

# THE COMMONWEALTH

A Family Newspaper: For the Promotion of the Political, Social, Agricultural and Commercial Interests of the People

VOL. XXXII

SCOTLAND NECK, N. C., TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 1916.

NUMBER 19

## Delegates to Democratic Convention

Answering the call of C. D. House, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Halifax County, Democrats of the county met at their respective precincts last Saturday and elected delegates to the county convention to be held at Halifax on 12 o'clock, Saturday, April 22, and to name delegates to the state and district conventions. The following delegates from Halifax county precincts were elected:

**Scotland Neck.**  
Delegates—W. E. Smith, Ashby Dunn, A. L. Purrington, J. E. Shields, J. A. Kitchin, Stuart H. Smith, J. E. Bowers, C. H. Herring, Henry Coleman, N. A. Riddick, J. W. Madry, Dudley Bryant, I. H. Smith.  
Executive Committee—J. E. Shields, Chairman; W. E. Smith, A. L. Purrington, T. D. Kitchin, J. E. Bowers.

**Halifax.**  
Delegates—F. H. Gregory, W. B. Drewry, E. B. Clark, A. H. Hale, C. J. Rawls, C. M. Christian.  
Executive Committee—H. B. Ferguson, Chairman; W. B. Drewry, E. B. Clark, F. H. Gregory, N. L. Steadman.

**Brinkleyville.**  
Delegates—C. A. Williams, J. H. L. Glascock, B. F. Moore, T. L. Lee, J. H. Norman, Jr., J. E. Strickland, J. E. Ayers.  
Executive Committee—W. C. Vincent, Chairman; T. S. Sledge, W. A. Hayes, J. H. Norman, Jr., F. M. Taylor.

**Butterwood.**  
Delegates—Same as last year.  
Executive Committee—W. H. Thorne, Chairman.

**Roanoke Rapids.**  
Delegates—T. W. M. Long, J. T. Stainback, A. M. Proctor, W. L. Long, A. L. Clark, L. F. Brooks, W. F. Holland, Hannibal Shearin, W. C. Bass, A. E. Akers, T. W. Mullen, W. T. Vaughan.  
Executive Committee—W. B. F. Home, Chairman; M. M. Basin, T. W. M. Long, A. L. Clark, Hannibal Shearin.

**Weldon.**  
Delegates—All Democratic voters that wished to go.  
Executive Committee—E. C. Clark, Chairman; W. T. Shaw, G. G. Whitfield, F. M. Cooper, Geo. W. Medlin.

**Enfield.**  
Delegates—R. C. Dunn, Z. F. Thorne, S. T. Whitfield, J. T. Harrell, Dr. L. J. Whitaker, L. H. Whitehead, W. T. Clement, Mack Johnson, C. V. Lucas, J. R. Dickens, Dr. A. S. Harrison, G. R. Bennett, Richard Pettite, J. H. Hux.  
Executive Committee—W. T. Clements, Chairman; W. F. White, W. H. Clark, Balfour Dunn, F. Meyer.

**Conocanara.**  
Delegates—All Democratic voters.  
Executive Committee—N. Pitt, Patrick, Chairman; J. H. Darden, J. O. Applewhite, G. C. Howell, M. Cavthorne.

**Littleton.**  
Delegates—H. L. Faucett, W. Myrick, W. R. Harvey, J. W. King, W. L. Wiggins, W. J. Morris.  
Executive Committee—W. H. Johnson, Chairman; J. W. Noughton, J. A. House, B. D. Hammond, W. R. Harvey.

**Kehukee.**  
Delegates—C. J. Davenport, W. G. Hedgpech, Gus Pearson, W. V. Savage.  
Executive Committee—W. G. Hedgpech, Chairman; C. J. Davenport, Gus Pearson, W. V. Savage, W. L. Bailey.

**Palmyra.**  
Delegates—C. H. Roberson.  
Executive Committee—Rufus Cherry, Jim Downing, H. C. Bass, Louis Lucas, Tom Vanlandingham.

Executive Committee—J. H. Hines, Chairman; Rufus Cherry, S. Strickland, J. M. Downing, E. Taylor, Tom Vanlandingham.

### OAK CITY ITEMS.

OAK CITY, April 17.—Miss Mary Hines spent Sunday in Hamilton.

Rev. T. J. Crisp was here Sunday.

Monday, 17th, was Arbor Day for Oak City High School. All the young folks worked valiantly with rake and shovel. We know our school grounds, with their plots of flowers, made under the supervision of our teachers, Misses Lambeth, Reid and McLean, will be a pleasure to the eyes when Spring opens with its blossoming flowers sure enough.

School Commencement will take place on the 26th and 27th. The Primary Department will have their entertainment on the night of the 26th; the higher grades on the 27th.

On the morning of the 27th there will be a sermon and an address in the afternoon.

The Lilliputian wedding by Miss Reid's children will take place on the night of the 27th.

Misses Lizzie and Annie Mae Harrell, Lela Philpot, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Hines attended the movies in Tarboro Wednesday night.

Messrs. Mackey Savage and James Perkins of Hobgood were in town Sunday.

Miss Jefferson House is spending a few days in Robersonville.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Rawls and Miss Elizabeth Rawls, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Roberson and children of Robersonville, spent Sunday with relatives here.

Mr. Jenks of Robersonville attended church at Conahoe Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Cary Weeks and children of Scotland Neck spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. N. M. Worsley.

Messrs. Jno. Wiggins and Frank A. Wiggins of Tarboro, spent Sunday in town.

Mr. Wilbur Worsley of Bethel was here Sunday.

Miss Alma House spent the week-end with her sister, Mrs. B. M. Worsley.

Mr. E. L. Burnette of Palmyra was here Saturday and Sunday.

Messrs. John Eubanks, Leon Roberson and Misses Louise Salisbury and Tessie Roberson, were in town Sunday.

Miss Minnie Brown spent the week-end near here with friends.

Misses Lambeth, Reid and McLean, teachers of the school, spent the week-end with Mrs. C. B. Council.

Following is the honor roll for the Oak City School:

First Grade—Willie Johnson, Leatha Price, Allie Price, Naomi Price, Edna House, Ellsworth Glover, Marion House, Ernest Etheridge, Ebbie Cross, Elton Harrell, Wilson Harrell, Jackson Harrell, Desmond Cox.

Second Grade—Gladys Everett, Margaret Hines, Sarah Long Johnson, Leola House, Leola Hines, Myrilla Hyman, Mildred Davenport, Pauline Davenport, Hazel Piland, Ethel Bunting, Eloise Ross, Doris Rawls, Erma Johnson, Lillian Haislip, Esther Price, Ruth Rawls.

Third Grade—Margaret Fleming, Madeline Cross, Allie Cross.

Fourth Grade—Syble Ross, Livingston Harrell, Virginia Hines, Hugh Lyman, Annie Hurst, Lilton Hurst, Mary Lee Savage, Lee Cox, Reatha Glover, Thelma Harrell, Alma Harrell, Hazel Harrell, Olivia Harrell, Olivia Johnson, Christine Piland, Willie Lewis, Howard Brown, Rudolph Whitely, Raymond House, Paul Savage, Francis Brown.

Fifth Grade—Selma Johnson, Wheeler Daniel, Susie Rawls, Elizabeth Moore, Blanche Bunting.

Sixth Grade—Dare Daniel, Alta Hines, Pauline Johnson, Ernest Bunting and Bertha Piland.

Seventh Grade—Marvin Everett, Beatrice Daniel.

Eighth Grade—Zenobia Cox.

### YEGGMEN BLOW A SAFE IN THE CAPITAL CITY.

RALEIGH, April 17.—Unknown yeggmen invaded the office of the Texas Oil company between midnight and day and blew open the safe, getting away with nearly \$400 in cash and leaving up the consequence by which the officers can trace them. They used nitroglycerine and made so complete a job of it that the authorities are sure

# ..May 1st..

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## If You are in Debt to this Office for Subscription, you'll Receive the Following Letter:

APRIL 15, 1916.

Dear Subscriber:

We are addressing you this letter that you may learn how your subscription to the Commonwealth stands on our books. We recently changed the paper from a weekly to a semi-weekly, which is the only one in the county and one of the two semi-weeklies in the Second Congressional District. We have installed some costly machinery with which to give you a paper of this class. You have possibly noticed that we are enabled to give more reading than heretofore. In order to meet the advancing cost of raw paper and other material used in producing a newspaper, we are forced to call on our readers for what they owe us. Your subscription expired \_\_\_\_\_ which makes you due us \$\_\_\_\_\_ to date. Won't you please examine your last receipt and compare with this statement? We will thank you. After May 1st, 1916, the Commonwealth will cost \$1.50 for 12 months, which is just about 1 1/2 cents per copy—payable strictly IN ADVANCE. As an inducement to you, we will accept your subscription if carried by May 1st at the rate of \$1.00 per year. In other words, if up to the present time you owed us for a year, you would be credited till this time next year for the sum of \$2.00.

We do not want to remove anyone from our list, but circumstances force us to have cash in hand. If we get the money due us now on our books we will be enabled to replace our 34-year-old press with a new one.

Please do not let this escape your attention! Our list is now being received. Shall we hear from you at once?

### Gave Bogus Ck. for Mileage

LUMBERTON, April 17.—Ticket Agent Edwards of the Seaboard, fell a victim to a check-flasher yesterday, taking a bogus check in payment for 1,000-mile mileage book, given by W. T. Roberts, alias W. T. Buckner, who has been working here for a Charlotte contracting firm for some time and having had considerable business at the railroad the agent was an easy victim. The alleged flasher has been here for some time living with his supposed wife and baby. She went to Washington a few days ago and yesterday, it is said, she notified him that she was being shadowed and he lost no time in getting away. She came to Lumberton this morning and on the same train came a secret service man. When the woman found that the man had gone she took the next train north, but the detective had her arrested at St. Paul's, 14 miles north of here, to which place he went and brought her back. Tonight she is still in the custody of the detective.

Roberts gave the check on a Charlotte bank which proved worthless. The woman is young and pretty. The government wants Roberts, it is said, for swindling government funds.

That the crime is that of professionals and not of local amateurs. The safe stood about three feet high and the yeggmen used soap to close up the lower cracks about the door, pouring the explosive fluid into the little channel thus formed. Fuse and cap wire were used to set off the explosive. The door was thoroughly shattered and then the yeggmen pried open the lock drawers and rifled them, taking the drawers and papers out into the near by railroad yard to select those of value that they wanted. A Norfolk newspaper was found close beside the safe and this is being preserved as a possible chain of evidence that may be developed.

### Hotel Clerk Accused by Youth of Dearly Poison

Word was received in Scotland Neck yesterday that the officers of Tarboro had arrested and confined in jail, one Mr. Epps, clerk at the New Pizarra hotel. The report goes that the chief of police caught a young man who worked in the pool room of the hotel in the act of selling a quart of whiskey. He was immediately taken into custody and carried before the judge of the Recorder's Court. After hearing evidence, the young man was deemed guilty and ordered to serve six months on the county roads.

The officers had a suspicion that the "man higher up" could be known if the convicted youth were approached in the proper manner, so they called him forth and promised him liberty if he would divulge the name of the man for whom he was selling. He carefully weighed the six months and the air of liberty, and decided to tell all. The name of Mr. Epps was given as the owner of the whiskey.

It is reported that in the meantime Mr. Epps skipped town, but the wires soon covered him at Farmville, where he had gone. He is a man of good family and his friends are sorry to learn that he has been accused of acting the part of owner in a liquor case.

Mr. Julian Kitchin of Asheville is visiting his sister, Mrs. S. B. Kitchin.

For House of Representatives. I hereby announce to the Democratic voters of Halifax County that I am a candidate for the House of Representatives from Halifax County, subject to the action of the Democratic primary to be held on the third day of June, 1916. I promise, if elected to that position to do my best to represent the best interests of said county in the General Assembly. The support of the voters at the primary is cordially solicited. Yours for service.

J. L. ALTON, Essex, N. C.

GOOD HORSE FOR SALE—Apply to E. A. WALSTON. M28 4t.

### Mexicans Use a Dearly Poison

EL PASO, Texas, April 14.—Cyanide of potassium, one of the deadliest of poisons, was found in many of the small streams in the Sierra Madre when the American forces first marched through that section on the hunt for Pancho Villa and his bandits.

Chemists of dead animals had also been dragged into many of the water courses to contaminate the supply. It is information was confirmed by a chemist who accompanied the American troops on their expedition for the purpose of analyzing the water.

The cyanide of potassium was found in one stream in such amount as to have killed every man in the expedition if the soldiers had drunk of the water before an analysis had been made. In several other places traces of the poison were located.

### SCOTLAND NECK MARKET

Peasants, per bu.	.....\$1
Wheat (steady)	..... 11 1/2
Cotton seed	..... 65c to 70c
Pat Cattle, hoof 4c to 5c; dressed	..... 10c
Eggs	..... 20c
Unskimmed Sugar	..... 8c
Corn, bu.	..... \$1
Clear rib sides	..... 14c to 15c
Feed Oats	..... 65c to 70c
Fresh pork	..... 9c to 10c
Hams (country)	..... 21c
Lard	..... 12 1/2c to 15c
Cheese, per lb.	..... 25c
Butter	..... 35c to 42c
Meal (per sack)	..... 45c
Flour (12lb sacks)	..... 50c
Coffee	..... 15c to 25c
Cotton seed meal, ton	..... \$13
Cotton seed hulls, ton	..... \$15
Wool, green	..... 12 1/2c to 13c
Wool, dry	..... 10c to 12 1/2c
Bees wax	..... 24c to 25c
Potatoes, sweet, per bu.	..... \$1.20
Potatoes, Irish, per bu.	..... \$1.50
Camelina	..... 26c
Potatoes, Irish seed, per bu.	..... \$2.20

### Raleigh Letter.

(Special Correspondence)

RALEIGH, April 15.—That Roosevelt will be the nominee of both the Bull Moose and the regular Republican national conventions at Chicago 2 months hence is the growing belief of the more or less expert political prognosticators who abound quadrupally at the state capital. The recent espousal of Teddy's cause by the New York Tribune lends additional suspicion that the old party elephant is blowing the wind decidedly in that direction. In that eventuality it will be interesting to observe just how "prominent" will be the part played by Marion Butler in the conduct of the national campaign in North Carolina—in view of that telegram from "T. R.'s" best friend, George Perkins, repudiating Butler's assumed championship of the loughly colonel's cause which ex-Congressman Cowles carried on the inside vest-pocket of his political garments while the recent Republican state convention was in session at Raleigh.

Many Democrats express the belief that Wilson can beat Roosevelt more easily than he could Hughes or some possible lesser light, while others hold to the contrary view. However that may be, all good Democrats will unite in the effort to re-elect President Wilson and they will do so strong in the belief that the country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, recognizing the wisdom of his sane and safe administration, will give it hearty endorsement. But there is one thing that looks pretty certain—with Teddy in the race there will be some spectacular carryings-on for the four or five months in which the people of the U. S. will be called upon to devote considerable time in selecting our next president.

### THE ASYLUM MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATION.

As an editorial writer on the Raleigh Times (who has been absent from this State while engaged in work in several other States for a few years, until recently) indicates that the public might like to know whether the gentleman referred to in these Letters last week as having been "formerly connected with an asylum for the insane" was a patient or an employee—he is herewith informed that he was neither. But he was for many years an official and a competent and faithful one.

And what is more—he is one of the most reputable, honorable and respected native citizens of North Carolina and the reference to him in that paper is quite worthy the writer of it. The other portion of the editorial isn't worth very much, especially to the Central Hospital for the Insane, for which, and its continued and expanding usefulness to the unfortunate wards of the State, these Letters hold the warmest of best wishes and have never entertained a captious spirit of criticism of its management.

### THE POLITICAL THERMOMETER.

Among the candidates qualifying Saturday for the state primary was Corporation Commissioner Lee. The "rotation" scheme would seem to apply to him with less force than to any of the other present officials, as he is now serving his first term and those in close touch with the work of the Commission say that he is the right man in the right place—a successful business man. The other two members of the Commission, Messrs. Travis and Pell are lawyers, and good ones. After filing his notice of entry Commissioner Lee made a brief statement of his candidacy, in which he said:

"It is generally accepted as wise policy to renominate an official who has given faithful and efficient service and it is practically the universal Democratic custom. The Commission should at all times have in its membership a man of mature business experience. I have given to the office during my first term the same careful attention that in my 30 years of business experience I gave to my private business. I wish to assure those friends who have assured me of their support and all other Democrats who gave me their support in the primary of my sincere appreciation."

As the time approaches for the meeting of the Democratic State Convention, April 27, the zeal of the party workers and the average good citizen grows apace. The getting together here on that occasion of so many of the

### Board Trade Directors' Meeting

The Directors of the Scotland Neck Board of Trade held a very enthusiastic meeting in the directors' room of the Scotland Neck Bank Monday evening. The President, Mr. Henry Clark, announced the appointment of the following men as chairmen of the respective committees:

Advertising, Publicity and Entertainment—Nelson A. Ribbick, Chairman.  
Committee on New Enterprises—J. H. Alexander, Jr., Chairman.  
Committee on Public Utilities and Civic Betterment—Ashby W. Dunn, Chairman.  
Committee on Agriculture and Good Roads—W. E. Smith, Chairman.  
Committee on Trade Extension—Dunford E. Josey, Chairman.

The chairman of each committee is required to appoint two other men to serve with him on his respective committee. The secretary of the Board will cooperate with each committee.

It is urged that every member of the Board of Trade render every aid possible to these committees in carrying forward their work. Each one of these men will welcome any suggestions from time to time. It is believed that the Board of Trade is now entering upon a period of usefulness to the town and community and we bespeak it hearty support.

### ISSUING UNDER DEPT. GUILTY THIS WEEK.

The Commonwealth greets its readers this issue in eight pages, caused by the overflow of Easter ads. The mechanical force for this issue has been engaged for one day, and he had a bump on his main hand. One of the forces was called away on account of the death of his father. It is hoped that the patrons will kindly overlook the fact that the paper is a few hours late, but the above explanation covers the situation in detail.

The Commonwealth calls upon the readers to patronize the advertisers in this paper, and especially those who offer Easter goods. These are reliable business houses and you will get no "absolute" "square deal" from every one of them.

Friends of the several candidates for the leading state offices will be one of the features of that week.

At Bickett headquarters in Lenoir, Manager Bruce White is reported to be pecking along with the usual assurance of the Bickett followers.

Gov. Daughtrich's friends here are emphasizing their previous declaration that they have the winning candidate and say that the way his cause has been and is growing day by day will show the truthfulness of their prediction when the home stretch is reached.

The rotation in office for rotation's sake is still regarded as rank nonsense hereabouts. With Insurance Commissioner "Dick" Young not having even a suspected competitor, and Treasurer Lacy (the senior office holder of "em all) with "no opposition to speak of," the friends of that equally competent and experienced and faithful state officer Secretary of State Gilman are denying any good reason why he should vacate to make way for a quack who has continuously held (and is still holding) office longer than he has. The Grimes people are certainly getting up a bold front of assurance and it is reasonable to believe that they have grounds for the spirit of confidence which characterizes their denunciations and utterances.

### A. & M. COLLEGE PRESIDENCY.

The selection of a new president of the State A. & M. College at Raleigh, which the board of trustees have under consideration, is exciting much interest. Prof. W. G. Ribbick of the A. & M. faculty is regarded as one of the most likely possibilities, but there are a dozen candidates and several candidates (but one of which would fill the bill creditably.

LEEWAXAL.