

# The Jackson County Journal

\$1.50 Year in Advance in The County.

SYLVA, NORTH CAROLINA, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1933

\$2.00 Year in Advance Outside The County.

## Legislature Now Ready To Cut Expenditures; Salaries To Be Slashed

(By Don Tompkins)

Raleigh, February 23.—Well, the legislature is beginning to get down to the business of seeing how much money it can cut off salaries and expenditures, and otherwise saved to the State. The special committee has reported that it recommends an average reduction in salaries of state employees of 15 per cent. In addition to the cuts that have been made during the past two years in the budget bureau, which are considerable reductions to begin with, the committee estimates will make a saving of \$77,000 in the State departments, other than Highway Department. A cut of \$197,000 is recommended in the Highway Department. If it is recommended that 25 engineers be eliminated, and the cost of engineering be reduced by \$225,000, making a total saving of \$422,000 to be saved in the Highway Department, if the committee recommendations are carried out. The total saving to the State, that the committee estimates would result if its findings are enacted into law would amount to \$1,178,000, exclusive of the State government, exclusive of the public school system. The committee chairman stated that the report does not contemplate reducing the wages of the employees of the State that are now low in pay.

The subcommittee that has been working on the school system has reported to the appropriations committee and recommends an eight months uniform school term for the State eliminating county and district school taxes for the public schools, thus reducing the property tax in the counties an average of 70 to 80 per cent, and still giving more of the school districts a longer term of school than they now enjoy. The committee estimates that the eight months schools, a mini-termed and supported by the State will cost the taxpayers of North Carolina nearly five million dollars less than they are now paying for the public schools. The committee recommend that there be a reduction in administration in the offices of the county school boards of 33 1-3 per cent amounting to a saving to the taxpayers of \$286,490. The committee would adjust what it terms unjust in the amount of pay teacher receive under present salary schedules and recommends an additional 10 per cent of the teachers' salaries of 15 per cent, that is in addition to the 10 per cent reduction of two years ago. Principals' salaries are to be on an average of thirty-three and one-half per cent. The cost of instructional supplies would be reduced by some \$25,000. Rural supervisor would be entirely cut out, and the expenses of principals would be reduced by \$9,000. All these items would save the taxpayers the sum of \$792,000. The committee would also recommend a reduction of only \$320,000 in fuel, wages, fuel, water, light and other supplies. A saving of \$460,000 is estimated in the transportation service. The committee figured that most of this could be saved by elimination of county and district lines, and taking the children to the nearest school. The proposal is that the money with which to finance the school system that would thus be set up would be taken from the funds derived from the Finance Committee's revenue bill, in which it is provided that either a general sales tax or a selected commodity tax be imposed. The committee figured that each county would get equal money from fines, forfeitures, bond fees, dog taxes and poll taxes to maintain the school plants and pay the fixed charges.

Many members of the Assembly think that the reductions in salaries in Highway and other State Departments has not been radical enough, and an attempt will be made, it is understood, to go the committee a few better, and cut the proposed salaries some more.

A bill passed the House today which would provide for the abolition of counties on tax foreclosures in the future, and would give the owner of the property a longer time in which to redeem his land than

under the present law, and he would only have to pay the tax, cost, and six per cent interest on the money in order to make redemption on same. Ir. Bowit of Ashe and others attempted to send in a substitute which would go back to the old law, repealed in 1927, regarding tax sales, under which no valid title has ever been confirmed by the courts for any property sold under its provisions.

There are a number of bills pending seeking to relieve tax payers whose land and homes have been sold in previous years, said to give an opportunity to redeem their property, without having to pay extortionate prices. It is reasonably sure that some such legislation will be enacted before the General Assembly closes its present session.

A bill has gone through changing the May term of Superior Court of Jackson County from a civil term to a mixed term, in order that the jail cases may be tried at this term, and the county saved the expense of feeding the prisoners from February to October. Another local bill affecting Jackson county is one setting the fees of the Clerk of the Superior Court. The fees that he may charge are not raised, the statute merely assembles them into one place in the law books, and clarified them, so that the Clerk himself, any lawyer or layman, can look and see just what fees the clerk may charge without having to look through all the law books in the office. Representative Tompkins introduced another bill providing that the county assume \$15,000 Dillsboro township road bonds. This was done as a matter of justice. The money with which to pay off the bonds has been collected from Dillsboro over a long period of time; but, in previous years, it has been confused with the general fund of the county and has been used to pay the county's debts. It would be manifestly unfair for Dillsboro to have to pay the bonds all over again, and since the county spent the money of the township, the county should pay the bond holders.

## ELLETT CASE TO BE CALLED FRIDAY

(By John Parris, Jr.)

Quite a bit of interest is being manifested in the case of Jess Elders, Herschel Parris and Dennis Bradley, which will come up Friday. Elders is alleged to have been the driver of the car which forced H. E. Ellett, of Bryson City, off a 125-foot embankment, one mile west of Dillsboro, on the night of December 23, last. Ellett was instantly killed. The jury to try the case will probably be picked Friday morning and the evidence started in the afternoon.

At a hearing before Justice of the Peace John H. Morris, some few days after the accident, Miss Ellen Cunningham, an occupant of the Elders car, testified that Elders was driving on the wrong side of the road and forced Ellett off the road when he hit him.

Herschel Parris and Dennis Bradley, both of Jackson County, are being tried along with Elders in the death case. All three of the men are being tried on a murder count.

Several minor cases have been tried this week by Judge Frank Hill of Murphy. The following ones have been disposed of:

Ralph Jones, larceny, of automobile, sentenced to 4 months on the roads.

Glenn Jones, violation of the prohibition law, sentenced to 61 days on the roads.

Abie Cochran, violation of the prohibition law, sentenced to 61 days on the roads.

Palmer Hanse, violation of the prohibition law, sentenced to two years on the roads.

Ray Jones, operating an automobile while intoxicated, sentenced to 3 months on the roads.

Fred Pruitt, house breaking and larceny; 18 months in State prison.

Victor Conner, house breaking and larceny; 18 months in State prison.

Elsie Ensley, assault with deadly weapon; 6 months on the roads.

Henry Johnson, violation of the prohibition law, 12 months on the roads.

Juno Gibson, reckless driving, 6 months on the roads.

Poindexter Burgess (negro), larceny, 4 months on the roads.

## W.C.T.C. AGAIN TO SPONSOR TOURNEY

Cullowhee, Feb. 23.—Western Carolina Teachers' College's eighth annual basketball tournament for Western North Carolina high schools will be held in the college gymnasium here March 2, 3, and 4, President H. T. Hunter has announced.

Thirty or more teams are expected to enter the event, which has become a popular tournament since its beginning here in 1925. Invitations will be mailed to outstanding boys' and girls' teams within the next few days.

Schools receiving invitations will be requested to send in their notice of acceptance at once along with a list of eligible players. With each invitation the schools will receive a list of rules and regulations governing play in the tournament.

East institution entering a boys' team will be allowed to use eight players. The girls' teams will consist of nine players. No school may enter more than one boys' team and one girls' team. All girls' sextets must be accompanied throughout the tournament by a chaperone.

Loving cups will be awarded to the winning teams of both divisions. These cups will be awarded permanently to the teams winning the tournament three times, or for two successive years. The team winning a cup for the first time is given possession of the trophy for one year. The college will furnish lodging and entertainment for the teams until they are eliminated from the tournament.

## Democrats Will Be In Absolute Control Of Government March 4th

(By Frank Parker Stockbridge)

### TODAY and TOMORROW

Washington, D. C., Feb. 22.—Twelve years of uninterrupted Republican control of the Federal Government are practically at an end. The Democratic Party is in more complete control than it has been since the first Administration of Woodrow Wilson, which began just twenty years ago. At that time only a few persons on either side of the Atlantic anticipated the great European war, and fewer still had any remote idea that the United States would be dragged into it. Yet it is the events which occurred during the war which are at the roots of the economic troubles from which the United States and all the rest of the world are suffering.

By all odds the biggest job ahead of the Roosevelt Administration is the adjustment of the international situation, with respect of debts growing out of the war, and the effort to restore international trade upon which the prosperity of the United States still greatly depends. And the most important task which President Roosevelt and his party's Congress will have to tackle also grew out of the war. This is the problem of pensions, hospitalization and bonus payments for those who served under the American flag in that war.

It seems from here at this time safe to assert, first, that the new Administration will not consent to the demand of the American Legion for the immediate payment of the deferred bonus certificates held by veterans of the war. It also seems safe to predict that there will be a complete reorganization of the system of caring for invalid and disabled veterans whose allowances and injuries are not directly due to their war service. At present the cost of medical and hospital service for such cases is estimated at around \$400,000,000 a year, and it is anticipated that this will be one of the first points of attack by President Roosevelt in his effort to reduce the cost of carrying on the Government by at least 25 per cent.

Mr. Roosevelt, it is known has asked his supporters in Congress to give him all the power they can legally grant under the Constitution. And, in the beginning at least, there is little doubt that he will get it. Of course, any power delegated to the President by Congress can always be taken from him by Congress, but it begins to look as if President Roosevelt would find himself in a position of more complete authority than any President has occupied since Mr. Wilson, who for two years, from early 1917 until early 1919, was practically the Supreme Dictator of the United States.

In any event, the new President will have to call a special session of the Senate to confirm the appointment of his Cabinet members, the new ambassadors and ministers with whom it is certain he will replace America's representatives abroad, and the hundreds of other Presidential appointees who must be immediately put in office and confirmed. In all, there are something like 150,000 Government positions over which the President personally, or his Cabinet, have unrestricted power of removal and appointment.

If the plans which are being discussed by the friends and supporters of the new Administration are carried out there will also be a big shake-up in the classified service, which is under the protection of the civil service laws. Appointments, promotions and dismissals in the classified service, which includes now about half a million Government workers outside of the Army and Navy, can be made only on the basis of examinations for fitness and merit, and these places have always been regarded as permanent and secure. But all of these positions are subject to Congressional action. Congress can, for example, abolish an entire bureau or division, or it can restrict the number of employees in any given department, thus abolishing any number of civil service posts.

Probably half the population of Washington, which is composed almost entirely of Government employees, is trembling in apprehension that their jobs may vanish.

## GRAND JURY MAKES REPORT

The report of the grand jury for February's term of superior court came in Thursday afternoon, and they were excused for the remaining days of court. Following is the report the grand jury made to Judge Hill:

"We, the grand jury, recommend that the jail be screened with new wire and repairs be made on some of the windows on the lower floor. We also recommend that a cell or room be prepared as a ward for the insane that may be temporarily lodged in jail that is separate and apart from other prisoners. Also repair leaking roof.

"We recommend that the Clerk of Court go over his records in regard to guardians and have a true report of those that have not reported up to date and present same to the grand jury at the next term of court.

We find the county home is well kept. The inmates are well supplied with food and clothing. We would recommend that the leaks in the roof be repaired and the dairy enlarged. We recommend a new barn if possible and a kitchen cabinet for the home.

"After looking through the offices and as far as we are able to ascertain we find the records are well kept."

A supplementary report follows:

"We recommend that something be done with two orphan children at John Shelton's, as neither he or his wife are able to take care of them. We also recommend that Mr. and Mrs. Shelton be cared for in the county home immediately.

"We recommend the relief of the following children: Homer Bungarner and James E. Wilson. Also destitute children in the county be cared for immediately."

Both these reports were signed by T. B. Cowan, foreman of the grand jury.

Following is a list of the members who served on the grand jury this term of court:

T. B. Cowan, foreman; W. A. Jackson, Oscar Lanning, W. H. Jackson, John A. Hooper, W. F. Moody; H. H.

## EARNHAM TO BE HERE MONDAY AND TUESDAY

(By E. V. Vestal, County Agent)

Mr. F. R. Farnham, specialist from State College, Raleigh, will be with me at the following places February 27th and 28th:

County Agent's Office, Monday morning.

L. C. Duckett's, Lovedale, 2 P. M., Monday.

D. C. Higdon's, Webster, 4 P. M., Monday.

T. W. McLaughlin's, Qualla, 9:30 A. M., Tuesday.

R. C. Hunter's, East Laporte, 3:30 Tuesday.

Mr. Farnham will discuss lespedeza, the crop that costs little and gives excellent results. Last year's work with it has shown us its real value both for soil improvement and pasture. As the seed are not expensive to buy, no soil preparation is necessary, and as it will double the corn yield on poor land after the first year, it is the one legume that every farmer in Jackson County should be proud to sow.

Be at one of the above meetings the first of the week and learn more about this crop. At these same meetings Mr. Farnham will discuss the Trench Silo and the County Agent will discuss the Brick, or Rock, brooder.

## SCOUT MEETING TO BE HELD HERE MONDAY EVENING

The district committee of the Smoky Mountains District of the Boy Scouts will meet next Monday night at Sylva to transact business in connection with Scouting in this section. A committee consisting of John H. Kirk of Cherokee and V. A. Browning and W. C. Penn of Bryson City will make recommendations for district commissioner and two assistant district commissioners. Prof. W. C. Reed, chairman, will preside and A. W. Allen, Scout executive will be present. The committee will meet at 8:00 o'clock at the Sylva High school building.

There are now five Scout troops in the district. The ones at Bryson City and Cherokee have been going for some time and new ones have been started at Franklin, Sylva, and Cullowhee. A scout leaders training course was conducted recently. It was attended by 44 men. These included the leaders of the troops which have recently been formed.

The district committee is composed of Prof. W. C. Reed, Sylva; W. C. Penn, Bryson City; V. A. Browning, Bryson City; Prof. W. E. Bird, Cullowhee; John H. Kirk, Cherokee; A. M. Adams, Cherokee; William E. Bryson, R. R. Deitz, W. F. Ashe, Robert Holden; W. F. Bryson; R. E. McNeely, S. T. Crisp, J. O. Howell, Milton Brown; A. C. Edwards; Merit Hooper and Henry L. Taylor.

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