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TOPICS OF THE WEEK

Charter of the North Carolina Railroad.

By Hon. William A. Graham
CHAPTER II

The State Senate in 1848 consisted of 24 Whigs and 24 Democrats. The Democrats nominated Hon. Calvin Graves as their choice for president, the Whigs Mr. Joyner of Halifax. After balloting several days the Whigs ascertained that Mr. Graves if elected would vote for the charter of the North Carolina Railroad or some such internal improvement. They withdrew their opposition and Mr. Graves was elected, and on the final vote on this subject he voted for the charter as was anticipated and thus secured the enactment of this law.

Mr. Berry of Orange contested the seat with Mr. Hugh Waddell of the same county. The committee on elections decided in Mr. Berry's favor, but they refused to act on the matter until Mr. Berry promised that he would not vote on the question of chartering the North Carolina Railroad.

After the organization of the railroad was effected it was found that money was lacking to properly equip the road and the State was asked to take another million dollars of stock, thus owning three-fourths of the stock instead of two-thirds. Gov. Morehead, who was president of the road, was very sharply criticised by some prominent men as to his action. He came to the House of Commons, as it was then called, as a member from Guilford county at this session of the Legislature. His speech defending himself against the criticisms of his opponents is "one of its kind" in the annals of the State. Mr. R. C. Badger who heard it, said he first took his criticisms as a body and answered all the accusations, then he took each one of them for an individual castigation. He succeeded in having the bill passed and the State appropriated the money.

In the earlier days of the company the president was elected from the four directors chosen by the individual stockholders. This, of course, was by the consent of the Governor, who had the appointment of two-thirds of the directors, but afterwards this appointment was claimed by the Governor and in naming the directors he suggested to each one whom he wished to be president for the ensuing term and they have ever since that time been so elected.

Upon the payment of \$500,000 the State transferred to the individual stockholders of the Raleigh & Gaston R. R. Co. half the stock in said company. In 1865 the Raleigh & Gaston Railroad paid to the State \$500,000 of the bonds of the State in payment of this debt and became owners of the road. This, I think, is the only payment made on the bonds which were appropriated by the State in the construction of our railroads.

Next week I will send you an account of the bonds which were issued by the State for internal improvements. The bonds issued for the construction of the North Carolina Railroad were given as security for a mortgage on the road. The U. S. Supreme Court decided that this was a valid debt, consequently these bonds, usually called construction bonds, were not taken into the compromise of the State debt which was made in 1879, but were left at par value. They first brought eight per cent interest; after that they were renewed at six per cent and this year they will be renewed at four per cent. The Southern R. R. Co., which has leased this road for 99 years pays annually 7 1-2 per cent as rental to the North Carolina R. R. Co.

[Chapter Three will appear shortly.—Editor.]

Pre-Convention Politics—The Elusive McAdoo Boom—Flushing Republican Boodlers—A Fast and Furious Game.

The McAdoo boom has got the Senate investigators guessing. They have delved so long in Republican expense accounts that they appear to have lost all perception of unaccelerated political sentiment.

The explanation of McAdoo's growing strength is so plain that "he who runs may read." He is the only candidate who comes anywhere near filling the bill of monetary party exigency.

The convention of uninstructed conservative delegates must have a candidate reasonably acceptable to Big Business—and didn't a Morgan syndicate finance McAdoo's \$30,000,000 or

\$40,000,000 Hudson & Manhattan tunnel enterprises?

The uninstructed delegates who will control the convention being not only conservatives, but also party steadies and political experts, they must have a candidate who can make a good run. This means that the nominee must be able to make a strong appeal to the laboring masses—and didn't McAdoo as Railroad Administrator grapple the affections of organized labor with hooks of steel, et cetera?

And the convention control is not only conservative in thought and expert in political technique, but it is bridle-wise to the Administration. Hence, therefore, so to speak, the candidate must be en rapport with the White House—and isn't McAdoo connubially of the bone and flesh, and spiritually of the mind of the First Chief?

There you have it—a candidate in whose more or less expansive "bosom" are focused the loving favor of Big Business, of organized labor and of the White House! Where's another? If none, what use has McAdoo for a "barrel" at this stage of the game?

But that Senate nosing committee has flushed the Republican covey "for fair". There is something almost pitiful in the plight of Wood and Lowden; and even Johnson, who is credited with instigating the investigation, does not come off unscathed. No actual bribery has been shown—the nearest approach to it was the disclosure of the Lowden operations in Missouri and Georgia. In the former state \$38,000 was expended, notwithstanding there was no presidential primary; which is highly suggestive of convention corruption. In Georgia \$9,000 was handed over to a negro politician, presumably to "accelerate" a contest.

Confident as the Republicans are of success in the election, they will hardly dare flout the decent opinion of the country by nominating a candidate tainted with boodlesism. It is an era of disgusting extravagance in public and private life, but there never was a time when money politics was in greater disfavor.

The rankest profiteer would hold up his reeking hands in genuine protest against the Presidency being awarded to a candidate who personally put up nearly \$400,000 of hard-earned Pullman Palace Car money for the job.

And as for the candidate whose soap-and-oil fund already has topped the million—it is doubtful if he could beat a third term candidate. If the Chicago convention sells its soul for a mess of that sort it will be proof positive that the Republican party has decided to go out of business.

It is a fast and furious game of politics that is being played out in Washington, as the Congress session ends and the national conventions draw nigh.

It's politics on the Irish question, with the House Foreign Affairs Committee falling into the hole that it so carefully dugged for the State Department.

It's politics on the American mandate, with the President compelling the Republican Congress to outrage church sentiment by driving the hot ploughshare of denial through the bleeding heart of the Martyr Nation.

It's politics on the soldier bonus, with the Democrats matching every friendly move of the adversary, and with the final responsibility for defeat added on the Republican Senate.

It's politics everywhere, politics everywhere, politics in everything; and unless the Republican majority is found to have scored on treaty reservations they are badly worsted in the game.

400 PER CENT DIVIDEND DECLARED BY S. C. MILLS

Spartanburg, S. C., June 1.—In-man mills, of which K. A. Chapman is president and treasurer have decided on a stock dividend of 400 per cent, 300 per cent to be in common stock and 100 per cent in preferred.

Mt. Airy Postmaster Named

Washington, June 2.—The President sent to the senate today the nomination of Geo. K. Snow to be postmaster at Mt. Airy, succeeding W. C. Carter, resigned, and Miley P. Glover to be postmaster at Bailey. The latter is a newly created presidential office.

FINALS OF NORTH WILKESBORO SCHOOL BEGIN THIS EVENING

Marking the close of a most successful year, the commencement exercises of the North Wilkesboro schools will begin this evening and continue thru Monday evening.

This evening at 8:15 in the graded school auditorium a Declamation Contest will be held and a gold medal will be awarded to one girl and one boy, whose declamations are judged best. Diplomas to those finishing the seventh grade will also be awarded. A high school scholarship will be given, and those making a record for attendance will receive medals and attendance certificates.

Rev. J. E. Abernethy, pastor of the First Methodist Church, Salisbury, will deliver the commencement sermon Sunday evening at 8 o'clock in the Methodist church.

The class exercises will be held Monday evening in the school auditorium and will begin at 8:15. Prof. John H. Cook, of Greensboro College for Women, will deliver an address on "The Test of Education." Following is the program:

Invocation—Rev. C. W. Robinson. Music.

Salutary.—Mary E. Willis. Class History.—Corinne F. Clements. Address—"Small History Repeat Itself?"—Valedictory.—Ernest Eller.

Music. Address—"The Test of an Education"—Prof. John H. Cook, Greensboro College for Women. Music.

Presentation of Diplomas by Chairman of the Board of Education.

The graduating class is composed of Elliott Deans, Mary Willis, Kohl Ulrich, Ernest Eller, Corinne Clements, Louise Pearson, J. Hurst Landon, Lucile Cardwell and Samuel Turner.

STEAM SHOVEL HAS BEEN MOVED TO RIVER ROAD

It will be gratifying to our readers who live in the western part of the county to learn that the steam shovel has been moved from Brushy Mountain township and that it will now be used in grading the proposed road up the Yadkin river, one of the last roads to be constructed in the county.

The shovel has been used in grading the road up the Brushy Mountains for the past several months and this road has been completed within about one mile of Gilreath postoffice.

BOTH PRESIDENT AND ALL FEDERAL JUDGES EXEMPT

Washington, June 1.—Provisions of the war revenue act requiring the President and all federal judges to pay an income tax on their salaries were declared unconstitutional today by the supreme court in a seven to two decision.

Under the act of the President paid on his salary of \$75,000 a year approximately \$16,000 in taxes.

ACTIVITY INCREASES ABOUT THE G. O. P. CONVENTION

Chicago, June 1.—Presidential row took on increased activity today, swarms of national committeemen, delegates, politicians and visitors streaming in the headquarters of their favorites for the nomination.

Additional workers from New York and Los Angeles came to the Hoover headquarters which were crowded from early morning until late at night, while the arrival of Harry Daugherty, campaign manager of Senator Harding, drew a liberal number of visitors to confer with the Ohioan.

William H. Crocker national committeeman from California got in today and, absenting himself from the meeting of the national committee, made calls along presidential row, paying his respects to the men in charge of Senator Johnson's headquarters.

The slight illness of Governor Frank O. Lowden did not prevent him from receiving numerous visitors a number of national committeemen being closeted with the governor before and after the meeting in the coliseum.

Senate Rejects Wilson's Plea

Washington, June 1.—President Wilson's plea for an American mandate over Armenia was rejected in the senate today by a vote of more than two to one.

Metts Renamed Veteran's Head

Fayetteville, June 1.—General James I. Metts was re-elected commanding general of the North Carolina division, United Confederate veterans, at the first business session of the annual reunion here this afternoon.

BONUS BILL TO SLEEP LONG TIME IN SENATE

Washington, May 30.—The soldier bonus bill passed yesterday by the house 289 to 92, will be received tomorrow by the senate. The measure will follow the regular course and be referred to a committee.

Inasmuch as a recess and possibly adjournment will be taken by Congress Saturday until after the political conventions, the bonus bill seems doomed to a long sleep in the senate committee. If a recess is taken, leaders do not contemplate re-opening until about September 1. Some senators are quite frank in saying that the bill will never get any further and that tomorrow's reference to a committee will in fact be an "interment".

Opposition to soldier relief has been more pronounced where yesterday's vote showed only 40 Republicans and 52 Democrats recorded against the measure. The tax provisions of the bill are considered particularly odious by a number of members of the senate.

CONGRESS TO ADJOURN SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Washington, June 1.—After brief discussion the house today adopted a resolution providing for adjournment of Congress sine die Saturday next at 4 p. m. and sent it to the senate where similar action is expressed by leaders, probably tomorrow.

No record vote was taken and some Democrats, opposing the resolution, were unable to force a roll call. Failing in this, they vainly sought a reconsideration but were defeated 129 to 52.

Along with the formal action on the adjournment measure both senate and house adopted speed-up programs to clear away the mass of legislation. The senate began its session two hours earlier than usual and continued work tonight as did the house.

BIG PICNIC AND JR. O. U. A. M. AND I. O. O. F. RALLY

On Round Mountain, two miles east of Mt. View on third Sunday in June, 1920.

Program:
10:30 a. m.—Singing by Rock Creek and Bethel Choirs, and any others that are present.
11:00 a. m.—Speaking on good of orders by J. R. Jones and others.
12:30—Dinner.
2:00 p. m.—Sermon by Elder Grant Cothren.

All members of councils and lodges are expected to be present with families.

The public is cordially invited whether belonging to the orders or not.

Hope everyone will bring well filled baskets. Come out and spend a day of enjoyment. Bring your field glasses and kodaks and take in as fine a view as in Western North Carolina.

J. A. GILLIAM,
C. B. ELLEDGE,
G. W. WILES,
Committee.

MORAVIAN FALLS NEWS

Mrs. Fannie Scroggs and children, who were visiting here returned to their home at Doughton Tuesday.

Miss Louise Summerhill, of De Land, Florida, came in Wednesday night, to visit some time.

Miss Thelma Laws was taken to Long's Sanatorium Monday where she will undergo an operation for appendicitis.

Messrs. C. E. Sloop and P. G. Smithey came in from Winston, for a few days.

Messrs. W. R. Hubbard and B. A. Ferguson are off on a trip to Old Fort, N. C., with Mr. J. D. Moore of North Wilkesboro.

Mrs. L. B. Crawford, is leaving today for North Wilkesboro, from which place, she will return to her home at Pocahontas, Va.

PRIMARIES WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY

The Democratic and Republican primaries will be conducted tomorrow, Saturday, June 5th, the polls being opened at sunrise and closed at sunset at the respective voting precincts in each township. Democrats will vote for candidates for each of the following offices: United States Senator, governor, lieutenant governor, state auditor state treasurer, commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of labor and printing, commissioner of insurance, and associate justice of Supreme Court and for representative in the Seventy-Seventh Congress of the United States for the Seventh District. The Republicans will vote on two candidates for the presidency.

JUDGE HARDING IS PRESIDING AT JUNE TERM OF COURT

Wilkes Superior court for the trial of civil cases only, convened in Wilkesboro Monday with Judge Harding, of Charlotte, presiding. Court will probably remain in session throughout this week and much of next week will be consumed before the docket will have been finished.

Following are the cases disposed of up until yesterday afternoon:
Amanda Suddith vs John Barber, colored. In this action it appeared that the plaintiff was dead and the case abates.

J. F. Buttery vs J. H. Joiner, et al. Case abates.

G. W. Marley vs N. H. Robinet. Non suit entered. Judgment against plaintiff for cost.

T. B. Culler vs G. F. Ivey. Non suit.

Myra Tinsley vs John S. Cranor. Plaintiff called and failed to appear and prosecute her action. Non suit.

Barnhardt Siegal company vs W. A. Jones. Non suit.

E. C. Willis vs Hackett & Gilreath. Plaintiff takes voluntary non suit.

B. G. Byrd vs L. S. Jolly. Non suit. Judgment against plaintiff and surety on prosecution bond for cost.

Bank of North Wilkesboro vs L. S. Jolly. Marked off docket.

Board of Commissioners of Wilkes County vs Pruden and company. Final judgment confirmed by Supreme Court, case is marked off docket.

Geo. W. Eller vs George Green. Plaintiff allowed 30 days in which to file complaint.

George Anderson vs George Pipes. Plaintiff takes non suit.

In matter concerning will of A. S. Capehart. Case continued until August court.

J. A. Williams, Jr., vs W. R. Welborn. Compromised.

Minnie Austin vs Bert Austin. Divorce granted.

Grandin Lumber company vs C. J. Triplett, et al. In this case it is ordered that unless the Elk Creek Lumber company shall make itself a party hereto on or before June 20, 1920, this action shall be dismissed.

J. T. Finley, A. W. Green, A. H. Berry, Jr., E. M. Blackburn, W. R. Absher, R. M. Brame, and S. L. Hunt of the firm of C. R. Hunt & Sons, vs C. V. Renfrow & company. Judgment.

Squire Gambill vs W. W. Gambill. Defendant demurs to the evidence and moves to dismiss as of non suit.

Southern Railway company vs Brame Drug company. Defendant found to be indebted to plaintiff in the sum of \$11.15.

Wady Harrold vs J. P. Harrold. Divorce granted.

W. L. Sebastian vs Dorcia Sebastian. Divorce granted.

SCHOOL NOTES

The seniors of the North Wilkesboro High School extend to the friends of the community a most hearty invitation to attend the baccalaureate sermon, which will be delivered in the Methodist church Sunday evening by Dr. Abernethy of Salisbury.

In the school auditorium on Friday evening will be held the recitation and declamation contest, and on Monday evening Dr. Cook of Greensboro will deliver the commencement address.

Tuesday afternoon after the regular session of school a quiet hour was spent with our beloved English teacher, who faithfully recorded for future reference the names of those who failed to live up to her standard of discipline.

On Wednesday morning the chapel exercises were very interesting. Mr. Vyne and Mr. Willis made instructive talks. After this much laughter ensued as an impersonation of the faculty was rendered by members of the High school.

Final examinations of the High school began Wednesday morning. Some of the pupils are glad to think the worst will be soon over, but most of them fear that the worst is yet to come.

The class of 1920 is prospering nicely. Each member has his cart hitched to a diploma.

Mrs. Horton Dies at Boone

A message received here yesterday brought the sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. R. N. Horton, which occurred Wednesday night at her home near Boone, Watauga county. Mrs. Horton was eighty-eight years of age. Our townsman, Dr. W. P. Horton, is a son of the deceased, who, in company with Mrs. Horton and Mrs. R. W. Gwyn, will attend the funeral and burial services.

PRESIDENT WILSON RETURNS PEACE RESOLUTION UNSIGNED

Washington, May 27.—President Wilson vetoed the peace resolution today and informed Congress he could not become a party to the peace program framed by Republican leaders of the Senate and House because he considered it would put an ineffaceable stain on the nation's honor.

To establish technical peace by such a method the president said in his veto message would be to effect "a complete surrender of the rights of the United States so far as Germany is concerned" and to relinquish all the high purposes which led the nation into war and which were embodied in the rejected treaty of Versailles.

The president's act apparently brought to another and final deadlock the efforts of the present administration and Congress to agree on a peace settlement. Republican leaders conceded they had no chance to pass the resolution over the executive's veto, though an attempt will be made tomorrow in the House and both sides it was predicted that the issues of the treaty controversy would have to be fought out in the political campaign with Democrats and Republicans blaming each other for the failure to consummate a state of peace.

In his message the president did not indicate whether he might again submit the treaty to the Senate for ratification. He said the resolution raised again the question of whether the United States cared to draw apart from the rest of the world or to join with other nations in attaining the ends to which the treaty was framed.

Washington, May 28.—An effort to override President Wilson's veto of the Republican peace resolution failed today in the house.

The vote was 219 in favor of overriding the veto to 152 against, or 29 less than the required two-thirds majority.

Two Republicans, Representative Kelly, of Michigan, and Fuller, of Massachusetts voted to sustain the president's veto, while 17 Democrats joined the Republican majority in an effort to override it.

County Board of Welfare Organizes

The board of social welfare of Wilkes County held a meeting Wednesday at the residence of Mrs. James R. Marlow. The purpose of the meeting was to perfect organization of the board. The following officers were elected: John R. Jones, chairman; Mrs. James R. Marlow, vice chairman; W. M. Sebastian, secretary. The board is composed of Mrs. Marlow, Dr. W. R. Ware, John R. Jones, and W. M. Sebastian.

ENTERTAINMENT BY CLASS OF ORPHANS

On Friday evening, June 11th, at the Graded School Auditorium in North Wilkesboro a class of six girls and four boys from the Odd Fellows Orphan Home at Goldsboro will give a play entitled "A Kentucky Belle."

The class has with it its own stage scenery and equipment, and the play is said to be a high class production, and one well worth going to see and hear. This class is touring Western North Carolina and is having crowded houses at every performance. Parties competent to judge say the performance is fine, the acting of the children surpassingly good and that the play holds the attention of the audience from start to finish.

Tickets for the concert will be sold by the lady members of Faith Rebekah Lodge No. 96, I. O. O. F. of North Wilkesboro, and at the Rexall Drug Store in North Wilkesboro. Prices for adults 75c and for children under fifteen, 35c.

No tickets will be sold after five o'clock p. m. on the 11th except at the auditorium, but can be bought any day from now on from one of the following young ladies: Misses Virginia Mechem, Anna Waugh, Mattie Horton, Nora Ellis, Maude Buchanan, Mable Hauser Flossie Hendren Clyde Laxton, Vistula Pierce, Edna Bryant, Ney Smithey, Pearl Speas, Pearl Dodson.

Buy tickets for yourself and family, or sweetheart, enjoy a good play and help a most worthy cause.

Notice, 56th. Co. N. C. R. M.

All members of the 56th Co., N. C. R. M. are ordered to report at the armory in North Wilkesboro at 8 p. m. Thursday, June 10th, 1920. Drill and transaction of business.

By order of,
J. E. WINKLER, Captain,
Commanding.
J. D. C. Wilson, First Sergeant.