the poultry yard as he is in the pulpit is making a fine show with his white orpingtons and wyandottes. In March he reaped a harvest of 500 eggs, having 39 hens, 9 of which number were sitting.

K. Kendall, who has Buff Orpington strain, surpassed this record, securing 580 eggs in March from 34 hens. Out of this number he had 3 to 5 sitting. Poultry raising is quite a factor in this county.

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