

The Smithfield Herald

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NUMBER 30

CO. DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION MET

Appoint Delegates to State Convention; Nominate Co. Officers Aug. 31

The Johnston County Democratic Convention was held here last Saturday. It was called to order at 2:30 o'clock by Mr. George R. Pou and Mr. S. T. Honeycutt was made chairman of the convention. Messrs F. H. Brooks, W. L. Fuller, C. F. Kirby, Paul Grady and Thad Hinton, were appointed a committee to nominate delegates to the state convention, which meets in Raleigh, Thursday, April 20. While the committee was out at their work of choosing delegates, speeches were made by Messrs W. M. Sanders and A. M. Johnson. On motion of G. R. Pou, all democrats in good standing from Johnston shall be allowed a voice in the convention at Raleigh. On a motion of Mr. F. H. Brooks the convention unanimously endorsed the work of Hon. E. W. Pou in Congress.

Mr. James A. Wellons made a motion which was carried to endorse the state democratic administration.

On motion of Mr. Charles A. Creech, Thursday, August 31, was recommended as a day for holding the county convention for the nomination of county officers.

The report of the committee to nominate delegates was received and adopted. The following is the list of delegates and alternates:

Wilson's Mills

Delegates: C. M. Wilson, B. A. Turnage, Mrs. P. H. Massey; Alternates: D. O. Uzzle, C. B. Parrish, Mrs. B. A. Turnage

Clayton

Delegates: W. A. Barnes, E. R. Gulley, H. Johnson, C. W. Horne, Mrs. B. A. Hocutt, Mrs. J. J. Young; Alternates: Dr. B. A. Hocutt, L. F. Austip, Vic Austin, D. L. Jones.

Cleveland

Delegates: C. L. Sanders, A. M. Johnson, Seba Johnson, Mrs. John Ellington; Alternates: Jno. O. Ellington, C. T. Young, D. M. Wood, Mrs. E. N. Booker.

Pleasant Grove

Delegates: E. S. Coats, Claude Stephenson, Mrs. E. S. Coats; Alternates: Rom Lambert, B. I. Stephenson, Mrs. Claude Stephenson.

Elevation

Delegates: R. U. Barbour, J. S. Johnson, Mrs. Delma Hardy; Alternates: Delma Hardee, D. D. Medlin, Mrs. M. C. Carr.

Banner

Delegates: C. C. Canaday, W. Troy Lee, J. Willis Creech, Mrs. J. R. Barbour, Mrs. J. F. Lee; Alternates: J. F. Lee, Preston Woodall, J. M. Whittenton, Mrs. W. T. Martin, Mrs. H. H. Utley.

Meadow

Delegates: Walter Blackman, J. Mang Wood, T. L. Hudson, Mrs. J. Mang Wood; Alternates: D. J. Wood, J. J. Rose, Ellington Tart, Mrs. Walter Blackman.

Bentonville

Delegates: LaFayette Langston, E. T. Westbrook, Mrs. Leon Westbrook; Alternates: Leon Westbrook, Cub Britt, Mrs. Geo. E. Weeks.

Ingrams

Delegates: W. R. Keen, W. H. Smith, Mrs. B. B. Adams, Mrs. J. B. Creech; Alternates: Adkin Wood, W. W. Stewart, Mrs. J. W. Sanders, Mrs. William Adams.

Boon Hill

Delegates: W. P. Sugg, Rufus Creech, J. Walter Baker, Mrs. J. R. Ledbetter, Mrs. R. S. Stevens; Alternates: N. C. Massengill, T. R. Fulghum, Mrs. Floyd Price.

Pine Level

Delegates: Wiley L. Creech, Henry Crumpler, Mrs. D. B. Oliver; Alternates: N. C. Massengill, T. R. Fulghum, Mrs. Floyd Price.

Beulah

Delegates: J. W. Darden, Dr. G. S. Coleman, W. T. Bailey, Miss Janie McNeil, Mrs. C. F. Darden; Alternates: R. T. Fulghum, Dr. J. C. Grady, Wiggs Flowers, Mrs. C. L. Lawrence, Miss Emma Mathews.

Micro

Delegates: J. D. Creech, C. A. Fitzgerald, Mrs. C. A. Fitzgerald; Alternates: Dr. M. Hinnant, John W. Mzingo, Sr., Miss Sadie Bagley.

SELMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOLDS BANQUET

Business Men Have Celebration Over Completion of School; J. H. Pou Speaks.

SELMA, April 14.—Coincident with the announcement that the Corporation Commission had issued an order for the Southern Railway and the Atlantic Coast Line to build a new union station at Selma, something the people of the town had been fighting for since 1917, the Chamber of Commerce was planning to put on a program, filled with interesting features, for last night. The occasion was a kind of get-together meeting for the town, and took place in the auditorium of the new school building, it being desired to give the people here an opportunity to get a look-in and see what a magnificent home has been provided for the Selma schools, the building being now nearly completed.

The meeting was well attended, the people of the town turning out in representative numbers, while many invited guests were present. At nine o'clock all gathered around the festive board, two long tables being filled. Here the ladies were as usual indispensable and they were charming in the adept manner in which they presided. Undoubtedly every man was a suffragette and would have voted the ticket unanimously had the balloting taken place right then. The supper was abundant and comprised a tempting menu.

While the guests were seated at the tables a number of very happy speeches were made, C. P. Harper acting as toastmaster. There were speeches by Mr. Jamieson, secretary of the Raleigh chamber of commerce, Rev. A. A. Butler, pastor of the Baptist here, who has recently moved to Selma from Hertford, May- or L. G. Stevens, of Smithfield, and A. M. Noble also of Smithfield.

James H. Pou, of Raleigh, was the principal speaker of the evening and spoke at greater length than the preceding speakers. Being a native of Johnston county and familiar with past and present conditions here, Mr. Pou touched upon vital local matters and gave wholesome advice for the upbuilding of the community. He was thoroughly optimistic and referred to the many opportunities here for expansion and development if taken advantage of and utilized. His speech was replete with practical and wholesome advice and pleased his audience.

This was the first annual get-together meeting of the Chamber of Commerce has held, the organization being young, but there was evident a fine spirit of fellowship and co-operation, and substantial good is expected to follow.—News and Observer.

Fire at Farmer's Home.

Saturday night, April 15, Mr. W. H. Cole, who lives in the southern part of Ingrams township lost by fire a shed and some lumber and a lot of feed stuff. The origin of the fire is unknown. Mr. Cole in trying to check the fire got his face and hands badly burned.

Between 600 and 700 invalid soldiers are on the way from Germany to the government hospital at Fox Hills, Staten Island.

Oneals

Delegates: P. B. Chamblee, Heflin Brown, Mrs. P. B. Chamblee; Alternates: W. H. Godwin, Newsome Nar- ron, Mrs. W. H. Brown.

Wilders

Delegates: W. M. Nowell, J. W. Barnes, Miss Pearl Barnes; Alternates: W. T. Hinton, R. E. Barham, Mrs. Atlas Batton.

Selma

Delegates: Geo. F. Brietz, N. E. Ward, Dr. George D. Vick, C. F. Kirby, Miss Margaret Etheredge, Mrs. J. B. Person; Alternates: R. L. Ray, Jesse Daughtery, Frank Barnes, F. B. Whitley, Mrs. R. J. Noble, Mrs. W. H. Call

Smithfield

Delegates: J. W. Stephenson, R. A. Sanders, C. T. Hill, D. B. Hamilton, Mrs. H. L. Skinner, Mrs. T. J. Lassiter, Mrs. F. H. Brooks; Alternates: W. L. Fuller, Oscar Stephenson, W. M. Sanders, R. D. Johnson, Miss Sarah Sanders, Miss Mildred Young, Miss Ione Abell.

SECOND COTTON VARIETY TEST

State Extension Service Co-operates With J. H. B. Tomlinson in Test

The Division of Agronomy of the State Extension Service will conduct a second cotton variety test in the county this year in cooperation with Mr. J. H. B. Tomlinson of near Smithfield. A test was run here last year, but owing to the unusual drought prevailing during the latter part of the year, many of the farmers who saw the test think the differences in the yields for the several varieties used were not as marked as they would be under normal conditions. Then, too, there are a number of outstanding good local varieties of cotton in the county which were not grown in this test and which we would like very much to include in our number of varieties this year.

We have already secured a small quantity of seed, approximately one-half peck, of a number of good local varieties and the county agent is very anxious to secure a similar amount of seed of any good variety that farmers wish to have grown in this test. In sending or bringing seed of the variety to be used in the test, give us the name of it and the man by whom it was originated or grown. All seed to be included in this test must be sent in during the week as the cotton will be planted next Monday.

The purpose of conducting a variety test is to give the farmers of the county a chance to see what variety or varieties will really give the greatest return under our conditions. The prevailing soil type throughout the county is so nearly uniform that a variety of cotton might easily be selected which would give uniformly good results in every part of the entire county. Until we can settle on a single variety and keep it improved, free from mixture which occurs in the field and in the common gin, we will not be able to obtain the best prices for our cotton crop. A good many of our varieties already are lacking in uniformity and prolificacy as a result of crossing and intercrossing. Wherever a county or even a community has adopted a common variety, and set about improving that, they have increased the yield and improved the quality to a point where it commands a splendid premium. Johnston county is one of the very best cotton counties in the state and it is time for us to come to the point in progressive farming where cotton is not necessarily recognized as cotton. We have some of the very best varieties of cotton started in this county that are to be found in the cotton belt and the only way to distinguish the merits of these varieties one over another is to grow them side by side under uniform conditions. We solicit the hearty co-operation of every progressive cotton farmer in this county in this variety improvement work.

Samples of seed may be sent by parcel post to the county agent, Smithfield.

CONDOR GRABS BABY IN ALPS

Giant Bird, Shot, Falls So Slowly Child Is Only Slightly Hurt.

GENEVA, Switzerland—Seizure of a Swiss peasant's baby by a huge bird identified as a condor is chronicled by the Oberlander Volks Zeitung. The mother, while weeding her garden on the slopes of the high Hasliberg mountains, left the child sitting on a blanket on the grass. Her husband, seeing the condor swoop down and lift the infant into the air, ran for his army rifle and shot the bird which fell so slowly that the youngster was only slightly hurt. The condor had a wing spread of 17 feet 5 inches and a beak 1-2 inches in length. That it is a true condor, which is a native of the South American Andes, is vouched for, according to the newspaper, by Prof. Ochsenaul, University of Berne ornithologist. It will be stuffed and placed in the Berne museum.

Meeting Postponed.

The revival meeting which was to have started at Smithfield Baptist Church has been postponed one week on account of the illness of a child of Evangelist J. L. Jenkins.

STATE SCHOOL FIGURES COMPILED

Twenty Years See Big Property Increase; Still 94 Log School Houses

RALEIGH, April 17.—The State of North Carolina will spend this year for educational purposes the sum of \$3,267,200, not including any money raised by the counties of the State for school purposes nor any bond money. This sum of \$3,267,000, as well as a further sum of \$345,000 which is appropriated to such institutions as the Caswell Training School, the Stonewall Jackson Training School and others not 100 per cent educational in their nature, making a grand total of \$3,612,200, comes from the general state fund secured through state levies upon incomes, corporations, railroad, etc.

Practically every other state in the Union levies a state-wide ad valorem tax for schools, and there are very few states where the state rate is less than 75c, on the \$100 worth of property; and this is in addition to the local county taxes which run the total assessment for school purposes up to \$1.25 to \$1.50 per \$100 valuation.

State Help 37 Counties. Included in the total of \$3,612,200 is not only the cost of administration for the State Department of Education and all appropriations for teacher training, extension work, the medical examination of children and the support of all State institutions, but also \$832,250 which goes to supplement the county funds of 37 counties of the State in order to assure a six-months term for every school in every county. This is known as the Equalization Fund.

Each County before participating in the Equalization Fund is required, under an act of the recent Legislature to levy a county tax of not less than 39c. If the tax thus levied, is not sufficient to provide a six months term for each school, then the deficiency is made up by the State Board of Education.

It is interesting in this connection to note that, according to figures secured from the Commissioner of Revenue, there are seven counties in the State whose levy for school purposes is 30c. or under. There are 24 counties who levy 39c. or less. Nine counties have a rate of 60c. or more and 27 counties have a rate of 50c. or more. The county having the highest rate is Camden with a levy of 80 cts. New Hanover has a levy of 65 1-2 cents and Caswell 65c. The seven counties having a rate of 30 cents or under are, Alleghany, Ashe, Cabarrus, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Watauga, and Yadkin.

A Record of Progress

The record of the development of the educational system of North Carolina during recent years is one in which the State may well take pride. Here are some figures calculated to make the average Tarheel sit up and take notice:

The value of all school property in 1900 was \$1,097,564. In 1920 it was 24,057,838, of which \$11,977,272 was represented by rural school property. The average value of the school houses of North Carolina in 1900 was \$158. The average value today is \$3,009.

In 1900 there were 1190 log school houses. Only 94 of these are left. The number of school houses built from 1902 to 1920 was 6,805.

The average length of the white school term in 1900 was 73.3 days.

The average white school term in 1920 was 135.9 days. The average length of the colored school term has increased from 65 days to 127.4 days.

The average monthly salary paid to white teachers in 1900 was \$26.18 for men and \$23.41 for women. The average monthly salary today is \$69.55. The average monthly salary for colored teachers has been advanced from approximately \$20.50 to \$46.85. There were in 1920, 12,970 white teachers as compared with 6,000 in 1900. There were 1992 local tax districts in 1920 as compared with only 18 in 1900.

There were no rural high schools, and no standard high schools in the towns of the State in 1900. There are today 412 rural high schools and 111 standard high schools in the State.

There are 4,686 rural libraries and 2,125 supplemental libraries in the State at present.

The total expenditure for all pur-

MR. W. H. AUSTIN BACK FROM OKLAHOMA CITY

Reports Enthusiasm For Cooperative Marketing of Cotton Throughout the South

Mr. W. H. Austin, the president of the North Carolina Cotton Growers Co-operative Marketing System, returned Sunday morning from a trip to Oklahoma City where he had been in conference with the heads of other Organizations perfecting the plans for the sale of the next crop. He reports great enthusiasm on the part of the cotton growers throughout the South and says that the information from all sources is to the effect that a great majority of this year's crop will be disposed of through this marketing system.

Mr. Austin has devoted considerable time to this proposition and has, at his own expense, made a full and thorough investigation of all the facts and possibilities of the same. He is not receiving any compensation for his time, work or expenses, but is contributing all in the firm belief that the results will be so beneficial to the cotton growers of the State that he will feel amply repaid for his time and trouble. He is a large farmer himself and expects to raise at least one thousand bales of cotton this year. He informs us that he, confidently, expects to sell this for at least \$25 per bale more than he could have otherwise obtained.

The small farmer, who is a member of the Organization will benefit in the same proportion, and the small farmers in the Organization are to be congratulated that they have at the head of the system a man with the ability and patriotism that Mr. Austin possesses.

Prayer Meeting at M. E. Church

The mid week prayer meeting will be held Wednesday evening at 7:30 o'clock. Give time and attention to this means of grace. The subject for prayer: For that which is lacking in your faith. Welcome for all.

posers for rural schools in 1900 was \$887,710.98. The total expenditure in the rural schools of the State in 1920 was \$7,973,640.86, of which amount \$5,717,705.59 was paid to teachers and superintendents, as compared with \$770,615.69 in 1900.

A total of \$2,645,515.10 was invested in new school houses and sites for rural schools in 1920 as compared with \$40,711.54 invested in 1900.

A total of \$935,144.20 was raised by local taxation for rural schools in 1920, as against \$5000 raised in the same way in 1900.

The State appropriation for schools in 1920 was only \$100,000. The State appropriation for schools in 1920 was \$3,432,063.16.

In 1900 only \$55,000 was appropriated for permanent improvements and maintenance of State Educational Institutions. In 1920 \$3,287,200 was appropriated for these purposes.

A comparison of figures for 1921 and 1922 would show still further progress, but these figures are not available yet.

Rapid Progress Being Made

Notwithstanding the remarkable progress which has been made by North Carolina along educational lines during recent years, Superintendent of Public Instruction E. C. Brooks and other educational leaders in North Carolina realize that the State is still far behind a vast majority of its sister states in the educational opportunities which it is offering to its youth. Greater progress is being made at the present time however, than at any time in the previous history of the State, and this progress is being made, in so far as State Institutions, the administration of the State Department of Education and all other activities except the operation of city and county schools, through revenue derived from industry and commerce in the State.

An ad valorem tax on real property in North Carolina sufficient to provide the funds necessary to carry on the present program would be considered prohibit by a large proportion of the tax payers of the State if recent agitation regarding taxes may be considered at all representative of the sentiment in North Carolina with regard to taxation. In most other states, however, larger sums than North Carolina is spending on her educational system are being raised in this manner.

FIRE DESTROYS CENTER BRICK

Entire Loss Incurred Around \$70,000; Some Insurance On the Building

Early Saturday morning just before five o'clock, the fire alarm siren sounded, and it was found that the Center Brick tobacco warehouse was on fire. The entire building seemed to be in a blaze when the alarm was turned in. Both the white and colored fire companies were soon on the scene, and while it was impossible to save the warehouse, they did valiant work in preventing spread of the flames.

A high wind was blowing and the redrying plant of the T. S. Ragsdale Co., almost adjoining the warehouse, was in imminent danger. A dwelling on the north side of the building caught several times, but was promptly put out. Sparks blew to considerable distance and only watchfulness on the part of residents in the territory northeast of the burning structure saved other buildings from catching fire.

The warehouse, which was a total loss was valued at \$60,000, with about \$20,000 insurance. It belonged to the estate of the late George T. Poole. Several cars, a hearse, a cement mixer and nine bales of cotton stored in the building were among the things destroyed. One automobile was the property of Mr. T. S. Ragsdale and one belonged to the Geo. T. Poole estate. The cement mixer belonged to the T. S. Ragsdale Co., the hearse to Cotter-Underwood Co., a truck to Sanders Motor Co., and the cotton to Mr. W. H. Lassiter. The entire loss including building and contents was estimated at \$70,000.

It is not known how the fire originated.

A considerable crowd gathered to watch the fire. This was the first call of any consequence which the newly organized fire companies have had to answer. They worked swiftly and effectively, keeping the situation in hand, and taking every precaution against the crumbling of the walls after the fire had been extinguished. During the day dynamite was used to raze the dangerous portions of the walls left standing.

An Automobile Accident.

Friday evening about 7:30 o'clock an automobile accident occurred on the road near the Claude Sanders place about seven miles from town which resulted in the painful injury of Miss Bessie Faulkner. She and her brother Mr. Alton Faulkner had started to spend the evening at the home of their brother, Mr. Buren Faulkner and were driving a big Jordan car. Their lights were dim and they were on a wagon loaded with lumber before they could stop. Several pieces of the lumber shot through the windshield, completely shattering it, and struck Miss Faulkner in the neck. Mr. Faulkner received only a slight cut on the forehead, and the two negroes on the load of lumber received only slight injuries. Miss Faulkner was removed to the home of a colored man across the road and medical assistance summoned. In a very short time Dr. Thel Hooks and two nurses from the hospital were on the scene. They took Miss Faulkner to her home and rendered first aid until Dr. Tyner, who is a surgeon, could arrive to assist. It was found that several small arteries were severed which were promptly tied. The accident was a narrow escape from death but the friends of Miss Faulkner will be glad to know that she is now getting along nicely.

Tomato Seed For Tests.

Miss Minnie Lee Garrison, County Home Demonstration Agent, has received from the State Home Demonstration Agent, tomato seed for distribution to women who will turn in records of same. It is desired to find out whether the tomatoes are subject to blight. They were sent to the state office from Washington. Miss Garrison wishes all club members who want some of the seed to apply to her at your earliest convenience. The supply is limited.