

APPOINTMENT OF COL. WATTS TO REVENUE POST IS SEEN AS A POLITICAL REWARD BY MANY

MANY NEWSPAPERS OF THE STATE ARE INCLINED TO VIEW

Opinions As to Mr. Watts' Fitness for the Appointment Vary Widely.

DISAPPOINTMENT IS NOTED
Raleigh Times Charges "Made for Political Reasons and Not for Common Good"

RALEIGH, April 7.—While the appointment of Col. Alston D. Watts as commissioner of revenue and taxation is considered by many papers of the state as purely a political appointment but few express the belief that Watts was named for the purpose of furthering Governor Cameron Morrison's future political ambitions.

There has developed considerable opposition to the appointment and the Raleigh News and Observer, after declaring the appointment "shocks the state," says: "There had been gossip that his (Watts) name was under consideration but it was not believed that Governor Morrison would seriously consider appointing to that important position a man whose only equipment is that of organizing and directing factional political agencies."

"Governor Morrison has made an appointment which has all the earmarks of 'pie distribution' and one that will hardly meet with approval outside the political faction, largely controlled by the appointee," is the way the Kinston Free Press views the situation. "Colonel Watts' only claim to the office," says the Free Press, "was preferment on the strength of factional political service" and thinks the colonel's friends have not made "any serious claims to his peculiar fitness for this particular office, or his qualifications as a tax expert." On the other hand the Hickory Record concludes that "All papers concede that Mr. Watts has the ability" but doubts the wisdom of the appointment since "Mr. Watts does not enjoy the confidence of the people." The governor, The Record concludes, "has lost in public esteem by his action."

The Raleigh Times sees in the naming of Watts a political appointment, "made for political reasons, and not primarily for the common good. It may square governor's debt to Watts; it places both of them heavily in arrears to the people of North Carolina. If they meet this obligation, well and good, and none will be more highly appreciative than those who are now most dubious." Whether Governor Morrison has "made an end of his policy of appointing men by reason of their proven capacity for the sort of work assigned to them" is a question raised by The Times in connection with the appointment of Watts.

"Viewed from the political angle it would have been almost impossible," says the Salisbury Post, "for Governor Morrison to turn down the Statesville man. If any one man made Morrison governor it would be Watts. More than any other man Watts contributed to the election of Morrison and to refuse that man the place, asked for, especially when hundreds and perhaps thousands of mighty good citizens and party workers pleaded for him, would have been an act beyond most men. The Post thinks the friends of Mr. Watts will justify the appointment but submits that "the unfortunate part of the matter is that such an important place must be filled for political purposes, that a political

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Mrs. Furgurson Is Dead at Home Here

Mrs. Sarah E. Furgurson, widow of the late Larkin F. Furgurson, died this morning at 4:30 o'clock at the home, No. 515 Smith street, following an illness of many months.

Mrs. Furgurson was born in Randolph county on May 1, 1836. She was a daughter of Joseph and Anne Alexander.

Surviving are one brother, Robert Alexander, of Randolph county, and two sisters, Mrs. George Medallin and Mrs. Anger McCannless.

The funeral will be held at the home tomorrow at 2 o'clock, conducted by Rev. James Parker, of Randleman, and Rev. Samuel Haworth and Captain McAbee. The interment will be in the cemetery at Springfield.

Mrs. Furgurson was a member of the Friends church, this city.

Highland Scouts Will Have Meet

The Boy Scout patrol of Highland Hill, with H. I. Coffield as scoutmaster, will meet tomorrow, Friday evening, at 7:30 o'clock, in Highland community lodge. A change in date of meeting was made by the scout leader, on account of conflicting events.

"Try Prohibition 50 Years"—Landis

CHICAGO, April 7.—The country should give the prohibition amendment a trial for about fifty years to see whether it is the best thing for us or not, in the opinion of Judge K. M. Landis, who expressed himself on the subject last night at an anniversary celebration of America's entry into the war.

"I warn you that the 18th amendment is in danger of abuse at the hands of government bureau heads. Those abuses of officialdom are making it easy for a lot of persons to sell booze in bottles labeled '25 per cent alcohol, for medicinal purposes only.'"

HUBBARD IS HELD FOR AUTO THEFT

He Is Charged With Having Stolen the Automobile of Frank Allen Here.

Earle Hubbard, white, was given a preliminary hearing yesterday afternoon before Magistrate W. G. Brown and bound over to Gullford superior court under bond of \$1,000 on a charge of the theft of the automobile of Frank Allen, of near this city. Probable cause was found by the trial judge.

Ruscus Stone, who was indicted with Hubbard, was dismissed after the hearing of the case, it having developed that there was no evidence that Stone had taken any part in the alleged theft.

Hubbard took the stand and testified that Stone was not connected with the case, but was absolutely innocent.

The two men were arrested in Mount Airy after Hubbard, it is alleged, attempted to sell the automobile to a garage man of that town. Chief of Police Welch went to Mount Airy and brought the two defendants back to High Point.

Frank Allen was the principal witness for the state at the hearing yesterday afternoon. He testified that Hubbard borrowed the automobile, which was owned by Brown, for the supposed purpose of taking a young lady to church. The witness said he did not return and that the next time he saw Hubbard was in the jail at Mount Airy.

T. J. Gold represented the state at the trial, while L. B. Williams was retained as counsel for the defendant Stone. Hubbard was not represented by a lawyer.

Labor Troubles Affect the Market

NEW YORK, April 7.—The cotton market opened barely steady at a decline of 11 to 14 points, owing to less favorable British labor news and disappointing late cables from Liverpool, which reacted sharply after an early advance. May contracts here sold off at 11.71 and about 13 to 16 points net lower under liquidation and Wall street selling, but there was good commission house and local demand.

Cotton futures opened barely steady: May, 11.75; July, 12.25; October, 12.85; December 13.10; January, 13.18.

CANVASSERS WILL MEET HERE FRIDAY

Plan to Have Supper in the Commercial Club Building at 6:30 O'clock.

Plans for presenting High Point's claims to the committee looking for a location for the proposed Methodist Protestant college will be formulated at a meeting of canvassers in the Commercial club building at 6:30 o'clock tomorrow night. Supper will be served at that hour.

It is proposed to have the committee visit High Point and look over the sites that have been offered in the event that it is decided to establish the institution in the Furniture City. How local citizens will go about it will be decided at the meeting tomorrow night when suggestions are offered by those who have worked in the movement launched here.

The supper was supposed to have been served last Monday night, but for unavoidable reasons was postponed until tomorrow night.

In announcing the meeting, those in charge said that every High Pointer who has assisted in the work is invited to attend.

Williams Declares His Innocence to Charge of Murder

Clyde Manning's Testimony Regarding Killing of Negroes Is Corroborated.

STATE RESTS ITS CASE Arguments Against the Georgia Planter Started This Afternoon in Covington Court.

COVINGTON, GA., April 7.—Evidence in the trial of John S. Williams, charged with the murder of one of eleven negroes who met death after federal investigation into alleged peonage conditions, was concluded here today.

The only witness for the defense was Williams himself, who told the jury that "I am as innocent as a man can be."

Williams told the jury he had told federal agents he might be technically guilty if their statements as to the federal peonage laws were correct, and said that Clyde Manning, negro farm boss, told him the agents said Manning was as guilty as Williams was.

Williams confined his remarks to the death of Peterson, Price and Preston, three of the negroes drowned in Newton county. He is specifically on trial for the death of Peterson.

A court recess was taken when Williams left the stand and arguments were assigned to start at the afternoon session, each side to have three speakers.

The state rested its case against John S. Williams, on trial charged with the murder of Lindsey Peterson, one of the eleven negro farm hands who met death after federal investigations of alleged peonage, begun in February. Court then suspended for fifteen minutes while counsel for the defense held a consultation.

The last two of the state's witnesses who testified today corroborated the statements of Clyde Manning, negro farm boss. Manning told the jury yesterday that Williams directed the killing of the men, three of whom were drowned in Yellow river. Rena Manning, wife of Clyde Manning, testified in corroboration of her husband's statement that on the night Peterson, Willy Preston and Harry Price were last seen alive Williams carried them and Manning and Charlie Chisholm off in his car.

Sheriff E. L. Johnson, of Newton county, testified that Manning identified the bodies of Peterson, Preston and Price, found in the river, and told where the other bodies could be found.

Club Is Organized in School Building

The Community Recreation club met in the Russell street school building Tuesday night and organized for work.

The first hour was spent in playing games and learning folk dance.

Following the games a business session was held, Frederic A. Cummings acting as chairman and explaining the object of the club. Officers elected were: Robert Brown, president; Mary Annis Younts, vice-president; Nannie Kirkman, secretary, and James Ellington, treasurer.

An advisory board was elected to meet with the officers and advise in working out programs. The board consists of Rev. Roy E. Leinbach, chairman; Rev. W. A. Lambeth, W. M. Marr, Rev. George R. Brown, Mrs. Haworth, Mrs. W. A. Copeland, H. G. Owens.

The president of the club and advisory board compose the committee on constitution.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, in the basement of the First Reformed church.

Ice Prices Are Lowered

The Arctic Ice and Coal company today announced a ten per cent reduction in the price of ice coupon books. This will give High Point a lower price on ice than either Greensboro or Winston-Salem. A ten per cent reduction means a price of 72 cents per hundred pounds, instead of 80 cents, the former figure.

Two Automobiles in a Collision

An automobile driven by William Strickland, negro, collided with the police car, occupied by Officers Fridde and James, on North Main street near Roland park last night shortly after 10 o'clock. Both machines were badly damaged, but no one was injured.

The police car, according to information concerning the accident, was being driven north, while the negro was headed south. Officer Fridde said Strickland's machine was on the wrong side of the street. The left front wheel on each car was demolished.

Strickland was taken to the police station, but was later released.

Railroad Cannot Make Wage Cuts

CHICAGO, April 7.—Permission to make provisional reductions in the wages of unskilled labor on the New York Central railroad was denied by the railway labor board yesterday. The railroad took up the question to put cuts of 17 to 31 per cent into effect on April 1. The dispute was taken to the labor board after the railroads and employees had conferred and failed to reach an agreement.

Campaign Against Blue Sky Salesmen

RALEIGH, April 17.—An extensive campaign contemplating action against the activities of unlicensed "Blue-sky" stock salesmen was started today when Commissioner Stacy Wade sent telegrams to thirty-four chiefs of police in North Carolina. The telegrams authorize the arrest of anyone attempting to sell such stocks emphasizing the fact that there is not a licensed "Blue-sky" stock salesman in North Carolina at the present time.

CLAIMS HE KNOWS OF ELWELL MURDER

Suspect Held by Buffalo Police May Shed Some Light On New York Mystery

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 7.—Although Roy Harris, alias Geb Leonard, had not deviated from the original story of his alleged part in the murder last June of Joseph C. Elwell, wealthy New York clubman, the Buffalo police today after a careful analysis of his statements pointed to the following defects in his story:

Harris fixed the time of the shooting of Elwell at shortly after three o'clock in the morning. He also said his alleged pal, Bill Duncan, used a small calibre revolver. Elwell's death wound was inflicted by a bullet of large calibre and had the wound been made by a smaller cartridge he could have lived from the time mentioned by Harris until several hours later.

Harris also fixed the date of the murder as June 12, whereas it occurred on the morning of June 11. On the other hand Harris showed an intimate knowledge of many of the details in connection with the killing of Elwell, or a most thorough study of the case from beginning to end.

WARNING SOUNDED TO "BIG BUSINESS"

Mr. Daugherty Issues Statement That Department of Justice Will Be on the Job

WASHINGTON, April 7.—A general warning to business that the department of justice will counteract no violations of the law was issued today by Attorney General Daugherty.

The country, Mr. Daugherty said, should take notice that a "new day and a new way" have come and those who have been guilty of illegal practices should "not close their eyes" to the law. The statement, he added, was a modest but emphatic warning to those for whom it was intended and should be regarded as an opportunity for them to "mend their ways."

The attorney general said the department of justice did not intend to harass business, but it did intend to enforce the law. He pointed out that while certain sections of the Lever act had been declared unconstitutional, the department could still proceed under the provisions of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Mr. Daugherty was discussing specifically the situation in the building material industry, which he declared reports to the department of justice showed to be "intolerable." He said the department of justice proposed to investigate conditions "wherever warranted." Indictments have already been returned in New York and Chicago, he said, and complaints have come from Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Cleveland and elsewhere.

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MAIL POUCH ROBBED OF NEARLY MILLION IN CHICAGO HOLD-UP

Between \$500,000 and \$750,000 Stolen from a Single Sack of Registered Mail.

TAKEN FROM A TRUCK One of the Biggest Thefts in History Is Pulled Off—No Arrests Are Made.

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The abandoned pouch contained wrappers indicating that the pouch contained \$40,000 in one dollar bills; a package holding \$50,000 in currency; another containing a hundred \$1,000 bills and five large sacks consigned to branches of the federal reserve bank, each sack containing five smaller bags which held currency of large denominations.

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LEGION COMMANDER DENOUNCES HYPHEN

Col Galbraith Assails Germany Sympathy in Speech at New York City.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Hostility to the "hyphen and hyphenates" was pronounced here by F. W. Galbraith, Jr., national commander of the American legion, who, in a statement commemorative of the fourth anniversary of the declaration by the United States of war against Germany, pledged anew the soldier organization's "faith in America, its traditions and its ideals."

"Four years ago yesterday," said the statement, "we declared war against Germany. The hyphen realizing that it was an ally of our enemy, promptly took cover. The hyphen dug in and hid its head and, so long as the roar of battle sounded, it maintained an exceedingly low visibility."

"Then there was an armistice, which signified that the danger was over; and with the passing of danger the hyphen crept back slowly into view. Finally it became bold and asserted itself with its old arrogance."

"This anniversary is a fitting time to serve notice on the hyphen and hyphenates that there may have been an armistice for our late enemies but there never can be an armistice with the hyphen. An honest adversary we can admire and forgive. We never can make a truce with those citizens who affirm allegiance to two masters."

"It is fitting that on this day, reminiscent of patriotic fervor, we pledge anew our faith in America, its traditions and its ideals—one country, one tongue, one flag."

GET MONEY'S WORTH! Where? By Climbing to the Peanut Gallery.

PHILADELPHIA, April 7.—"The best place to sit in a theater to hear and thoroughly enjoy music is in the peanut gallery!"

So says Dr. Leopold Stokowski, leader of the Philadelphia orchestra.

Whenever he gets a "night off" he goes up into the peanut gallery of the old Academy of Music in Philadelphia to hear his own orchestra play.

"In the seven years that I have been leader of this orchestra," says Dr. Stokowski, "I have had the opportunity of hearing it only two or three times. On those rare occasions I have made it a rule to treat myself to a seat up here in the gallery."

"Those poor people down stairs hear only one-half of the music!"

RAIL WRECK TAKES FOUR LIVES—33 HURT

Flying Debris and Rock Believed to Have Caused Deaths in Royal Palm Disaster

SOMERSET, Ky., April 7.—An investigation of the wreck of the Royal Palm, limited, of the Queen and Crescent route near New River, Tennessee, with the loss of four lives and thirty-three injured was conducted today by officials of the Southern railway. Rock ledges near the track ripping open the day coaches was the cause of the deaths and injuries in the opinion of survivors here today.

The train, which was bound from Jacksonville, Fla., to Chicago, was on a curve when a spreading or buckling rail derailed three coaches and three sleeping cars, the dead and injured being hurt by flying debris and rocks. The injured were brought to this city, fifty miles north of the scene of the wreck.

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Bloolie! Explosion Breaks Up Night Court, New York

NEW YORK, April 7.—New York's night court, busy as a result of the police department's drive for enforcement of the state prohibition laws, adjourned suddenly early today when a quart bottle of liquor exploded.

A detective stood before the magistrate supporting a man who with bowed head was confessing that he had taken too freely of a bottle of intoxicants.

The magistrate and others in the court room gathered outside, returning only when the real cause of the explosion was learned.

"Where is the evidence?" asked the court.

The prisoner's hand moved slowly toward his hip pocket. Suddenly there was a loud report. Someone shouted "bomb" and a rush for the exit began. The detective was hurled to the floor, as was his prisoner.

ROTARY PRESIDENT GOES INTO OFFICE

Rev. W. A. Lambeth Inaugurated Head of Local Rotary Club.

Rev. W. A. Lambeth, pastor of Wesley Memorial Methodist Episcopal church, was inaugurated president of the High Point Rotary club at the weekly luncheon of Rotarians in the Commercial club building this afternoon.

Rev. Mr. Lambeth succeeds Carter Dalton, who has served for the past year as head of the local organization. The local minister was named president by