

BLAIR WINS IN CONTEST**Senate Voted 59 to 15 in Favor of Confirmation**

Washington, May 27.—David H. Blair, of Winston-Salem, whose nomination to be commissioner of internal revenue, was confirmed by the senate Thursday after a bitter fight, will not take the oath of office until Saturday, or possibly Monday. This is not because today is Friday, for Mr. Blair said he was not at all superstitious because he was born on Friday, the 13th, and Friday has always been a lucky day for him.

It is understood that Blair's commission cannot get back from the White House in time for him to take oath of office today, and it may take longer, although every effort will be made to expedite the matter in order that the commissioner may take charge of his new duties as early as possible.

Confirmation of Mr. Blair is expected to result in the speedy clear up of a number of important matters that have been held up in the revenue bureau for a number of weeks.

Mr. Blair's nomination was confirmed yesterday by a vote of 59 to 15, eight Democrats and seven Republican senators opposing.

Senator Johnson made his final fight in an executive session of the senate but was voted down after sharp debate.

Mr. Blair's confirmation fills a vacancy in the office of internal revenue commissioner which has existed for a fortnight, with Secretary Mellon acting in the interim.

Johnson accused Mr. Blair of having violated the North Carolina primary law as a delegate at the Chicago Republican convention last June by failing to support the California senator, who was high in North Carolina's preference primary.

Senator Johnson also contended that Mr. Blair was disqualified because income tax appeals of the nominee's relatives were pending for action before the internal revenue bureau. Both charges were denied at recent hearings before the senate finance committee, which recommended confirmation.

The opponents of Mr. Blair, it was said, included the following:

Borah, Johnson, Jones of Washington, Kenyon, Ladd, La Follette, Norbeck and Norris, Republicans; and Aashurt, Harris, Harrison, Reed, Sheppard, Walcott and Watson, of Georgia, Democrats.

Besides a multitude of tax matters which have been held in abeyance during the past week, many important prohibition questions await settlement by the new commissioner, treasury officials said.

Foremost of the liquor problems is the issuance of regulations covering the use of beer for medical purposes under the opinion rendered by former Attorney General Palmer on March 3rd.

These regulations, it is said, have been prepared and await the study and approval of the commissioner. In this connection, it was explained, Mr. Blair must decide whether all brewers shall be permitted to put beer on the market for medical purposes or only certain breweries under special permits.

Another medical use of alcohol awaiting the attention of the commissioner, it was said, is the issuance of regulations lifting the limit from the number of prescriptions a physician may write for whiskey. Under the same opinion, handed down by Mr. Palmer, officials declared, it was held that the bureau has no right to fix arbitrary limit of 100 prescriptions in 90 days now in force. New regulations have been drafted tentatively in this connection, it was added.

One of the most delicate prohibition decisions Mr. Blair will be called upon to make, officials asserted, is in connection with sacramental wine. Under the bureau's rules, it was said, wholesale liquor dealers have been forbidden to do business and churches are required to obtain wine for sacramental purposes from wholesale druggists.

Protest has been entered by religious bodies, officials said, on the ground that the church could not obtain wines of standard quality from the druggists. The churches contend, it was explained that wholesale liquor dealers who confine their business to supplying sacramental wine to religious organizations should be exempt from the bureau's ban so that the churches may obtain the proper wines for services.

Senators Simmons and Overman in speaking on behalf of Mr. Blair did so briefly, it being understood that what they had to say was that he was a man of clean life and habits, bearing a good name in North Carolina, a man who dealt with affairs justly.

CONSTRUCTION WORK IN NORTH CAROLINA**Col. Olds Tells About the Big Plants Owned By State Near Raleigh**

(By Fred A. Olds)

One of the most important places in North Carolina is the headquarters of its greatest enterprise; the \$50,000,000 plan of highway building, for \$10,000,000 is allowed for 1920-21. In 1861, directly after North Carolina seceded from these United States (or rather attempted to secede, as the result in April, 1865 showed) the state took over a wide area a couple of miles west of Raleigh, for the principal camp of instruction for its infantry soldiers, Camp Mangum. Little did any one dream in those days that in 1918 this would be called chief "Tank" camp of the United States and that in 1919 it would be bought by the State Prison Board and be made the state farm. Fact is far stranger than any fiction and here is a case in point.

The prison farm embraces 3,000 acres; one of the finest locations in all the state. There are now 225 convicts quartered there. Hereafter the great majority of the state convicts will be employed on the public highways and about 450 will be available for this so-called able-bodied men. The State Prison will be maintained in its old quarters, but largely as a hospital, as there are many feeble convicts.

On five acres of the prison farm and in a few yards of the Southern and Seaboard Air Line railways and the hard-surface Central Highway, is the big workshop of the State Highway Commission. Several buildings are completed and in use, all being fire proof. One is a strange building of concrete, 150 by 50 feet, for supplies; another a workshop of the same dimensions of steel and glass. Work is in progress on two sheds of steel each 50 feet wide and 1,000 feet long, to contain 300 of the big trucks which the U. S. army used and which the general government has turned over to the Highway Commission. A strange shed for parts of machines, etc., will be between these two great sheds, all standing on concrete "footings."

Everything is on a big scale. A steel derrick, with gigantic booms, 80 feet long, each a stick of timber over two feet square, is going up. There are two or three acres of equipment now in the open, but to go inside the shed in the next 60 or 90 days. There are also stored parts of machines to the value of \$100,000. There is a pile-driver on a steel car, with great power, which cost the government \$125,000. In all the equipment cost originally several million dollars, and all of it will be salvaged and made usable. As Mr. Charles D. Farmer, who is in charge of this big plant, says, "Nothing will be wasted or thrown away; we will restore it all and put it to the best sort of use." At this plant 14 convicts are at work. A few men can do a vast deal of work, at the numerous machines, all electrically operated.

There are great mixers of concrete, many sorts of trucks, automobiles, and queer bomb-proof covers of corrugated iron; special cars for carrying high explosives such as TNT (trinitrotoluol).

The prison farm is largely cultivated by gasoline tractors, of which there are three. Last year there were 500 acres in cotton—this year there will be only about 250, but there will be that much more in corn. Captain Christian, veteran manager of convicts, (who greatly like him) is in charge of this big farm and it like the "Truck Patch," (the slang name for the place where the highway trucks are kept, is to be an object-lesson. The former Confederate drill-ground is now in perfect cultivation. Draining, hillside ditching, clearing of forest land and all sorts of other things have kept the prison force at the farm as busy, as bees ever since it was acquired from the private owners in the late autumn of 1919.

The concrete quarters are the old barracks of a part of the "Tank Corps"; in the stables of that organization are the horses, mules and cattle. There are hundreds of hogs, and no end of poultry. The buildings on the farm have been made attractive and in these live Captain Christian and the others of the direct force. Highly trained and dependable labor working full time and every day, has wrought a wonderful transformation. Any farmer will find it worth while to visit this farm and thence go to another great one, that of the Central Hospital for the Insane (easily one of the finest in the state) and that of the State College of Agriculture and

engineering. The convicts are also making brick, for use in public buildings. There are a saw mill and cotton gin.

This college farm lies between those of the State Prison and the Central Hospital. It is in better shape this season than the writer has ever seen it. The work is done by hired labor. The range of activities of the college is, of course, wide and its farms can be made a notable object-lesson in agricultural methods. The college has a large dairy, the extension work section, the iron and wood-working shops, but it has many other possibilities. In the future there will probably be a great many student workers on the farm. The college is but young and in ten years will no doubt have thrice as many students as at the present. Its textile school is already the largest in the United States, and has won a high reputation. The biggest building plan is now about to begin, with much needed new dormitories, and mess hall enlargements.

The earliest dormitories yet remain in use, and are very small and not at all modern. Quite near these a pair of dormitories are at last nearly ready for use, after fearful and wonderful delays in construction. At least they would have seemed so ten years ago or even less, but in these degenerate days, when at least half the world devotes itself to the avoidance of real work, many folks have become callous.

The college farm adjoins the big one of the Central Hospital, the latter holding now the record as the "star" form of all state institutions. At the Central Hospital a vast building program is now to begin, with \$750,000 appropriated—more than all other appropriations put together for buildings. First to be constructed will be two congregate dining-rooms, one for males, the other for females, these to be connected with the central kitchen, by far the largest and finest in the state. Each of these dining rooms is said to seat 750 persons. The cost of the two will be about \$100,000. They will be fire-proof like the kitchen, of reinforced concrete and brick. A receiving building will be built for male patients, to correspond with the one for women which is in use. It will be near the men's wing of the great building.

A new dormitory for women will be built, near the one for improved patients known as the Erwin building (named for William Erwin of Durham) and will be joined by a covered way with the latter structure, which is for 100 patients. The laundry burned accidentally last October. It has been rebuilt and doubled in size and in capacity for work and is fireproof. It is 190 by 50 feet, two stories, is admirably ventilated and equipped. Directly after the fire the laundry work had to be sent to Raleigh to be done, and this cost \$700 a week. But quickly a temporary laundry was extemporized in part of the new kitchen building. In the new laundry all the work on clothing will be done, including making and mending. It was in 1913 that the notable conference on hygiene met at this hospital. Even since that time the legislators have had the vision of liberality.

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Rickard's Receipts Break All Records

New York, May 26.—The Dempsey-Carpentier fight for the world's championship has broken all box office records. With the date of the bout five weeks distant Promoter Tex Rickard today announced that the receipts had reached \$255,000. Thousands of seats yet remain available.

Receipts of the Dempsey-Willard battle constituted the previous record of \$452,522, nearly twice as much as the high mark which had been established by the Johnson-Jeffries battle, when Rickard gathered in \$270,755.

All seats except the five-dollar general admission pastebards have been on sale here for the past two weeks. General admission tickets will be sold only on the day of the bout. It is impossible to predict what the attendance and receipts will total because it is planned to extend the size of the arena within reasonable limits, to satisfy the demand. Interest in the coming bout is far greater than in any other contest he has promoted, Rickard declares.

Eggs At 20c in Chicago

Chicago, May 26.—Fresh eggs quoted at forty-one cents a dozen wholesale May 1, 1920, dropped to twenty cents a dozen up to May 19, this year, according to figures made public today by O. W. Olson, president of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. Butter and cheese, the figures show, have declined similarly.

PRISON NEWSPAPER IS EDITED BY A TAR HEEL**H. O. Prince, Serving Term in South Dakota, Helping to Uplift Prisoners**

Sioux Falls, S. D., May 29.—The publication of a prison newspaper—The Messenger—with the "Golden Rule" as its motto, published and edited by the prisoners at the South Dakota penitentiary here is the latest plan of the warden, George Jameson, to "make men, rather than ex-convicts out of inmates."

H. O. Prince, of North Carolina, who is serving a term for check forgery, is editor of the publication, which is issued monthly.

An editorial in the paper says: "When a man is sent to prison, he is socially dead. He is, however, still a man, capable of the likes and dislikes in the same way as those outside. He will respond as quickly as anyone to the treatment he receives, whether that treatment is for his interest against it. The frills, shams and false pride and the thousands of other little arts of deceit are struck away in prison. His character is bared, ready for the work of development to go forward or backward. When a man leaves a prison it depends largely upon what prison treatment has done for him whether he is a man or just an ex-convict.

"Our mission is to represent the man inside, having justice done; to help the world to realize that much valuable manhood can be reclaimed from the 'scrap heap' by simply recognizing him as a man, instead of withholding the chance to make good, which is his birthright.

"If, therefore, we can help the man inside to get, regain or keep character; help to see how to be a success and help in doing away with social prejudices and ostracism which a prisoner meets after he has been released, we shall not have worked in vain."

Death Of W. S. Sale At Elkin

Elkin, May 26.—Mr. W. S. Sale, a prominent citizen and business man of this town, passed away yesterday morning at 9 o'clock in his home on Bridge street after an illness of seven days with bronchial pneumonia. He was 52 years old and is survived by his wife and four small children. He had been a member of the school board here for several years and was elected a member of the town commissioners at the election the first Monday in May. He was a good citizen and had the full confidence of his fellow men. For many years he had been a member of the Baptist church. The funeral services were held in the Baptist church yesterday afternoon at 3:30, conducted by the pastor, Rev. H. T. Bancroft, assisted by Rev. W. F. Staley, of North Wilkesboro, a former pastor of the deceased, after which the remains were conveyed to Hollywood cemetery and laid to rest in the presence of a large concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends. The floral offerings were very beautiful and profuse. One design, contributed by the principal and teachers of the graded school, was a beautiful token of esteem to his memory.

Americans Go Into Mexico To Get Man

Mexico City, May 26.—Thirty Americans are reported to have crossed the international boundary at Veges, state of Coahuila, on Tuesday in pursuit of Leonordo Soria, a Mexican, charged with violation of the United States laws. Advances received here declare Soria was captured and taken back across the border, it being alleged that he was dragged across the boundary line by his captors.

President Obregon has ordered the foreign office to make an inquiry with a view to making representations to the American government.

NOTICE

North Carolina, Surry County In Recorder's Court Before The Judge C. A. Shelton, Plaintiff. VS. Seymour McCraw, Defendant

The defendant above named will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Recorder's Court of Mount Airy township, for the purpose of recovering the sum of money due the plaintiff, and that an attachment has been issued against the said defendant, and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear on the 1st day of July, 1921, at the Town Hall in Mount Airy, and answer or demur, or the plaintiff will apply to court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 27th day of May, 1921. T. B. McCARGO, Judge of the court. R. V. DEVELLE, Clerk.

BRYAN RETURNS TO LAW**"Peerless One" Again Hangs Out His Shingle**

And now Mr. Bryan, after a protracted excursion into the fields of politics and sociology, returned to the practice of law. He has again "hung out his shingle." Mr. Wilson's example is catching.

Mr. Bryan is so interesting a man and has run so interesting and distinguished a course, observers, in a perfectly friendly way and spirit, sometimes indulge in speculation about him. Was he "cut out for" the bar, for politics, for reform in general on lay lines, or for the pulpit?

Mr. Bryan's return to the bar comes at a time when the law beckons most invitingly. Disputes, about domestic as well as foreign affairs, are multiplying.

There is abundant business for men educated for court procedure. International law in particular was never before so promising of reward for those qualified by study and experience to follow its course and intricacies.

The Washington bar has had three notable accessions in a short time—Robert Lansing, Woodrow Wilson and now William J. Bryan.—Washington Star.

Baldwin-Felts Detectives Are Found Not Guilty

Six Baldwin-Felts detectives, indicted in connection with the deaths of three persons who were killed in the battle at Matewan, W. V., more than a year ago, were found not guilty by a jury in circuit court at Lewisburg Tuesday.

The indictments against the detectives were returned by a Mingo county grand jury and the trial was held in the Green Briar court on a change of venue.

The Testerman indictment was taken up first. The defendant pleaded not guilty, and Isaac Brewer was placed on the stand by the prosecution. He testified that Ed Hatfield, former chief of police of Matewan, shot the mayor, who was standing in front of a hardware store. Hatfield, the witness testified, fired from inside the store.

On cross-examination, counsel for the defense stressed the point that the shot which ended Testerman's life came from inside the store, and that all of the Baldwin men were on the outside.

Campaign In Interest Of School Bonds Is Pushed

Salisbury, May 29.—The campaign in the interest of bonds for schools and an increased tax rate to maintain schools is being pushed by friends of the movement but this week their efforts will be confined to converting those who are registered and are against the proposition. The registration books closed Saturday evening with probably less than half the voters registered and with the bond people hopeful of carrying both propositions. Mass meetings held during the past few days were largely attended and many enthusiastic talks were made by citizens in all walks of life. A number of the fraternal orders have endorsed the movement as has also the central labor union and other organizations representing many citizens.

Sends Monkey To Jail

Woodbury, N. J., May 26.—The county jail has a new occupant—a man-size monkey—and it does not like its quarters. Warden Mager is ready to give it up to anybody who wants a monkey of that kind. Surrogate F. D. Pedrick, the real owner of the animal, is willing to impart all his rights, title and interest to the first person who comes along and is willing to assume ownership.

The Surrogate's brother in Philadelphia won the animal in a raffle. He soon discovered how much he didn't want the hungry and mischievous beast and shipped it to the Surrogate. The latter tried it a few days and then had the big simian locked up on a charge of disorderly conduct.

First Of German Officers Tried

Leipzig, May 24.—Sergeant Heine, accused of having ill-treated British soldiers who were prisoners of war at the prison camp at Herne, Westphalia, was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment by the high courts here today. He was the first German officer to be tried on criminal charges arising from the conduct of the war. The attorney general demanded that Heine be sent to prison for two years.

The next case to be tried will be that of Captain Mueller, who was accused of ill-treating British soldiers at the camp at Karlsruhe.

Battle Of Little Big Horn June Twenty-Fifth

Billings, Mont., May 27.—With the United States cavalrymen and members of the American Legion taking the part of General Custer's ill-fated forces and Crow and Cheyenne Indians representing the Sioux, the battle of the Little Big Horn is to be re-enacted on the forty-fifth anniversary of the Custer massacre, June 25.

Plans for the observance which will include the unveiling of a monument to General George A. Custer at Hardin, Mont., 13 miles from the battleground, have been announced by the Custer Battle Anniversary Association of Hardin.

The reproduction of the battle on the scene of the massacre will take place at 11 o'clock in the forenoon and after a basket dinner in the government park in the Crow Indian reservation, the spectators and participants will go to Hardin for the unveiling of the monument. An Indian pow-wow and a street dance are planned for the evening activities at Hardin.

Permission, it is announced, has been obtained from the government for the use of the national cemetery established on the battlefield, where are buried the victims of the massacre and co-operation of the war department has been tendered. General Hugh L. Scott, of the historic Tenth cavalry, which participated in the battle, and Mrs. Custer, widow of the commander of the heroic little band, have been invited to attend.

A Prairie Dog Village

Did you ever see a prairie dog village? If you have been on the big prairies in western United States, anywhere, perhaps, from Montana to northern Mexico, you may have seen these curious and wonderful little villages. If you visited the zoo in Central Park, New York City, you must have seen the tiny imitation dog village, which gives some notion of what these settlements are like. You saw here some funny little round mounds, a few feet apart, but the prairie dogs themselves only appear above ground occasionally, for they are very shy little creatures, and even in their native haunts seldom show themselves above ground in the daytime if there are people about.

The prairie dog, or barking squirrel, as he is sometimes called, because his bark sounds something like that of a puppy, is not really in the least like a dog in appearance. He is a little woodchuck in miniature. He is usually about 13 inches long, and is of a cinnamon-brown color, and yellow-white underneath. He has a black tip to his tail. In the winter he does a bit of "camouflaging" and turns more grayish to match the landscape.

His cousin, the prairie squirrel, is somewhat smaller and looks and behaves a good deal like the striped squirrels of the eastern states. The prettiest of the prairie squirrels is the striped gopher, a slender, lithe little creature, with beautiful striped and spotted fur. Most common of all is the pocket gopher, or pouched rat, as he is called. He is so shy that he is seldom seen by travelers. He has capacious pockets on each side of his head, which are not connected with his mouth at all, but open on the outside! They are lined with short hair, and he uses them to carry food into his burrow. They are very convenient receptacles for packing hazel nuts, roots and seeds of prairie plants until they can be stored away in the cupboards of his burrow. His nest is a small round chamber under the ground, a cozy little place, lined with dried grasses and fur.

The prairie squirrel is easily tamed, and makes an excellent pet. One man carried two of them about in his pockets.

Wouldn't you like to look inside of a prairie dog's house? They are built close together, and consist of underground passageways. From these go labyrinths extending for miles, and having many avenues of escape, a great many back doors, which bring them out a long way apart. Near the entrances are hillocks about 18 inches high, which the prairie dogs use as watch towers. It is a very funny sight to see the little creatures standing upright on their hind feet on top of their towers, taking an observation. At the least noise or sign of approach the shy little things whisk into their holes with a comical flourish of their tails. But their curiosity gets the better of them immediately and out pop their heads the next minute "to see what's up."

When cold weather sets in, Mr. Prairie Dog closes up his door securely, and sleeps away until springtime in his cozy burrow.