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VOLUME V, NUMBER 16

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1935, WEST JEFFERSON, N. C.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

## PARKER FOUND NOT GUILTY OF MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE

Eight Sentenced to Roads as Judge Pleas Disposes of Court Docket Saturday at Noon

The most important case from a standpoint of interest tried in the April term of court, which adjourned Saturday at noon, was that of Otis Parker, charged with murder in the first degree in the death of Eli Johnson, who was shot from ambush in the Green Valley section last September. After several hours deliberation, the jury, picked from a special venire of fifty men, brought in a verdict of not guilty.

Ira T. Johnston, attorney for Parker, made an earnest and stirring plea to the jury in behalf of the life of his client. Both W. B. Austin, on the side of the prosecution, and Solicitor Gwyn, made powerful pleas, but the consensus of opinion was to the effect that the actual facts in the case did not warrant conviction.

The courtroom was crowded during the trial and the Judge was forced to resort to locked doors while giving his clear and concise charge to the jury. This is said to be the first murder trial Attorney Johnston has had in his career in which he represented the defendant without aid of any other lawyer.

The court was scheduled to last two weeks, but the docket was cleared by Saturday of the first week. This was due in part to the efficiency of the court officials, and in a greater part, perhaps, to the fact that under a new ruling, defendants may plead guilty to a misdemeanor and waive trial by jury and let the presiding jurist pass sentence. Almost all the cases were tried by this method and were, therefore, much more quickly disposed of.

Eight men were sentenced to work on the roads: George Wood, Estel Blevins, Brad and Roy Mayberry, Elijah and Roe Stout, Joe Parsons, and Elmer Ham.

John Reeves, of the Nathans Creek community, served as foreman of the grand jury and turned in a report that the county home and prison camp were in excellent condition; that the jail was in good condition, and that the courthouse needs work done on the roof as it leaks.

## LANSING COMMENCEMENT OPENS WITH PROGRAMS ON SATURDAY NIGHT

Judge Johnson J. Hayes to Be Guest Speaker for the Baccalaureate Address April 27

The Lansing High School commencement will begin Saturday night, April 20, with the graded program which will consist of two playlets—the first, an operetta, "The Magic Wood", presented by the grades from one to five; the second, "Twilight Minstrels", presented by the sixth and seventh grades.

The feature of the commencement will come on the closing night when Judge Johnson J. Hayes, of Greensboro, will deliver the Baccalaureate Address to the graduating class. These exercises will be staged Thursday night, April 25, and the high school play, "Oh! Professor", will be given Friday night, the 26th.

The public is cordially invited to attend all of these programs.

## WORKERS START GRAVELING HIGHWAY NUMBER SIXTEEN

Creek Gravel Will Be Placed on Newly Constructed Grade on Jefferson Road

Work of placing creek gravel on the newly constructed grade of five miles of the Millers Creek-Jefferson road will begin in a few days, it was learned from a representative of Nello Teer, who holds contract for grading and gaveling the road.

Grading was completed several weeks ago but it was necessary to allow the new grade to settle before the gravel surface is put on. After the gravel surface thoroughly settles the road will be given a crushed stone and oil treatment surface similar to other highways in this part of the state.

—The Journal-Patriot.

In buying oil alone auto owners in the United States are mulcted \$40,000,000 annually through shortage.

## SNOW, SLEET, AND FREEZING WINDS DAMAGE ASHE CROPS

Reports from Western States Are That Mercury Dropped Below Zero in Places

Snow, sleet, and a driving wind which amounted almost to a hurricane swept through the county during the week end and did more damage to the crops than has yet been done. Wheat is thought to be damaged considerably in many places, and the early blooming fruit trees looked as if they had had scalding water poured on them Wednesday morning when the wind finally subsided. Many car raiders were caught without antifreeze in them and were frozen Sunday night.

Reports from the Western states are that they suffered severe freezing and that in many places the thermometer dropped to twenty below zero.

## LOCAL SCHOOL TO GIVE BOXING EVENT

Fine Array of Bouts to Be Presented at Local Gymnasium Friday Night, April 19

The West Jefferson High School will present its last card of boxing contests for the current school year at the local gymnasium Friday night, April 19. The usual admission prices of 25, 35, and 50 cents will be charged.

The public is cordially invited to attend this fine array of fights. The scheduled card is full of interest and promises a good night of entertainment and interest. Almost all the boxers have been seen on the canvas before and already have an admiring public.

The bouts as arranged are as follows:

Garnet Clark, 145, Lansing, vs. Robert K. O. Stamper, 145, Glade Springs.

Herbert Jones, 155, West Jefferson, vs. Bo Griggs, 160, Jefferson.

Robert Grayson, 125, West Jefferson, vs. Grant Tomlinson, 132, Obids.

Marion Oliver, 130, West Jefferson, vs. Peck Davis, 135, Lansing.

John Mac Pennington, 100, West Jefferson, vs. Edwin Weaver, 90, West Jefferson.

R. C. Miller, 90, West Jefferson, vs. Wayne Taylor, 92, West Jefferson.

Slick Pennintov, 65, West Jefferson, vs. A. M. Jones, 72, W. Jefferson.

Tee Grayson, 74, West Jefferson, vs. Pat Caudill, 70, Smethport.

## DELENQUENT TAXPAYERS GIVEN FINAL NOTICES

At the order of the Board of County Commissioners, Sheriff H. M. Miller has begun making up a list of delinquent taxpayers for 1934 for advertising during the month of May.

Sheriff Miller asks those who possibly can to come in and pay their taxes before the order made by the Commissioners goes into effect.

## WILMORE CRAVEN IN HOSPITAL AS RESULT OF CUTTING AFFRAY

Sunday in West Jefferson Proves to Be One of Worst in Long Time; Five Men Jailed

Wilmore Craven, of the Ore Knob section, is in the hospital at North Wilkesboro as a result of a cutting affray in which Henry Thomas, local mechanic is being held without bail until it is seen whether Craven will recover. The fight took place in West Jefferson Sunday afternoon.

According to Policeman Keys, five were placed in jail Sunday charged with fighting and drunkenness. Mayor H. C. Tucker tried W. M. Kelley, an employee of the state, working on the Wagoner road, Monday and fined him ten dollars and costs for public drunkenness. Rex Craven also appeared before Mayor Tucker and was fined ten dollars and the costs for driving a car while intoxicated. Bond was given until the 20th.

## Mr. Garner Meets a Lord Mayor



Vice President John M. Garner is here seen with a distinguished visitor from overseas who stepped into the Capitol at Washington to chat with the gentleman from Uvalde. He is Rt. Hon. Alderman Alfred Byrne, lord mayor of Dublin, Irish Free State.

## DOUGHTON TO MAKE DEFINITE STATEMENT OF GOVERNORSHIP

REV. MR. STAFFORD TO OPEN NATHANS CREEK COMMENCEMENT SUN.

Rev. G. R. Safford, of Jefferson, will open the Nathans Creek High School commencement exercises on Sunday, April 21, at two o'clock in the afternoon, according to news reaching here just as the paper goes to press.

The graded school operetta will be staged Thursday night, April 25. Further and fuller details will be carried next week.

Names of winning students in the county-wide scholastic and athletic tournament which was held at Nathans Creek Saturday will also be carried next week.

## IDEAL CLEANERS PLAN TO INSTALL LAUNDRY

Robert G. Barr, manager of the Ideal Cleaner of this city, has announced that he is going forward with plans to install a modern laundry in his cleaning establishment and that he will be ready to serve the county in this capacity within the next two weeks. Mr. Barr has also announced that he expects to install a dyeing plant at an early date.

Mr. Ted Joines is with Mr. Barr again after having spent several weeks in Greensboro during the winter studying better methods of cleaning and of dyeing. He will be in charge of the work at the local shop.

## Court Proceedings as Recorded at Close of April Term

The following cases were disposed of during the April term of court which adjourned Saturday: (In each case, unless otherwise designed, the state is the prosecution and the names given represent the defendants.)

Joe Parsons, failure to pay costs, three months on road.

Arthur Hamilton vs Edna Rose Hamilton (colored) divorce granted.

Paul Parsons vs Esther Parsons, divorce granted.

Glen, R. W. Blevins vs Mabel Blevins, divorce granted.

Callie Waddell vs R. A. Waddell, et al, compromised.

Lena South, f. and a., defendant pleads guilty. Six months in jail, suspended on condition that she not associate with co-defendant, Lon Royal, obey laws in general, and pay one-half of costs on or before fall term of court.

Elmer Ham, disturbing religious worship. Three months on road, suspended on payment of ten dollars and good behaviour for three years.

Win Greer and Stell Greer, f. and a., plead guilty. Greer, now married, has instituted divorce proceedings and intends to marry co-defendant. Judgment continued until fall court.

Austin Brown and Arthur Osborne,

Eighth District Congressman to Decide One Way or Other by April Thirtieth

According to a statement made this week to members of the state press, Representative Robert L. Doughton will not later than April 30 appraise the people of the state of his intentions about entering the primary as candidate for governor. Mr. Doughton will do this, not alone from a sense of duty to friends in all parts of the state who have tendered him support, should he be a candidate, but he doubtless is giving a timely thought to the potential candidates for the congressional nomination in his district.

When questioned by newspaper men Mr. Doughton said: "My name having been mentioned so frequently in connection with the Democratic nomination for governor in 1936, I feel that I should, at an early date, let my friends, and all who are interested know what I expect to do about the matter."

"I trust that my many friends, who have either written me or discussed the matter with me personally, one or both, will not feel that I am unduly delaying a decision in this important matter, for as everyone knows, we are, and have been for some time, engaged in one of the busiest and most important sessions of Congress in my public career, and I have had little time to give to consideration of other matters."

housebreaking and larceny, plead guilty. Three years in penitentiary suspended on good behaviour.

Will Bumgarer, false pretense, continued.

Lon Royal, f. and a., nol pros with leave.

Gwyn Graham, embezzlement, continued.

Alonzo Royal, c. c. w., nol pros with leave.

Glen Snyder, dist. rel. worship, cont. in absence of Judge Bowie.

Scott Cox (Colored), non-support, continued.

Scott Gambill and Stacey Richardson, a. w. d. w., nol pros with leave.

Charley Mahaffey, nol pros with leave.

Tom Brooks, vio. pro. law, continued.

Hazard Roten, dist. rel. worship, continued.

Glen Stike, viol. pro. law, nol pros with leave.

Commy Miller, a. w. d. w., continued.

Artie Owen and Reeves Owen; Artie, nol pros with leave; Reeves, not guilty.

Vonley Nichols, c. c. w., alias capias.

(Continued on Page Eight)

## PARKWAY SURVEYED AS FAR SOUTH AS BLOWING ROCK, N. C.

REPRESENTATIVE DOUGHTON ASKS FOR EROSION WORK

"Farmer Bob" Says 80 Per Cent of New Funds so Applied Will Go for Actual Labor

Representative Doughton of North Carolina, was a White House caller a Washington last week, accompanying a mid-western delegation on the use of work relief funds for soil erosion projects.

Doughton said he believed use of this money for such projects was one of the best ways to obtain greater benefits.

"Eighty per cent of the money spent in soil erosion projects goes for labor," he added.

It is contemplated to use \$50,000,000 of the work relief funds for such projects this year, and \$100,000,000 next.

## REVENUE BILL IS \$5,000,000 SHORT

Many Proposals Brought Forth as to Making Up Huge Deficit of United States

The revenue bill—on which the fate of the state hangs for the next two years—passed the first reading in the Senate Tuesday, but a fight was predicted before it passed the second reading due to the fact that it is estimated to be \$5,241,000 short of meeting the needs of the biennial appropriations bill, now awaiting senate action.

Senator Gravelly of Nash, chairman of senate appropriations and leader of the anti-sales taxers, told newspaper men that efforts would be made to secure adoption of several rejected means of raising additional revenue when the bill comes up for second reading.

Among those mentioned by leaders of various factions as likely to be offered were amendments to:

Strike out the present exemption of nine basic food articles, estimated to increase the revenue yield by \$1,500,000 annually;

Reduce the number of exempted articles to flour, meal, lard, milk and "fatback" meat, estimated to increase revenue by \$750,000;

Put back the \$294,000 tax on hotel room rentals;

Put back the \$300,000 tax on chain filling-stations;

Put back the \$500,000 normal income tax on dividends form stocks in domestic corporations;

Increase Schedule B license tax by 15 per cent, allowing counties and town to levy their present taxes under this section, or double state Schedule B taxes and prohibit counties and town from levying any tax under the section;

Increase the maximum limitation on the sales tax from \$10 to \$15.

## HARRISON TO PRESENT BONUS BILL PRESIDENT MAY APPROVE

Harrison, chairman of the senate finance committee has completed the draft of a \$1,300,000,000 compromise bonus bill he will introduce this week in his capacity as administration leader on the issue.

An informal warning was sounded at the White House that President Roosevelt was not committed to any specific measure, but his leaders on Capitol Hill were confident he would approve the bill to be offered by Harrison.

The bill was estimated to cost \$1,300,000,000 which Harrison said was \$1,000,000,000 less than the Patman bill passed by the house, but \$500,000,000 more than the present law.

Under the Harrison proposal, the maturity date of the certificates would be advanced from 1945 to 1938.

It was understood the bill did not propose to offer cash on the present value of the certificates but to propose an exchange under which would be readily convertible into cash because of the interest they offered for the next three years.

"Construction to Begin Sometime This Summer" According to Engineer

Location work preparatory to construction of the North Carolina half of the mountain parkway is progressing at a satisfactory rate, R. Getty Browning, location and claims engineer for the State Highway and Public Works commission, reported last week.

He said "construction will begin sometime this summer. That's about as definite as we can make it now."

Plans have been completed for that stretch of the road from the Virginia line near Mt. Airy to Airbellows gap in Alleghany county. The state has surveyed 70 miles of the route to a point near Blowing Rock, and flagging operations have proceeded to the Mt. Mitchell sector.

"The state is making good progress in acquiring the rights-of-way," said Browning. "We are finding the people quite willing to co-operate in this respect."

## COMMENCEMENT BEGINS AT ELKLAND SATURDAY NIGHT

Superintendent J. B. Hash to Deliver Various Certificates at Exercises on April 25

Elkland High School commencement will begin Saturday night April 20th with the operetta "Pandora". This is a very popular operetta and promises to be entertaining.

The district seventh grade graduation exercises will be given Thursday night, April 25th. Supt. J. B. Hash will be present at this time and will deliver reading circle, perfect attendance, and seventh grade certificates.

Graduation exercises will be held Friday night, April 26th.

The commencement play, "Doty and Daffy," will be presented Saturday night April 27. This play has a number of good roles and is a whirlwind of laughs from beginning to end.

A cordial invitation is extended to all. Patrons and friends of the school are urged to be present.

A small admission fee will be charged for the operetta and commencement play.

## WHITTINGTON CONSIDERS PLACE HELD BY DOWNS

Rev. P. E. Downs, pastor of the Baptist church in this city for the past two years, will leave this week for his new work as pastor of the Baptist church in Clemmons. He may be succeeded by Rev. W. T. Whittington, who will preach a trial sermon Easter Sunday morning at the regular eleven o'clock hour.

Mr. and Mrs. Downs and family have been listed among the city's most popular and representative people during their so-journ here, and it is with real regret that their many friends will learn of their leaving.

## J. F. RHODES BUYS INTEREST IN RHODES FURNITURE CO.

J. F. Rhodes, brother of Jack Rhodes, of this city, has bought a half-interest in the Rhodes Furniture Store and expects to move his family here from North Wilkesboro sometime in the near future.

The Rhodes Furniture Store has been a distinct addition to the business part of the city since it moved here two years ago, and the town will be glad to have another member of the Rhodes family in its midst.

## BAPTIST WOMEN TO HOLD EASTER FOOD SALE SAT.

The members of the Woman's Missionary Society of the West Jefferson Baptist Church will hold an Easter food sale at the Ray Drug Store Saturday morning, April 20, beginning at ten o'clock.

Butter, eggs, chickens, cakes, pies, etc., will be on sale and the public is cordially invited to come and buy.

Those contributing to the sale are urged to get their contributions in before ten o'clock.

There remain only 10 dry states in the Union—Alabama, Georgia, North Carolina, Kansas, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.