

Lenoir News-Topic

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No. 32

UNOFFICIAL RETURNS SHOW A BIG MAJORITY FOR ROAD BONDS

Practically Every Precinct Except Hudson Show Majority for Issuing \$250,000 Road Bonds for Building Township Roads—Interest at Fever Heat Throughout the Day—Ballots Show a Real Sentiment to Get the County Out of Mud

Unofficial returns at sundown yesterday showed that the road bond election had carried by an overwhelming majority. The majority, according to these returns, is estimated at about 611 votes. It is believed that when the canvass of the official returns is made this majority will be changed very little. At the two precincts here, Lenoir and Lower Creek, it was a battle of ballots from early morning until the last ballot was put in just at sundown, with a majority for the bonds always in the lead and growing. At no time during the day was there any question of the results of these two boxes. Telephone messages during the day from other precincts in the county brought the news that a favorable vote for the bonds was leading in almost every precinct in the county. Hudson township was one of the precincts that showed a lead against the bonds. At noon a telephone message from that place gave the estimate of the township at ten to one against the bonds. However, later messages showed a slight

change of heart and brought the estimate down to four to one against. Yesterday will go down in history as the greatest day of Caldwell county. The people by their ballots showed their aggressiveness and that they were looking forward to a greater future; that they have confidence in their county and in the days to come. Yesterday will mark the turning point for money men, citizens of a county that is endowed with many of the world's greatest opportunities. Good roads have prevailed over mud. The canvass of the official returns will be made within a few days and just as soon as this is done the county will make the necessary arrangements for advertising and selling the bonds. When this is done the townships will be called upon to name their road commissioners and a program for road work will be put in motion. It is hoped that it will be possible to get these preliminary matters over as quickly as possible and that actual road-building may be started before many more weeks pass.

The following are the unofficial returns received from the various outside precincts by telephone. The two precincts, Lenoir and Lower Creek, are vouched for as accurate.

Precincts Voting for Bonds		
	For	Against Majority
Lenoir	434	119 315
Lower Creek	236	116 121
Granite Falls	201	105 96
King's Creek	73	35 38
Little River	146	47 99
John's River	66	22 44
Globe	34	23 11
Patterson	49	32 17
Yadkin Valley	54	23 31
North Catawba, at 5 o'clock		19
Wilson's Creek, estimated		6
Mulberry estimated to break even		
Total for bonds		797
Precincts Voting Against Bonds		
	For	Against Majority
Gamewell, estimated		25
Hudson	33	134 101
Buffalo, estimated		25
Richland, estimated		35
Total against bonds		186
Majority for bonds, 611.		

TREATY OF PEACE STRIPS GERMANY OF HER POWER

The treaty of peace, submitted to the German delegates at Versailles Wednesday by the representatives of the associated powers, reduces Germany to military impotence, deprives her of her colonies, restores Alsace and Lorraine to France and provides for reparation to the nations injured by her in the war.

This was made known in an official summary of the treaty, cabled from the American peace commission to the committee on public information in New York. At the same time official announcement was made that President Wilson had pledged himself to propose to the Senate an agreement that the United States, in conjunction with Great Britain, would go to the assistance of France in case of an unprovoked attack by Germany. The announcement of this proposed agreement was made in a statement supplementing the official summary of the peace treaty, which reads:

"In addition to the securities afforded in the treaty of peace, the President of the United States has pledged himself to propose to the Senate of the United States, and the prime minister of Great Britain has pledged himself to propose to the parliament of Great Britain an engagement, subject to the approval of the council of nations, to come immediately to the assistance of France in case of unprovoked attack by Germany."

CHARLES SPAINHOUR DEAD; TO BE BURIED HERE SATURDAY

Hibriten Masonic lodge received a message yesterday notifying them of the death of Mr. Charles Spainhour, son of Dr. and Mrs. Spainhour, and a former resident of Lenoir, which occurred in Washington. The message did not state the time of Mr. Spainhour's death. The body is being sent here and interment will take place Saturday afternoon at Belleview cemetery with Masonic honors. Hibriten lodge requests that all Masons hold themselves in readiness for the funeral services and interment.

8,000 MEN ARE WANTED TO SERVE IN SIBERIA

Orders were issued Tuesday by the war department for 8,000 men to serve as replacement troops for Americans now in Siberia. A replacement detachment will be organized in San Francisco and the troops will be sent forward in units of 500 each as they are ready.

FINALS AT OAK HILL CLOSE SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Address Delivered by Dr. J. B. Craven and Sermon by Rev. W. R. Bradshaw—Debaters to the State University

Oak Hill commencement April 27-29 marked the closing of the tenth year of the school. Like most other schools in the county and in the entire country, we must admit that this has not been our best year. But considering unavoidable circumstances, we are glad to say our work has gone ahead and progress worthy of mention has been made. Only five weeks were lost on account of influenza and the greater part of this has been made up. Practically all students have been promoted, some, however, with conditions which they will be easily able to get off. Despite the fact that we have had a smaller number of pupils this year to draw from, the school has been successful in winning all contests with other schools and communities, both in debating and in athletics. The school most and does recognize these features as a strong card in playing the game of school development.

The closing exercises were attended by large crowds. Notable interest was taken in a number of the programs. The sermon on Sunday by Rev. W. R. Bradshaw and the addresses by Dr. J. B. Craven and Gov. W. C. Newland on Tuesday were all on a high plane, and those who heard them were undoubtedly benefited. The contest for medals on Tuesday was a splendid program, the girls especially deserving honorable mention. The winners were, of the girls, Bertha Andrews of Brodnax, Va., and Horace Haas of Route 1.

On Wednesday following the commencement the principal, with Oak Hill's debaters, Misses Lucy Austin and Amy Fox, and James Andrews and Horace Haas, and also Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod, Ralph McRary and Misses Amy Tolbert and Bertha Andrews, left for Chapel Hill in cars to attend the debating finals of the High School Debating Union. They returned on Saturday following, with reports of an enjoyable trip.

Frank Munday says tell the ladies that the monument lights are now burning again.

OUTLINE OF THE TERMS OF THE PEACE TREATY

Special Tribunal to Try Kaiser; Germany to Pay Five Billions Pending Full Determination; Make Compensation for Damage

In opening the session of the peace congress, according to a dispatch from Versailles, M. Clemenceau, the president officer, speaking to the German plenipotentiaries, said:

"It is unnecessary to express needless words. You have before you the plenipotentiaries of the small and great powers united in this most cruel war, which was imposed upon them. The hour has arrived for a heavy settlement of the account."

Paul Dutasta, secretary general of the peace conference, delivered a copy of the treaty to Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau, head of the German delegation, who made a brief reply. He said:

"Count von Brockdorff-Rantzau: 'We declare that we do not deny the extent of our defeat. We know the power of the German armies is broken.'"

The following are the terms of the peace treaty as outlined for the London Times-Public Ledger service and sent as a special cable to the Charlotte Observer:

The allies publicly arraign the ex-kaiser, not for an offense against criminal law, but for a supreme offense against international morality and the sanctity of treaties. A special tribunal will be constituted to try him.

The decision to arraign the ex-kaiser must have been taken at the plenary session of the peace council Monday, for at the last previous plenary session, April 28, the plenipotentiaries failed to take action on the question.

Persons accused of violations of the laws and customs of war will be brought before allied military tribunals.

Pending full determination of the allied claims, Germany is to pay 1,000,000,000 pounds (\$5,000,000,000).

Germany is to make compensation for all damage done to allied civilians and their property.

Alsace and Lorraine are to be returned to France, who is also given the coal fields of the Saar valley. The government of the Saar district will be carried on by a commission of five appointed by the league of nations.

At the end of 15 years the people will decide whether they wish to be governed by the league, France or Germany. If Germany is chosen she will have to buy the coal fields from France at a price to be arranged.

Poland will have a corridor running down to Danzig which will be turned into a free city. A plebiscite will be taken in Schleswig.

Germany will be called upon to renounce "in favor of the five allied and associated powers all rights and titles appertaining to her in regard to her overseas possessions." Most of those possessions will be administered under a mandate from the league of nations by one of the great colonizing powers.

In Morocco Germany abandons all rights and privileges derived from the act of Algeciras of 1906 and from the Franco-German agreements of 1909 and 1911. All treaties between Germany and the shereifian empire are abrogated.

Within two months of the signature of the treaty German military forces shall be reduced to not more than 70,000 infantry and 30,000 cavalry. The total strength of officers must not exceed 4,000. Voluntary recruiting alone will be permitted. German armaments will also be strictly limited. All fortified works fifty miles east of the Rhine will be dismantled.

At the end of two months after the signing of the peace treaty the German naval forces must not include any submarines and must not exceed six battleships, six light cruisers, 12 destroyers, 12 torpedo boats. All other warships must be placed in reserve or converted into merchantmen. The ratings must not exceed 15,000, of whom 1,500 may be officers and warrant officers.

All military and naval works on Heligoland are to be destroyed.

The Kiel canal shall be kept free and open to the merchant shipping of all nations at peace with Germany on terms of complete equality.

Until Oct. 1 next Germany will be allowed to keep a maximum number of 100 seaplanes for use in searching for mines. After that date she will not be allowed to have any military or naval air forces. No air-dromes will be permitted within 150 kilometers (93) miles of her frontier.

(Continued on page four)

MAYOR LENOIR AND TWO COMMISSIONERS RE-ELECTED

Mayor W. J. Lenoir and two commissioners, E. F. Allen and H. W. Courtney, were re-elected, and Messrs. T. C. Robbins, T. H. Ervynhill, L. E. Rabb, B. L. Stone and J. W. Self were elected to serve as the town officials for the current year at the election held Monday.

A mass meeting was held Friday night for the selection of candidates. A sharp fight devoid of personalities was staged, with wavings breaking about even. The ticket selected seems to have been very satisfactory, as very little scratching occurred at the election Monday.

MAYOR LENOIR URGES OBSERVANCE OF BABY WEEK

Issues Proclamation Proclaiming Sunday and Next Week as Time to be Devoted to Study of Infant Problems

Mayor Lenoir is urging the people of Lenoir to observe Sunday and next week as devoted to the study of the needs of the infant and to plan for activities that will put the community on a higher plane with regard to child welfare. All ministers are asked to call attention to this special study at their regular meetings Sunday morning and evening, and all mothers and fathers are urged to look carefully to the betterment of conditions surrounding infant life.

During this same time, or week, all other cities and towns of North Carolina are requested by State authorities to take up and work on the same problems.

To better get the people of Lenoir interested in the movement Mayor Lenoir has issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas, his excellency, Thomas Walter Bickett, Governor of North Carolina, has proclaimed the week beginning May 11, 1919, as Baby Welfare Week, and in a proclamation issued from the Governor's office in Raleigh has asked all public agencies and private citizens to cooperate with the State board of health in carrying out its plans for the reduction of infant mortality and in increasing health conditions in the State.

"Now, therefore, I, in accord with the proclamation of the Governor of the State, do proclaim Sunday, May 11th, and the week following to be devoted by the people of this town to the study of the needs of the infant and the planning for such activities as will put our community on a higher plane with regard to child welfare; and

"I do hereby urge every minister to call to the attention of his congregation necessity for constructive study of infant life; all teachers to inaugurate study of sanitation in the home as it will affect infants, all organized societies to specialize during this week on infant hygiene problems and all fathers and mothers to look into the health conditions surrounding their homes, and particularly as to the habits and health of babies.

"Done this 5th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1919.

"W. J. LENOIR, Mayor."

PRIVATE MYLES FINDS HIS MOTHER AT LAST

Through the aid of the State dailies and several weekly newspapers Private Robert H. Myles has located his mother, Mrs. Harriet Myles, whom he had lost trace of since 1916. Private Myles found his mother near Siler City, to which place she had moved several months ago. Private Myles has expressed to every newspaper that carried the story of his search and to every person who became interested and aided him in any way.

Private Myles was a member of the 119th infantry, "Old Hickory" division. Prior to the time he entered the service he had spent several years in the west. It was during that time that this mother moved away from their old home in Caldwell. When he returned to North Carolina he failed to locate her, as she had changed her place of residence several times. He entered the army and served with the 30th division during its campaign along the Hindenburg line. When he returned to the States he again took up the search. Friends sent the story of his misfortune to a number of daily and weekly papers and in less than two weeks he had received letters from the readers of these papers that directed him to Siler City.

NOTHING BUT ROUTINE WORK ENGAGED THE COMMISSIONERS

Nothing but regular or routine work came up before the county commissioners Monday. The proposition of putting on another anti-typhoid campaign was discussed and it will probably be put on just as soon as the necessary information is secured from the State board of health. Two years ago the commissioners had the campaign put on by the State board of health, but last year they handled it as a local proposition. Now they are investigating to learn which campaign was the most successful and the most economical from the standpoint of people served.

BLOWING ROCK WOMAN RETURNS FROM OVERSEAS

Miss Josie Watt, daughter of Mr. G. S. Watt, of Blowing Rock, has returned from overseas service and will spend the next two weeks at her home. Miss Watt left the States with the Brenner hospital unit, with which she served as a nurse until the unit was ordered home after the armistice was signed. She was then transferred to the field hospital service, where she remained until coming home. Miss Watt spent fourteen months in France and arrived home April 17.

ON REQUEST OF BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CATAWBA COUNTY, GOV. BICKETT HAS ORDERED A SPECIAL TERM OF COURT TO TRY TOM GWIN, THE NEGRO CHARGED WITH COMMITTING A CRIMINAL ASSAULT ON A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL WEST OF HICKORY LAST WEEK. THE TERM WILL BE HELD MAY 26.

At a public meeting held in the Presbyterian church, colored, Monday night resolutions were passed by the colored people of Lenoir condemning in no uncertain terms the dastardly act of Tom Gwin, the negro charged with outraging the 16-year-old daughter of Mr. John Hildebrand, a prominent Catawba county farmer, one Tuesday evening of last week. The resolutions are couched in no uncertain terms and show the real feelings of the average class of colored citizens of Lenoir.

A statement by one of the colored men connected with the meeting also shows the feeling among the colored people here. He says: "We wish to make known to the public that we as a whole do regret and condemn in the highest terms the low and cowardly act, the treacherous crime that was committed by a member of our race, and we want the people to know how we feel about it."

The following resolutions were drawn and adopted by the meeting: "Be it resolved by the colored people of Lenoir, N. C., and Caldwell county, in a public meeting held in Lenoir, this 5th day of May, 1919,

"First, that we do hereby regret and condemn in the highest degree the low and contemptible crime which was committed by an ignorant member of our race in Catawba county April 30, 1919.

"Second, that we wish the white people to know that we are not in sympathy with any such lawlessness and criminals, and hereby ask that the law of justice take its course and mete out the punishment that the criminal deserves.

"Third, that we are working every day to lift our people above this trait, which brings disgrace to our race as a whole, and do ask for better and longer schools, and for the aid of the white people in this, our hard task.

"Fourth, that we do hereby extend our profound regret and heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Hildebrand, his family and relatives.

"Fifth, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Lenoir News-Topic and to the Hickory Daily Record for publication.

"Done this 5th day of May, 1919, by the colored people of Lenoir, N. C."

CHILD LABOR PROVISION HELD UNCONSTITUTIONAL

In the Federal court at Greensboro Judge Boyd held that the provision of the 1918 Federal revenue act, taxing at the rate of 10 per cent the entire net profits received or accrued in any year by any company employing children under 14 years of age or employing children under 16 years of age more than eight hours in a day is unconstitutional.

SPRING TERM FINALS AT TRAINING SCHOOL FRIDAY

Summer School Opens June 4 Instead of June 3; Landscape Artist Expected; Will Improve the School Grounds

(By J. M. Downum)
Boone, May 8.—Amid general gratification the Appalachian Training School closed at noon Friday, the cause of gratification being that the school was enabled by careful and painstaking effort to run all the year without being compelled to stop on account of the plague of influenza getting hold of the student body. The superintendent and several teachers and students made interesting and helpful talks. It was announced by the superintendent that the summer school would begin June 4 instead of June 3, as had been announced a week ago.

The exercises Thursday evening by the preparatory department were witnessed by a large crowd of students and their friends. The exercises consisted of the usual class numbers, the presentation of certificates of promotion and a play of unusual interest. The large crowd was well entertained for about two hours. The brick-makers are preparing to make brick enough to finish the new boys' dormitory.

Mr. Leigh Colyer, an expert landscape artist, is expected to be here this week to plan the entire campus that it may be the more beautified. We were glad to see the many friends of the school who came after their sons and daughters at the close of school. Such good friends encourage to better efforts.

COLORED PEOPLE CONDEMN ACT OF A CATAWBA NEGRO

Held Meeting and Passed Resolutions in No Uncertain Terms; Entree Race Must Suffer for Such Cowardly Acts

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J. A. BUSH IS APPOINTED COUNTY TAX SUPERVISOR

Counties Divided Into Ten Districts Caldwell County in Ninth District—To Organize and Begin Work at Once

The State tax commission has made public the complete list of the district supervisors for the ten new tax districts and the names of the county supervisors on the part of the State for the complete re-assessment of all real estate in North Carolina at its actual value, as provided by the assessment act of the recent legislature. These appointees begin work at once, and it is expected that it will require a year or longer to complete the work of putting all the real property of the State on the tax books at its full value.

After this is done it is the purpose to assemble the legislature in special session, probably some time next summer or fall, and lower the tax rates in proportion to the increases shown in the tax assessment, the belief being that the present rates can then be cut probably in half and leave margin for ample revenue.

Caldwell county is placed in the ninth district, with Mr. J. A. Bush, Jr., as county tax supervisor. The other counties in the district are Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Burke, Catawba, McDowell, Mitchell, Rutherford and Yancey. Mr. D. M. Buck of Bald Mountain is district supervisor.

Following the appointment of district and county supervisors under the revaluation act, the State tax commission has announced a schedule of tax conferences for general discussion and instruction of district and county officials who are to have in charge the administration of this act. For the western district the conference will be held at Asheville Monday and Tuesday, May 19 and 20, beginning at 2 o'clock on Monday. The conference will be opened with an address by Gov. Bickett.

It is made the duty of the district and county supervisors and of the members of the county boards of appraisers and review to attend these conferences, and the commission is mailing invitations to the members of the general assembly and to the chairman of the board of county commissioners in each county to attend the conference to be held nearest to them.

It is expected that a two-day conference will be held at each point, and that in addition to the address by the governor, and instructions to be given by the members of the commission, there will be general discussion, particularly by the district and county supervisors, with general interchange of questions and answers, etc.

The counties assigned to attend the conference at Asheville are as follows: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rowan, Rutherford, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin and Yancey.

Following these meetings, the supervisors will begin the immense task of revaluing all taxable property in the State in accordance with the provisions of the Gray-Doughton revaluation bill. It is contemplated that all property is to be assessed at its real worth as nearly as that can be determined. This will mean an increase in values ranging from 200 to 300 per cent, it is estimated.

However, the assessments for 1919 are to be made upon the old basis, inasmuch as the limitations of time will not permit a re-assessment upon the real value principle this year. The work of revaluation is to be completed within the next twelve months, it is anticipated. Then in the summer of 1920 a special session of the general assembly is to be ordered by Gov. Bickett in order that the legal machinery may be provided for making the re-assessment upon the new basis. At that session of the legislature the report of the State tax commission as to the work of revaluation will be submitted, the quadrennial re-assessment following.

Then, too, it is contemplated that with the greatly increased values there will be a downward revision of tax rates in order that no undue burdens will be imposed upon the taxpayers of the State. The revision is to be effected by the legislature in extraordinary session next year. As a matter of fact, the act provides that the revenue to be derived shall not be more than 10 per cent greater than existing taxable revenue.

In each county, in addition to the county supervisor, there will be two other members of the board of appraisers, selection of the latter being made by the county commission subject to the confirmation of the State tax commission. Like the district heads, the county supervisors are to devote their entire time to the work.

Other members of the county board of appraisers will meet with the county supervisors when meetings are called by the latter. At such meetings the boards are to agree upon the revaluation of property, reports of the findings of the supervisors to be submitted at the time.

"Each district supervisor is to receive \$250 per month plus actual and necessary expenses incurred while on duty." "O. C. I see. Well, where's the White House?"

(Continued on page four)