

Attorney J. H. Folger Rules School Election is Held Against Registration

There has been no little confusion among the voters of this city in the past few days over the question as to how the school election results will be determined. Reports in the state papers have been that advocates of the school bond issue were more hopeful of the local situation since it was probable that the recent decision of the Supreme Court held that in an election in Greensboro over a school question only the votes that were cast were to be considered, and that the issue did not have to oppose the registration. In the past when a tax or bond question was voted on it was understood that all who did not vote would be counted against the question. And this has been the understanding as to the present election, but the Greensboro case and the reports in the state press have left many of our people in doubt as to the status that exists here in Mount Airy. This newspaper has always tried to be careful about giving out information that could in any way mislead its readers. Keeping this fact in mind a short review of how the law as to bond elections applies is very timely just now.

During the last legislature there was enacted a general state law that applied to the government of all counties as to how the county commissioners shall raise money for various purposes: building roads, schools, jails, county homes, etc. Recently the citizens of a school district of Guilford County voted upon a school tax question under this general law and the question of how the votes were to be counted was carried to the Supreme Court, which ruled in that case that only votes that were cast could be counted, and that those who were opposed to the measure would have to vote against it to be counted.

From the above incident some are now claiming that the same rule will apply in the Mount Airy election on June 28. Some see in the ruling on the Greensboro case the application of a principal of law that might also be applied in the Mount Airy case should the question be carried to the Supreme Court by either side.

The entire question is a matter purely for the legal profession to study and determine. Attorney J. H. Folger gives The News his opinion that the late ruling of the Supreme Court will have no effect on the case here and that we are still voting against the registration. He was a member of the last legislature and the act under which our election is being held was introduced by him and is purely local, setting forth in it all the regulations as to how to hold the election and the manner of determining the vote, and he says that the law under which we are operating specifically states that the bond and tax issue must have a majority of the qualified voters before it can become a law.

However the opinion of Mr. Folger would not prevent any citizen from having the issue tested out in the highest court as was done in the Greensboro case, and Attorney H. O. Woltz in speaking of the question sees in the latest ruling of the court a reversal of the old way of holding these elections, and it is his opinion that confusion and possible litigation could be averted by the people of both sides voting and not leaving the subject one for the courts to determine on account of some technicality of the regulations.

Never has there been an issue before the people that has held their intense interest for so long a time. Usually these questions lose interest after a short period, but as the approach of the election nears interest becomes more acute. The registration books will close Saturday at sundown with close to fifteen hundred voters qualified to take part in it. Opinion of course differs as to how the voters stand, some saying it will carry if sufficient personal work is put forth, while there are those who claim that the issue will be defeated by a four to one vote.

The advocates of the questions realize that the situation is very acute, and their best hope in carrying it is by securing a ruling similar to the one in the Greensboro case, and Mr. Folger says that even this is not probable for the law in our instance is too plain to raise that question.

INFANT LEFT ON FARMER'S FRONT PORCH

Midnight Cries of Little One Lead to Discovery at Kent Marsh's in Carroll.

Large numbers of people last Sunday visited the home of Kent Marsh on the Fancy Gap road, eight miles north of this city, the attraction being a little four weeks' old baby boy that was found on Mr. Marsh's front porch about 4 o'clock Sunday morning.

The family retired about midnight and at the time they had not noticed the infant on the porch, but about 4 o'clock cries from it were heard by the occupants of the house. At first Mrs. Marsh thought it was her baby, but when she went to the crib it was found to be a baby boy, and the whimpers could still be heard. The sounds led them to the front porch where they could see the little fellow's arms waving in the air and his feet trying to kick off the blanket that enveloped his feet and protected him from the cool night air.

He was lying on a bed of baby clothes which were packed in a suit case. The party who left it had opened the suit case and used the baby's clothing to provide a soft bed for it and made sure that it would not suffer from cold during the night by wrapping it snugly up with a blanket.

There was no note or letter with the baby or no clue about the clothing that has offered the officers any clue as to the parents of the child. Besides a good outlay of clothes there was also in the case a baby's nursing bottle and a bottle of Castoria. Mrs. A. L. Sneed, who lives in Winston-Salem, and is a sister to Mrs. Marsh, was visiting in the home at the time and she became so attached to the baby from its helpless condition that she has asked permission to adopt it.

Suburban Property Sells Well.

The Land Co., of this city, last Saturday sold more than \$8,000 worth of building sites on the Bannertown road in the new development known as Edgefield. Much of the property is located on the Winston-Salem highway and this frontage brought around \$7.50 per foot, a sum that once was thought of as a good price for city property. R. E. Inman and A. E. Tilley are the owners of the Edgefield development and have a number of lots that are yet to be sold.

New Barber Shop Equipment.

For the next ten days H. E. Money's barber shop on Main Street will be closed to the public while extensive remodeling of the interior and the addition of entirely new equipment is taking place. Seven of the latest model chairs are now being erected, together with a mirror case to match them. Also new lavatories and lighting fixtures are being added and when completed Mr. Money states that he will have as nice a barber shop as can be found in any city. He is spending over \$4,000 in his effort to be up-to-date in his business.

Mount Airy Swimming Pool Opened Friday.

The Mount Airy swimming pool opened last Friday, June 10th. The rates are the same as they were last year, 25c if you use your own bathing suit and 40c if you rent a suit. This pool is sanitary and the water changes continually. Once a week the pool is cleaned. It will be open every day and night, the hours on Sunday will be from 1 P. M. to 6 P. M.

Later in the summer contests will be held at the swimming pool between the local boy and girl scouts and the scout troops of surrounding cities. Coach Bob Sides is manager of the pool this year.

Young Men To Make Northern Trip

Stewart Lowry, Chester Stewart and Max Thompson leave Thursday to spend ten days in the larger northern cities. These young men intend to visit Atlantic City, New York, and Philadelphia. They will make the trip through the country in a car.

Chris. Binder, Jr. left Saturday for Fort Bragg to attend the training camp there for a month.

WHO EVER TOLD A BIGGER FISH STORY?

Yet This One Is True—W. E. Merritt Brings Back Proof of Big Catches in Florida.

After a record run of 1,000 miles in two and a half days from Marco, Fla., W. E. Merritt and his fishing party arrived in this city Tuesday night, covered with the dust of the road, but happy and overflowing with descriptions of their experiences while fishing for tarpon in the Gulf of Mexico. This is Mr. Merritt's third big fishing trip to Florida and he brought back proof to dispel the "Doubting Thomas." This proof includes numerous photographs of the party with their prize catches, accompanied by their two faithful guides, Albert Addison and Elliot Rawls. And coming by express to heap up the evidence are two of the largest tarpons which are now in a taxidermist's shop where they are being mounted.

Leaving here three weeks ago with Mr. Merritt were his sons, Oscar, Haywood and Hugh, Frank Sydnor and Joe Brock. From all accounts Haywood proved to be the lucky one of the bunch, hooking a fish that weighed 137 pounds and measuring six and a half feet long. It took an hour to play this fish so he could be landed, using a 200 yard line and a hook larger than our old time turtle hook. Frank landed five large tarpons, and Mr. Merritt four tarpons and five sharks.

They spent five days fishing in the Gulf during which time the party caught 14 tarpons. They caught barrels of smaller fish from two to 25 pounds but it is the tarpon which all fishermen crave to hook. This is counted the gamest fish in the world and once he is hooked every minute until he is landed is chock full of thrills and excitement. It is for this reason he is such a desired prize.

Mr. Merritt spoke highly of the hotel accommodations of Marco, where they were given the advantage of every convenience at the hands of the manager.

Mount Airy's Progress Above The Average

Mr. George W. Sparger, of Baltimore, Md., was the guest of his son George W. Sparger, Jr., here the latter part of last week. Mr. Sparger came to North Carolina at this time to attend commencement at Duke University, where his son, Gilmer Sparger, is a student. He has had opportunity for much observation and states very positively that he knows of no town the size of Mount Airy which has made the gain in population, wealth and general progress that has been made here since he left this city, some twenty years ago.

Mrs. George Stack Passes.

Mrs. Martha Poore Stack, wife of Mr. George A. Stack, died at her home on Rockford street about 1 P. M. Tuesday after an illness of some months.

Mrs. Stack was the daughter of W. M. Poore, deceased, and a sister of the town treasurer, F. M. Poore.

She is survived by her husband, one daughter, Mrs. Joe Guthrie, of this city and one son, Clyde Stack, of New Jersey, and a sister Mrs. Cross, of Greensboro.

The funeral was conducted from the Rockford Street Methodist Church at 2 P. M. Wednesday and the remains laid to rest at Oakdale Cemetery.

Kiwanis Ladies Night

Members of the Kiwanis Club were hosts to their wives and lady friends at their quarterly ladies night luncheon at the Blue Ridge Hotel Friday evening. Four delicious courses were served and a program of music rendered, the singing being conducted by Rev. E. G. Davis. Special vocal numbers were rendered by Miss Ruth Dobson, the address of the evening was made by Judge Harding, of Winston-Salem. Judge Harding brought a message along the line of the responsibility of leadership, interspersing his message with anecdotes and witticisms. His address was very much enjoyed. Several attendance prizes were given to both ladies and gentlemen, and the whole program was very enjoyable.

Piedmont Springs Hotel opened Saturday, June 11th. Edward Haymore, of this city, is the manager of the orchestra, which will play there during the summer.

RANGE CAMPAIGN ENDS WITH GREAT SUCCESS

Nearly Two Hundred Electric Stoves Now in Use Here—Proves Economical in Cost of Operation.

Saturday marked the close of the electric campaign of the Southern Public Utilities Co., which had been conducted here during the past six weeks. Supt. Whitlock is highly pleased with the result, having more than doubled the quota of ranges assigned this branch. The Mount Airy branch is now furnishing current to 178 electric ranges, 92 of these being sold during the campaign just closed, with 28 of them going out last Saturday.

Our people have seen enough of electric cookery to realize in a small way the great convenience of it, but they have been slow to adopt that method of cooking fearing the cost of operation. Now that a large number of them have been in use here for two and three years the cost can be easily computed. The result of figures compiled show that the average family will not use over \$6.00 of current a month, and in many instances this is being kept down to \$5.00. And besides cooking the owners also use their ranges from which to secure the current for ironing. It is hard to figure where other fuels are very much more economical than electricity and this difference is offset by the cleanliness of operation, the automatic features connected with electric cooking, and the absolute elimination of all dangers of fires that are necessarily present where other types of stoves are used.

Since coming here a year ago the Southern Public Utilities Company has extended their lines to all outlying districts of the town, and this has been an incentive for the erection of many new homes all about the city, bringing the modern conveniences of city life right to the door of all our citizens who live near the corporate limits.

Man Found Dead in Lake Near Elkin

Andrew Eldridge, age 24, a young white man of State Road, was found lifeless in the lake at Klondike Lodge near Elkin Monday by a party of boys who were fishing at the place.

When sighted, the body was against the dam over which the water was flowing. The boys immediately notified persons nearby and soon the body was recovered and the coroner was called.

At first it was thought that the dead man had met with foul play, but the verdict of the coroner's jury was that he had died from drowning. Eldridge had been missing from his home for over two weeks and a search had been conducted for him prior to the discovery this morning.

He is the son of Jeff E. Eldridge, of State Road.

Soon to Have New Telephones

The new switchboard in the local telephone office is now installed and linemen are busy connecting the cables with the outside wires. Cleve Belton says he expects to begin installing the new phones by the first of July. The new switchboard requires the installation of new phones of a different type all over the system and when the work now in progress is completed we will have the latest and most modern telephone system that can be secured.

A new directory is now in process of printing and Mr. Belton asks that any who expect to install phones or have any changes made to notify him at once so the directory can be made as near up-to-date as is possible.

Mount Airy Now Has Sunday Jitney Mail

Winston-Salem and Mount Airy now have seven-day jitney mail service, which began Sunday, June 12, instructions to this end being received from Washington. It is understood the regular schedule of leaving Winston-Salem at 4 in the morning and returning at 2 will be followed.

The petition for seven-day service on this route was endorsed by the Kiwanis Club and Chamber of Commerce of Winston-Salem and Mount Airy, postmasters at intermediate points, practically every large business concern in both places, and a large number of individuals who will be affected.

City Adopts Special License Schedule; Chain Stores Must Pay a Heavy Tax

FRIEL VERNON AGAIN HAS VISIONS OF THE ROADS

Is Caught Hauling Four Gallons Liquor Through Town—Appeals Case to Dobson.

Friel Vernon is stalling for time in his desperate effort to extricate himself from the meshes of the law that have entrapped him in the discovery of his latest liquor escapade. Friel was caught by the police one night last week transporting eight one-half gallon fruit jars of liquor up Willow Street. They saw Friel and his son-in-law, Robert Montgomery, come by the "square" about midnight, followed them up Willow and overtook them near Orchard Street where they found the liquor in the back of the touring car. Vernon appeared greatly surprised that the liquor was there and pretended that some one had "planted" it on him.

At his trial before Judge Lewellyn on Monday Friel tried to prove an alibi and to leave the impression that there had been a great mistake some where. He told how he on that night had gone to Winston-Salem, leaving here about dark, and that he was overtaken by the officers as he was making his way back from that trip. He would leave the impression that while he was gone some one evidently placed the liquor in the wrong car by mistake, and that he had no knowledge of its presence. His account of his movements sounded good if Officer Tom Hatcher had not gone and added more light to his actions. After Friel told of his trip to Winston-Salem Mr. Hatcher also told of another trip Friel had made at the same time. Mr. Hatcher testified that he had information about Vernon's trip but it was toward Lumburg and not south. He saw him pass up the Pipers Gap road about nine o'clock, and he waited until about 12 in the bushes on the roadside when he saw Vernon making his way back to town, traveling so fast that he could not be stopped. And all this was taking place on the same night Vernon said he was in Winston.

The alibi did not stick and Judge Lewellyn sentenced Vernon and Montgomery to the roads for 12 months each, placing their bonds at \$1,000 each. In another case Montgomery was also placed under a \$500 bond. Vernon was able to furnish bond but his partner will have to wait it out in jail at Dobson when the case will be tried at the October term. At one time Vernon was a man of fairly good property, running a grocery store in various sections of the city, but of late years he has been involved over the liquor laws and has only recently completed a 12 months service on the roads. He appealed that case through all the courts of the state, and later took it before the Governor, but he could get no relief and he worked out his term to the last day. He is about 55 years old, while Montgomery is not much over 30.

Murderer of Mr. "Hy-Price" is Apprehended.

Mr. Wayne Boyles, senior partner in the firm of Boyles Bros., Inc. (that is now conducting the greatest money saving sale ever witnessed in this section) confesses that he murdered old man "Hy-Price," who was found dead in the rear of Boyles Bros. store last Wednesday.

Mr. Boyles is defended by Attorney Mr. "Low Price," who assures him that he did what was right in murdering "Hy-Price" and giving the public the greatest bargains in years. A detailed confession of the murder will be found on the third page of this issue.

Drop in at Boyles Bros. today and see for yourself the store in which "Hy-Price" met his end.

Will Tour Ten Countries.

Miss Alma Yokley, Mrs. James Yokley and Mrs. J. A. Hadley leave Thursday of next week for New York from which point they sail June 25 on the Belgenland, for a tour of England, Scotland, Wales, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, Germany, Spain and France.

They will be members of a party conducted by Dr. Thomas, of Rock Hill, S. C., and will return September 1st, on the Majestic, sailing from Cherbourg, France.

The schedule of licenses that was recently adopted by the town commissioners is now in the hands of Chief Lawrence and City Tax Collector, C. L. Wright, and the privilege tax thereon is now due. There are a large number of changes over the rates that have prevailed in the past. In no case can the city levy more than the state does and in some instances the legislature cut the amount the cities could levy to one-half and one-fourth. Autos for hire were fortunate in the levy. Where they have been taxed \$40 per car in the past the city tax is now \$5 per seating capacity with the driver's seat exempted. The state held the tax on U-Drive-Its levied by cities to one fourth the state tax and Mount Airy can levy only \$2.50 on the roadsters and \$7.50 on the passenger cars.

All slot machines, where candy, chewing gum or other merchandise is vended by the machines are taxed \$2.00 each.

This year there is no license on bakeries of bread wagons, either resident or non-residence, as the courts have ruled against this tax, taking the position that sellers of foodstuff should be exempted. However, wholesale dealers in ice cream are taxed \$25.00, cafes \$20.00 and lunch counters \$5.00 each.

Auto dealers are hit harder this year, their city tax being boosted to \$75.00, last year they paid \$25.00. At the same time bottling plant were reduced to half the rate last year, now paying \$37.50.

All service stations, garages, repair shops and gasoline stations are taxed \$15.00.

The state has levied a special tax of \$100.00 on all chain stores having six or more stores in the state and also permitted the cities to levy a tax of \$50.00 on them. Already some of the stores in the state are expected to resist payment of this tax to test out the law in the courts. Here in Mount Airy are four stores which are said will be liable for this tax, to-wit: A. & P., Jamison's, Parks-Belk and the McLellan's five and ten.

All dealers in tobacco of any kind pay a city tax of \$10.00.

And the newspaper never fails to get his dose of tax medicine. This time the state expects to collect in big lumps from them, for they have levied a \$100 on all subscription contests and the city is also going to collect a like amount.

The city auto license rate will be the same, \$2.00 for the tag and license card. The tags are already in the hands of the collector. They are white with green lettering and a green border, and bear the words "Mt. Airy, N. C. 6-30-28."

Besides adopting the full schedule of license rates at their last regular meeting the town commissioners also made an order directing the city tax collector to prepare to hold a sale for all uncollected tax that remains on the books July 1st. The sale will be held on the first Monday in August at Dobson. Provision is made for this sale in the city charter that was adopted two years ago and the confusion that resulted over the last act of the legislature in regard to the county tax will have no effect on the sale that is to be held by the city tax collector.

Mr. Beasley Improving His South Street Property.

Bausley Beasley will soon have three nice store rooms completed on his South Street property. The buildings are one story, with face brick and plate glass fronts and metal ceiling. One of the rooms will be used by Hollingsworth Drug Co., for a branch drug store which they will conduct in that section of the city. The fixtures for the store are now on hand and will be installed as soon as the building is completed. The other rooms are suitable for any kind of mercantile business, although they have not yet been rented.

In connection with the development of this property Mr. Beasley is also making extensive repairs to his flour and grain mill. He now has as his chief miller, J. H. Hendricks, an experienced mill man from Kingsport, Tenn., and he states that with the equipment Mr. Beasley is furnishing him he can put out as good a product as can be ground in any plant in the country.