

# Jackson County Journal.

\$1.50 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE IN THE COUNTY

SYLVA, N. C., JANUARY 20, 1926

\$2.00 THE YEAR IN ADVANCE OUT SIDE THE COUNTY

## ALLEY, WEAVER AND GILKEY ASPIRE TO CONGRESS SEAT

That will be a three cornered race for the democratic nomination for congress from this district, is assured by developments within the past few days. Mr. Weaver, of course, is asking to be returned. Mr. J. Q. Gilkey, of Marion, has stated that he is definitely in the race, and Mr. Felix E. Alley has renewed his announcement, and declares that he is going to wage a determined campaign for the place.

Mr. Alley has sent out the following announcement from Waynesville: In the earlier stages of each campaign since 1910, loyal friends throughout the district have been kind enough to suggest that I enter the race for the democratic nomination for Congress.

It has always been by desire and aspiration to represent my people in that office, but in each instance I have deferred my wishes to the ambition of some other man and have contented myself with working for his and my party's success.

On the sixth day of last June, by my authority, the Waynesville Mountaineer announced that I would at this time be a candidate, and practically all of the newspapers of the district very kindly repeated the announcement and gave it prominence.

Within the last few days the statement has been repeatedly made to me that rumor is going the rounds to the effect that I may not remain in the race. This rumor, like the report of Mark Twain's death, has been "slightly exaggerated," and is due, I trust, to the honest misapprehension of its author.

I am writing this letter, therefore, to declare, once for all, that I have been a candidate since the announcement was made, and will continue to be a candidate, at least until the last vote has been counted in the coming primary.

And in this connection I wish to correct another impression which is being utterly without foundation. Shortly after the announcement was made that I would be a candidate, a press report came out from Washington, which was published in some of our papers, suggesting in substance that the contest between Mr. Weaver and me would probably result in bitterness and would tend to disrupt the Democratic party in this district.

To my own personal knowledge the foregoing suggestion has been repeated in at least two counties in this district by men who are opposed to my nomination.

I concede that a contest like this could be waged on a plane so low as to produce the result predicted, but no man who really knows Mr. Weaver and me will for a moment entertain a suggestion so ridiculous and absurd.

A friendship of many years standing has existed between Mr. Weaver and me. I have heard the claim advanced by some of my friends that since Mr. Weaver has been running for Congress I have perhaps made more speeches in his behalf and in behalf of the Democratic party than he has made. Let that be as it may, I know it can be said with truth that I have made more Democratic speeches in this district than any other living man in it, and no man will undertake to say that I have ever faltered in my loyalty to Mr. Weaver and the Democratic party.

And I am unwilling to admit that I am estopped from aspiring to this nomination because perchance it may be the opinion of a few men in the district, or the opinion of some press reporter beyond the limits of the State, that my entrance into the contest may injure the Democratic party.

Any Democrat of proper age, who has familiarized himself with the history of his country and political questions of the day, and who possesses the requisite qualifications and character, has both the moral and legal right to aspire to any office within the gift of the people; and no man can claim an indefeasible title to any office within their gift.

I maintain that in seeking a democratic nomination, as well as in the administration of the affairs of Government, the time-honored tenet of the democratic faith "equal rights to all and special privileges to none" does, and of right ought to apply.

How can any man in this district, knowing me, believe for a moment that I could or would do or say anything to the injury of the Democratic party? Much of my life has been spent in upholding the democratic cause. From the time I was twenty-one years old and before, in every political battle that has been waged

in this section, I have always been in the thickest of the fight. At no time during the last quarter of a century have I ever turned a deaf ear to any appeal my party has made to me whenever and wherever it was thought that I might serve its cause. In each campaign, at my own expense and at the sacrifice of my own time and business to the uttermost of my humble power I have held aloft the democratic banner; and when this contest is over, if it turns out to be the wish of the people that I shall continue to serve as a private in the ranks and my life and health shall be spared for twenty-five years longer, I will continue without reward, to fight the battles of the Democratic party, because I believe that the institutions of this country can be made to endure only by the application of democratic policies and democratic principles in government.

But I ask no man or woman in this district to support me because of my party service. If I have served the Democratic party I have served it because I conceived it to be my duty to serve. It is not a question of handing out to a deserving democrat the honor and salary that go with the Congressional office. If this were true each county in the district could present a score of equally deserving men, possessing every qualification and fitness, while there is but one office to be filled.

The question of paramount importance to the voter is the selection of that man who can best serve the interest of the splendid people of this great district, and the object to be sought by the candidate is the opportunity for service which a seat in Congress affords.

On my part there shall be no bit-terness, or personalities, or criticism; or acrimony between Mr. Weaver and me. Nor can there be any difference between us in reference to the questions involved.

We are both in favor of all the good things possible for this great district. We are in complete accord upon the political issues of the day. We are both in favor of democratic policies and democratic principles of government.

He is seeking his sixth term in Congress—a total of twelve years. I have done all I could to aid him to win the terms for which he has been elected, while I am, for the first time, seeking the honor, and I do yearn for an opportunity to serve the people of this great mountain section. I am familiar with mountain section. I am familiar with its beauty and its grandeur. I know something of its marvelous and inestimable wealth. I can vision its future which is now aglow with hope and opportunity and promise.

I was born of these mountains; I was nurtured at their breast; I have lived my life within their shadows; and when my course on earth has been finished, I pray that my spirit may be permitted to take its flight from their lofty heights into the great beyond. And I believe I know something of the needs of the people of this great district.

And if by their votes they decide that I shall have the opportunity to serve them in the great office to which I aspire, I shall be glad; and in that event it will be my solemn pledge that upon all political questions I will use such talents and powers as God has given me to advance the cause of democratic faith. I will, on every occasion, oppose any measure that tends toward the centralization of power in the Federal Government, or that tends to impair the sovereignty of the States in their right to regulate and control their own internal and local affairs. And upon questions not of a political character, I will first undertake to ascertain the wishes of my people, and then act upon such instructions as they may give me and as God will enable me to see the right.

If, on the other hand, the people shall render their verdict in favor of Mr. Weaver; if they shall decide that he is again entitled to wear upon his brow the laurel wreath; if it is their wish, that he shall again carry the Democratic banner; then it is like-ly wise my solemn pledge that every time he unfurls its silken folds to the breeze I will stand by his side and wave in loyalty the olive branch of peace in the ranks of the Democratic party.

Let there be no inharmonious strife in the Democratic household. A Democrat who attempts to engender strife or bitterness in a contest between Democrats is an enemy of the Democratic party.

Favoritism and Centralized power are entrenched in our Citadel. Spe-

cial Privilege sits enthroned in our Nation's capital. Graft and Greed hold high Carnival in the high places of our Government. The beneficiaries of class legislation loiter and revel in luxurious splendor in palaces whose fluted columns point to the skies; while Hunger and Want shiver and suffer in the humble homes of the poor, who neither seek nor enjoy special privileges from the government to aid them in their battle for bread.

The Money Changers are polluting the Temple of our Liberties, and whether Mr. Weaver or I shall be nominated in the Tenth Congressional District, it is vitally essential that the Democracy shall present a united front.

FELIX E. ALLEY.

## FLORIDA TAKES LEAD IN AUTO DEATHS

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 18.—Forty-four persons were killed and 231 were injured in traffic accidents in 11 southern states during the week which closed last night, it was shown by a survey made early today by the Associated Press.

The character of accidents covered in the survey were those by automobile, motorcycle, train and trolley. There were no outstanding accidents during the week.

Florida, with 12 killed, took first place, North Carolina following with seven. Arkansas was the only state reporting no fatal accidents.

Florida also lead in the number injured, with 49, Georgia following a second with 39. South Carolina, reporting three injured, had the lowest number in that column.

A tabulation by states follows:

State	Killed	Injured
Virginia	3	29
North Carolina	7	24
South Carolina	1	3
Georgia	5	39
Florida	12	40
Alabama	5	11
Mississippi	3	15
Louisiana	3	26
Arkansas	0	11
Tennessee	4	19
Kentucky	1	12
Totals	44	231

## BALSAM

Mrs. Elvira Barnes, who has been an invalid for about four and a half years, passed away early Thursday morning. Mr. G. C. Crawford conducted the services and the body was laid to rest in the family cemetery Friday morning. Mrs. Barnes was 69 years old. She leaves two daughters and two sons, to whom we extend deep sympathy.

Miss Louise Raines of Hazelwood spent last week end with her mother Mrs. Henry Beck.

Mrs. Walter Bryson and Mrs. Nelson Beck went to Sylva Friday.

Mr. W. T. Lee, Jr., made a business trip to Sylva Monday.

The following attended the Jackson County Group Commencement in Sylva last Friday: Alma Foeter, Lillian Kenney, Bonny Mehaffey, Pauline Bryson, Lucy Mehaffey, Benjamin Bryson and Mrs. Ferd Mehaffey. The Western Union Telegraph Co. is having the telegraph poles removed from Main Street in Balsam, for which we are very thankful as this will make the street several feet wider.

Mrs. H. P. Enaley was hostess to many of her friends in Balsam, Sylva and Waynesville Saturday night. Music was furnished by Mrs. Samantha Bumgarner and her father, Mr. Biddix, of Sylva and the guests enjoyed dancing the old time square dance or quadrille as it is often called.

## FIRE DESTROYED CHEROKEE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Murphy, Jan. 18.—The Cherokee county courthouse was destroyed by fire early today. The county records were taken out, but it has not been determined yet whether they were rendered illegible by the fire and water.

The court house was a two story structure, facing Duke park, and built of brick, decorated with Regal marble from quarries in this county. It was built in 1891.

Volunteer firemen, by a hard fight saved the Carnegie library and the county jail adjacent to the court house.

## PEOPLE WILL VOTE IN APRIL ON COMMISSION FORM OF GOVERNMENT

The voters of Jackson county will decide upon a change of the form of government of the county as it now exists, to the commission form of government, at an election ordered by the General Assembly, to be held on the first Saturday in April.

The commission form, if adopted by the people, will abolish the county highway commission, the county treasurer and tax supervisor, and place the selection of the chairman of the board of education in the hands of the people.

The bill, introduced by Senator Bryson, provides that three commissioners shall be elected, in the general election, to be called the County Commissioner of Roads, who shall have charge of the county highway system; a County Commissioner of Finance, who shall perform the duties of a tax supervisor, who shall also act as county treasurer, in the disbursements of the county funds; and a Commissioner of Public Welfare, who shall perform the duties prescribed by law for such officers in other counties of the state, and shall be chairman of the Board of Education.

These three officers will draw salaries of \$2400.00 yearly, each; and shall be the board of county commissioners of the county.

Ballots will be prepared and those for the change will vote "For Commission Form of Government", and those opposed "Against Commission Form of Government".

The election was ordered by the General Assembly and awaits only the formal call by the county board of elections.

## SHOAL CREEK

Mrs. R. F. Hall spent Friday with her daughter, Mrs. John Norton, who is teaching at Barkers Creek.

Prof. and Mrs. W. C. Reed and Prof. Lucius Cope were dinner guests at Mr. P. C. Shelton's Sunday.

January 10th a kodaking party consisting of Misses Cumi Howell, Vinnie, Nina and Bessie Marton and Messrs. Paul Bradley and Jack Battle "took in" some of the beauty of our snow covered hills. They reported an enjoyable trip.

Misses Mary Battle and Ida Battle were Thursday night guests of Mrs. D. C. Hughes.

Mrs. W. J. Turpin who has been confined to her room for a few days is reported improving.

Mr. William Carson of Bryson is visiting at Messrs. W. H. and D. H. Oxner's.

Miss Susan Keener is on the sick list for the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hughes spent the week end at Mr. D. K. Battle's.

Mr. and Mrs. Q. A. Kinsland and Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Hughes called at Mr. J. K. Terrell's Saturday evening.

Whittier and Shoal Creek played Basket Ball in the new court in the Auditorium Friday afternoon.

## COOPERATION

The most distinct and significant movement in America agriculture in this decade is the almost universal trend toward cooperation in the marketing and distribution of farm products. It is in no sense a regional or sectional movement, for it exists in all sections and is participated in to some extent by producers of practically all kinds of farm products.

There has been some cooperation by farmers in the United States for many years, but within the last two decades, and particularly during the last decade, the movement has assumed proportions which indicate that it is a response to a fundamental and universal need of present-day American agriculture. It is highly significant from all points of view that the best minds in agriculture, without regard to region or commodity, are unanimous in the opinion that group action in marketing must be added to individual efficiency in production if the high standards of American farm life are to be preserved and agriculture is to maintain its proper place in our national life.—W. W. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture.

## GREAT SMOKY AREA BEST FOR PARK IN THE EAST

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.—(Special) The creation of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park will mark the end of a long search on the part of the National Park Service for a park in the Eastern United States that will completely fulfill the needs and requirements of the federal park system. For years the park service under the supervision of Director Stephen T. Mather and his associates has cast about for a park site that would be large enough and sufficiently distinctive to warrant inclusion in the national parks system. Until the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission discovered the Great Smokies and reported its worthiness to the Secretary of the Interior, the quest was an unfruitful one.

Numerous sites have from time to time been suggested as suitable for national park purposes, and each site has been visited by competent authorities and deemed inadequate. From time to time lands, considered by their owners worthy of being included in the national parks system have been offered to the government, but in virtually every case, the government has seen fit not to accept them. In 1917, the Secretary of the Interior was authorized by an Act of Congress to accept for park purposes the upper reaches of Grandfather Mountain in Western North Carolina, but an examination of the tract led to the decision that it was not susceptible of development as a national park. Every Session of Congress sees many bills, calling for the creation of this section and that section as a national park, and almost unanimously the Department of the Interior rules that the tract is unfit for the purpose.

This policy of rigidly scrutinizing every suggested site for a national park, and of rejecting all but the very finest tract indicates the very high compliment that has been paid to North Carolina and Tennessee by the decision to include in the national parks system the high ridges and steep valleys of the Great Smoky Mountains. For in selecting sites for new national parks the very high standard that was voiced by Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane shortly after the creation of the National Park Service is being rigidly followed. Secretary Lane, writing under date of May 13, 1918, to Director Mather, said:

"In studying new park projects you should seek to find scenery of supreme and distinctive quality or some natural feature so extraordinary or unique as to be of national interest and importance. You should seek distinguished examples of typical forms of world architecture, such for instance, as the Grand Canyon, as exemplifying the highest accomplishments of stream erosion, and the high rugged portion of Mount Desert Island as exemplifying the oldest rock formations in America and the luxuriance of deciduous forests.

"The National Park System as now constituted should not be lowered in standard, dignity, and prestige by the inclusion of areas which express in less than the highest terms the particular class or kind of exhibit which they represent.

"It is necessary that a national park should have a large area, the element of size is of no importance as long as the park is susceptible of effective administration and control."

This statement of policy was followed by the commission which selected the Great Smoky Mountains as a possible site for a national park in the Southern Appalachians, and in recommending the inclusion of the Great Smokies in the national park system, attention was called to the fact that these mountains represent the best character of the Eastern uplift, the oldest mountain range on the American continent, and that on the slopes of these mountains was a variety of trees, plants and shrubs unequalled anywhere in all America. In the words of the commission: "of several possible sites the Great Smoky Mountains easily stand first, because of the height of mountains, depth of valleys, ruggedness of the area, and the unexampled variety of trees, shrubs and plants."

Almost from the creation of the National Parks Service in 1916 has the thought of a great national park in the Southern Appalachians been uppermost in the mind of the Director of the Service.

The great difficulty, the Director found, was the fact that little of the

Eastern United States is in the public domain, and that there was no precedent in Congress for the purchase of lands for national park purposes. Consequently when the Southern Appalachian National Park Commission in December, 1924, recommended the creation of national parks in the Great Smoky Mountains and in the Shenandoah Valley, it was necessary for them to depend on the generosity of the people of the states in which these park sites lie, and the liberality and interest of the people of the East generally to acquire the lands. Congress, therefore, in order that no difficult or embarrassing precedent be created, has not appropriated money for the purchase of these lands, but has authorized the commission to accept donations of land and money to make possible the acquisition of these park sites.

If the Great Smoky Park, then, is created and taken over by the government to be the great recreational center of the Eastern United States, the people of Tennessee and North Carolina must give their share to the purchase fund, and later the people of the nation must do their part. Once the land is purchased and a national park is created by Congress, federal funds for the improvement and maintenance of the park for all time will be forthcoming from the federal treasury.

## JACKSON COUNTY UNION MEETING

The Jackson County Union Meeting will convene with the Shoal Creek Baptist church beginning Friday, January 29, at 10:30 A. M.

Devotional period, R. L. Cook. 11 A. M. Sermon, by Jonathan Brown.

12 M. Dinner. 1:50 Organization.

2:00 P. M. First topic, The Efficient Church. Opened by A. W. Davis. Round table discussion.

Adjourn at will. Saturday, 10:00 A. M. Devotional period by Will Anthony.

10:30 Topic, Are the Churches of Jackson Making Progress? Opened by R. N. Deitz. Open discussion.

11:00 A. M. Are the Preachers Keeping Up With the Advanced Movements As They Should? Opened by W. C. Reed.

12 M. Dinner.

1:30 P. M. Are the Churches Careful Enough in Receiving Members? By Ben Cook.

2:00 P. M. Do the Young Converts Get Proper Care and Training? General discussion.

2:30 Stewardship and Tithing. R. F. Jarrett.

Sunday services arranged by the Union.

## COMMITTEE.

## HELD IN CONNECTION WITH DEATH OF WIFE

Lillie Messer, 53, wife of Melvin Messer, 53, of the Cove Creek section of Haywood county, about 15 miles north of Waynesville, is dead and the husband is held in the county jail at Waynesville without bond on a charge of murder, according to a message received by the Citizen last night from Sheriff Cag, of Haywood county.

The killing is said to have occurred Sunday night about one-fourth of a mile from Melvin's home, but the officers were not notified until Tuesday, shortly before the hour set for the funeral service. Upon receipt of information regarding the matter Sheriff Cag went to the Cove Creek section and arrested Messer. He will probably be given a preliminary hearing at Waynesville today before Magistrate Leatherwood.

According to information received last night, Mrs. Messer was beaten to death. Messer, it is reported, claims that his wife fell near their home and died from an injury received when she struck a rock.

Messer is a farmer of the Cove Creek section and he and his wife had seven children, four of whom are married. The other three are small boys. There are also 12 grandchildren.

## CHAMBER PUBLISHES BOOKLET

The Chamber of Commerce, through its publicity committee, is publishing a most interesting booklet giving facts and figures about Sylva and Jackson County, and carrying a map of the county, showing every road, creek, post office, school, mountain, and other data of the county.

10,000 of these folders have been ordered for distribution during this spring and summer.