

The Mount Airy News.

ESTABLISHED 1880

MOUNT AIRY, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1921.

\$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.

POSTMASTERS WILL BE NAMED BY MR. HARDING UNDER THE OLD PLAN

Is Said that He Will Return to Patronage System

Washington, Feb. 24.—Apparently reliable information from St. Augustine that President-elect Harding intends soon after he takes office to abolish civil service examinations in appointing postmasters means that the patronage struggle in North Carolina and all other states will become more desperate than ever.

Applied locally, such action by President Harding will negate offhand nearly 100 nominations by President Wilson of postmaster in North Carolina. These will include nominations under the civil service and the executive orders of President Wilson.

Washington heard today that President-elect Harding believes in the merit system of appointment but does not believe this system calls for a system of percentage figures by the civil service commission. He is reported as being unwilling that Democrats, simply because they have passed an examination, shall hold on indefinitely to postmastership during a Republican administration. This is merely a reflex of statements made by Mr. Harding during the campaign wherein he affirmed his belief in "government by parties."

In North Carolina, for instance, there are hundreds of postmasters holding on under civil service examinations. Possibly because the Democrats in the state outnumber the Republicans it is also true that most of the nominations sent in by President Wilson in the past few months were of Democrats.

When President Wilson came into office only fourth class offices were under the civil service. Eventually he broadened this by executive order to include third, second and even first class offices and there has always been friction over distributing such choice plums through a percentage table.

The executive order of Mr. Wilson is only an executive order. It is not law and may be rescinded as soon as Mr. Harding takes office. Postmasterships then would go back on the patronage basis, under such regulations as Mr. Harding and his postmaster general may decide are necessary to observe to a degree the merit system.

It has been known here that some of the political politicians of the Republican party have been urging Mr. Harding to rescind the Wilson orders. They proceeded on the argument that "to the victor belongs the spoils," and they saw no reason why Democratic postmasters by the thousand should continue under this administration. There will be various ways to get rid of these postmasters. They may be removed on "charges," asked to resign or fail to receive reappointment as their commissions expire.

It is understood here that President Harding thinks fourth class post-offices should be protected by civil service but the more important offices should be filled without reference to a technical examination. One of the complaints under the Wilson order has been that at some of the large offices men not fitted temperamentally and not locally popular and desirable have been appointed simply because of their paper ratings.

On the other hand Democrats who occasionally met with Republican appointments in their home towns have rebelled against an order that denied a Democratic community a Democratic postmaster. The tables are now turned, and if the present program goes through an old fashioned patronage system will be substituted during the next four years.

The local consequences of this are apparent. Such a policy will set aside automatically civil service examinations that have been held and kill at one blow several thousands postoffice nominations pending in the senate. The senate all along, this session has refused to confirm such Wilson nominations, but now the indications are the slate will be wiped entirely clean by the new President and new system of appointments substituted. This adds to the "plums" in North Carolina and should also result in a mad scramble for patronage as the news is disseminated among the Republican faithful.

There are 12,000,000 Negroes in the United States. They constitute one-seventh of the working force of the country.

France plans to make over army material into civilian clothing to find work for 1,000,000 unemployed.

MRS. J. P. MOORE WANTS TO BE MAYOR SALISBURY

Will Enter Democratic Primary in April; Wants People to Run the Town

Salisbury, Feb. 23.—Salisbury has a woman aspirant for mayor. Mrs. James P. Moore announces that she will enter the Democratic primaries in April and seek the nomination for chief executive of the city. Mrs. Moore has finally and definitely decided on this after having been urged to do so by a good many of the leading citizens of the city.

In a very plain talk to a Post reporter Mrs. Moore said that she would be a candidate and that she would not be a candidate for re-election, offering for one term only. Mrs. Moore is outspoken in her positions, as those who know her are well aware. She is no hedger or trimmer and believes what she believes and stands for what she stands for.

"I want the people to run the town," she said. "I am tired of one man rule and believe that the mayor should be an instrument of the people and not in any sense of the word a dictator. I am for just and equal enforcement of the laws and believe that the laws of the city should be enforced or wiped off the books."

Mrs. Moore was asked what she meant by the people running the town. She replied that she was in favor of the people getting what they wanted, not what some one else thought they wanted; in favor of the taxpayers being treated as masters, not servants.

No favors to any one," Mrs. Moore continued. "I have," she said, "no favorites, no favors for friends, and no punishment for foes. I want justice and equity in every walk of life."

Asked if she was a candidate for mayor subject to the Democratic nomination, Mrs. Moore spoke most assuredly. She stated emphatically that she was a Democrat; that her first vote was unscratched and for Democrats, and her nomination will be subject to the Democratic primaries.

Mrs. Moore gave the newspaper man to understand that she has some well defined ideas about civic matters, about municipal affairs and that she would put these into practice as an official of the city.

Just what she means by this is reflected in the few brief statements which she made and is quoted above.

Scottish Rite Masons Will Erect a Temple

New Bern.—At an approximate cost of \$225,000 the Scottish Rite Masons in this district will erect in New Bern within the next few months a Scottish rite cathedral, the fourth in North Carolina and one of the most imposing and beautiful of the four. Plans have been completed and will be placed before the thirty-second degree constituency at the regular fall reunion for recommendations, suggestions and approval.

If the assembled Masons vote favorably the beautiful building will be started in a short time thereafter on the Hancock-Johnson street corner. It will occupy the entire lot, absorbing the present Masonic temple and moving picture theatre. The present temple will be swept into the scheme of beautification, and will receive thorough renovation and improvement. It will join hands on the scheme to make the cathedral one of the finest Masonic structures in the state.

The Egyptian scheme of architecture will be followed in detail. With a base of granite, which on account of the dampness of this climate is the only practical foundation, the cathedral will rise in a color of light buff. Over the entrance the emblem of the degree will be in array, while the steps, guarded by large Egyptian sphinx, will lead up from the edge of the sidewalk. The entrance will be built into a 60-foot pylon, which will stand out in relief against the front of the building. The present entrance to the theatre will be converted into a handsome lobby.

The Sphere of Women

They talk about a woman's sphere, As though it has a limit; There's not a place in Earth or Heaven. There's not a task to mankind given, There's not a blessing or a woe, There's not a whispered "Yes" or "No," There's not a life, or death, or birth, That has a feather's weight of worth, Without a woman in it.

AMERICAN BOYS ASTONISH GERMANS

Party of 15 Pay No Attention to Dignified Officials Who Gathered for Welcome.

Berlin, Feb. 24.—Formality and ceremony received a number of rather rough jolts during a tour of Germany just completed by fifteen American farmer boys, who came to this country with a ship load of milk cows, given to Germany by farmers in the United States. The young men have returned to Berlin after a trip of sixteen days to many of the principal cities of the country, during which they saw Germany and her people and enjoyed themselves in their own way. The Americans are natives of Indiana, Kansas and Texas and they brought to this country the unconventional atmosphere of their prairies.

Reception committees which gathered at stations expecting to welcome a frock-coated, silk hatted delegation, were astonished to see the breezy Americans swarm off their special car, and ignoring dignified burgomasters and officials, extend their hands in greeting to farmers shouting:

"You fellows work; your hands are calloused."

In some places there was outspoken astonishment at the unconventional manner of the Americans and their disregard of the feelings of high officials, but W. E. Schmidt, representative of the German Red Cross, who accompanied the Americans, was always at hand to explain matters.

The only unpleasant incident occurred at Bochum, where the Americans were criticised for speaking English.

"Why don't you speak German?" a man asked them. "You are in Germany and not America."

"We speak what we want to," came the quick rejoinder from a Kansan and the matter was abruptly dropped. No Germans were permitted to enter the American's car, altho after the first few days all fear of antagonism vanished.

"Germany and the United States are still technically at war," a German official assigned to the party said, "and we didn't know how things would go, but there was no occasion for fear." The Americans, after being given their first sight of Germany, declared they liked the country, but Peter Andreas, of Elbring, Kas., summed up the sentiments of the party by saying:

"There is too much misery here. There are too many rich and too many poor. But then, it seems the people must be one or the other. Kansas suits me."

The German Red Cross does not plan to take other American parties on tours of the country, Herr Schmidt said today.

"Don't you like Americans," he was asked.

"Yes, but we haven't enough money," he replied. "The American Dairy Cattle Company, which forwarded the milk cows to Germany, asked us to do this so that the boys could report on conditions on their return. We would be glad to guide other parties about the country, but it cannot be done."

Signs of Spring.

When the evenin' shadows gather,
An' you hear the whippoorwill,
Callin' for the Easter weather
Way across the pasture hill—

Hear 'im wailin' in the evenin'
Or the dewy, rosy morn;
It's a sign to start yer plowin'
An' the plantin' of yer corn.

When you hear the bull-frog singin'
Like his voice should be canned,
An' the lightnin' bug goes wingin'
Up an' down the meadow land,

In the dewy mist of evenin'
It's a sign the winter's gone;
Time to start the spring-time plowin'
An' the plantin' of the corn.

Then it's great to prune yer grizzled
Whiskers with the ol' sheep-shears
Cause the winter time has mizzled
Out, and with three rousin' cheers

You go spoonin' with the flowers
When you ought to drive the plow;
Or lie dreamin' in the clover
When you ought to milk the cow.

Applications for marriage license in Nebraska must rest in the office of the county judge fifteen days before being granted and guardians or parents must be notified by registered letter according to the terms of a bill submitted in the state senate. Huntington, Utah, the jail has been turned into a public library.

WILSON TO RIDE WITH HARDING

As Has Been Usual Custom Retiring President Will Go to Capital With Successor.

Washington, Feb. 24.—President Wilson will follow the long established custom of riding to the capitol with the incoming president on March 4 under plans of the congressional inauguration committee, approved by the President, it was announced at the White House.

Whether Mr. Wilson will attend the inaugural ceremonies has not been made known, but he will not accompany Mr. Harding back to the White House, going direct from the capitol to his new home on S street.

Four troops of cavalry, numbering 350 officers and men will escort the President and President-elect to the capitol and then will accompany Mr. Harding to the White House.

Then plans of the congressional committee as they became known today, provide for the opening of the day's program with a visit of the committee to the president-elect at the new Willard Hotel. After this visit the entire party will enter automobiles and will drive to the White House, where they will be joined by President and Mrs. Harding.

From the White House the procession will move over Pennsylvania avenue to the capitol. There the President and probably Mr. Harding will enter the President's room where Mr. Wilson will sign the bills passed in the closing hours of congress.

After the new vice-president has taken the oath in the Senate chamber and has delivered his inaugural address, the guests will proceed to the steps at the east front of the capitol where Mr. Harding will be sworn in. As soon as he finishes his inaugural address the new president will depart for the White House.

Five hundred marines in full dress uniform will be on duty at the capitol and will form a lane thru which the guests will pass in ascending the capitol steps.

Mr. Harding will take the oath in a stand 30 feet square which has been erected on the grounds. This stand will accommodate only the President-elect Chief Justice White, members of the congressional committee and a few others. Other guests will stand during the ceremonies.

Besides the marines and cavalry 500 regulars from Camp Meade, Md., will be brought to Washington on the morning of March 4 for guard duty along Pennsylvania avenue. Their chief task will be to keep back the crowds which are expected to throng the thoroughfare.

Mrs. Coolidge Tells What She Will Wear March 4

Seated in the \$32-a month Coolidge home in Massachusetts, the wife of the next Vice-President told what jewelry she would wear at the inauguration March 4, says a Boston correspondent.

"Only my engagement ring and my wedding ring."

"I shall use a little powder on my nose, but no rouge, toilet water or perfume. I'm not particularly keen on make-up at all.

"My hair; how shall I wear my hair? The way I always wear it, you know; just a few quirks and a hairpin."

Then came the question of shoes, for Mrs. Coolidge has a pretty foot, size 5-B, with a conspicuous high instep.

"I have a pair of navy blue oxfords to match my inauguration gown of navy blue, broche crepe, and, of course, silk stockings to match." Mrs. Coolidge said after searching her mind a little while for the proper thing to wear with the gown.

Germans Undersell Americans in Peru

Washington, Feb. 24.—German manufacturers are underselling American competitors in Peru, but their deliveries are slow and it will be some time before Germany goods can attain their pre-war quality, the American commercial attaché at Lima today informed the department of commerce.

The consensus of opinion is that Germany will regain her supremacy in the hardware market, but it is a question of when that time will come, the commercial attaché said. He added that Peruvian merchants believe that it will be six months to two years before Germany can export hardware in large quantities.

A New Voter Speaks Out

For the past few days I find myself wondering what the women voters are going to do in the coming election. It may be all right for our husbands fathers and big brothers to nominate our national and state tickets for us, but I do believe we should take a little more interest in the city government of our home town. Shall we remain at home, quietly out of it all, until the nominations are made by a few of our men and then go and vote for the ones thrust upon us, thereby causing our own husbands to lose respect for our right to citizenship and continue to say, "Women should never have had the ballot, for they will vote just like their husbands," or will we get together as intelligent thinking women, capable of thinking and acting for ourselves, and kindly tell our men what kind of ticket we will or will not support.

If we do not, from this time on, have the right sort of government in Mount Airy we ourselves are to blame.

With the ballot and numbers of good men to vote with us we can get what we want.

In order that we may have better schools, we must elect officials who will favor at least two women on our school board.

Women have always done most of the teaching in home and school, therefore they are better qualified to plan for our schools and select teachers than men. There are so many details to be considered in training our boys and girls that busy men do not take time to consider or think about. Other towns and cities have found for several years that women have served to great advantage and profit in this capacity.

Another very important thing to consider is the sanitary work of our town for the next year. I am sure you will agree with me that we need a capable woman to head this work. I have been told that if we get a woman to superintend this work we would have to elect her commissioner. If we can get one no other way we must elect her. She might prove a valuable helper in running town affairs, for women can usually make the few nickels and dimes they handle do a great deal of buying. And so one woman on the board might help our efficient men get more work done for the same amount of money than we have gotten heretofore.

There are many other suggestions to be made but I hope to hear from others. I for one believe at this time we need a good mayor and a good capable board of town officials regardless of who their grandfathers or fathers were, officials whom we can trust to give us the very best government possible. Now, please, you men, do not accuse me of seeking office because I am writing this. I can assure you I have all the jobs I want, heart and hands full of work, I enjoy; am hunting nothing more, but have written purely from an unselfish motive to help stir up a deeper and more enthusiastic sentiment for the best in town government.

A new voter.

Uses Newspaper Ad to Explain Her Marriage

Lynchburg, Va., Feb. 17.—Mrs. Anna B. Banton Turner, a resident of Madison Heights, a suburb of Lynchburg, whose husband died two months ago and who has since married, has created something of a stir here by a newspaper card in which she undertakes to ward off criticism of her early marriage, declaring that she regards her marriage a compliment to her late husband.

Mrs. Turner says: "I feel that I have discharged all duties toward my former husband that a faithful wife could do and being entirely unprotected with great responsibilities resting upon me, I hope you will not be too harsh in your judgement, but excuse me for accepting protection of a stronger arm in these the most perilous times the world has ever seen and consider it a compliment to the memory of my former beloved husband."

A boy six years of age was recently shipped by express from Ranger, Texas, to Bend, Oregon. A tag on his coat bore the following information: "Leonard Adcock, Ranger, Texas, destination, Edwin Berly, Bend Oregon."

In the last ten years wages of men hired on farms have more than doubled. In the last twenty years they have more than tripled and last year they were more than four times higher than in 1879.

COLBY REGARDS INCIDENT CLOSED

Prompt Action by Japan in Regard to Vladivostok Affair Approved by the U. S.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The incident of the fatal shooting by a Japanese sentry of Lieut. W. H. Langdon, an American naval officer at Vladivostok last month, was regarded by officials today as definitely closed, except for the matter of reparations, as a result of action of the Japanese government in punishing those responsible for the tragedy and its renewed expressions of regret as conveyed in its reply to recent American notes.

This view was expressed by Secretary Colby who, in commenting upon the Japanese reply as transmitted at the instance of the American embassy at Tokio to the state department yesterday, declared the action of the Japanese authorities had been prompt and sincere and undoubtedly will be received with appreciation in this country.

The American government was informed that following a thorough court martial investigation of the shooting of Lieut. Langdon, the Japanese commanding officer at Vladivostok had been removed from active duty and demoted and that four other officers under his command had been punished because of improper orders, under which the sentry was working. The sentry was held blameless for the shooting, but was sentenced to 30 days imprisonment for deception of his testimony regarding the circumstances of the tragedy.

Hatfield Killed Felts and Threatened Shoot Mayor

Williamson, W. Va., Feb. 23.—Isaac Brewer today told the jury trying 19 men in connection with the death of Albert C. Felts, private detective, last May 19, at Matewan, that Sid Hatfield told Brewer he "would cut Mayor C. C. Testerman in two with a bullet" if the latter "messed around" Hatfield's business.

When the battle started, Brewer was in Chambers' hardware store, at the doorway of which Mayor Testerman and Albert C. Felts, leader of the evicting party, were shot and killed. Brewer was one of those indicted by a grand jury in connection with the street fight that resulted in the death of seven private detectives and three citizens in the little mining town.

The witness testified that he met Sid Hatfield, Matewan police chief and now a co-defendant, shortly before the fight. Baldwin-Felts operatives had been conducting evictions during the day. Brewer said he met Hatfield by appointment and that he, Brewer, was armed with two pistols.

Brewer told the jury that when he met Hatfield the latter remarked: "Testerman is trying to carry water on both shoulders," further stating that Hatfield added that if he "messed around" in Hatfield's business he would be — if he wouldn't cut him in two with a bullet."

Brewer saw Hatfield in the hardware store. Felts, Testerman and C. V. Cunningham, a private detective stood in the doorway.

The witness testified that Hatfield cupped his hands to Brewer's ear and whispered "Let's kill every one of them."

A moment later Brewer said he stepped back from the doorway, and Hatfield fired.

"Who did he shoot?" state's counsel asked.

"Albert Felts," was the reply.

"What did Felts do when the shot was fired?"

"He fell."

"I was pushed forward after the first shot I heard fired," the witness continued, "and then I was shot by Cunningham. I attempted to draw my pistol after being wounded. I was shot again in the hands as I got my pistol out." His first wound, Brewer said, was in the right breast.

Brewer said he did not know who fired the shot that caused Mayor Testerman's death. He declared, however, that he heard another shot from behind him after Felts fell.

Brewer testified that he fell after being wounded in the hand but saw Sid Hatfield and several others, including some of the defendants, pass through the store.

An Ideal Remedy for Constipation

It would be hard to find a better remedy for constipation than Chamberlain's Tablets. For the best effect they should be taken immediately after supper. They are easy to take and mild and gentle in effect.