

THE BREVARD NEWS

VOLUME XXXVI

BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA, MARCH 19, 1931

Number 12

RE-OPENING OF BANK ALMOST ASSURED

STOCKHOLDERS CALLED TO MEET THURSDAY OF NEXT WEEK WHEN ACTION IS EXPECTED

Depositors Committee Doing Excellent Work—Many Citizens Declare That Salvation of Community Depends Upon Re-opening of the Institution—Depositors Dependent Upon Note Owners for Recovery of Their Money—Unanimous Action Necessary if Plans Succeed—All People Interested.

Plans for re-opening the Brevard Bank, closed since December 15, are said to be nearer final completion now than at any time since concerted action was begun on this important task at the first of the year. High lights in the past week's activities are the passage of a law enabling the county and town to enter into an agreement with other depositors in the matter of "freezing" deposits for a given period of time, and a call for a meeting of the stockholders of the bank, when propositions made by the depositors will be studied and acted upon. A committee representing the depositors has been working overtime during the past several weeks in efforts to find a way by which the bank might re-open for business.

A meeting was held last Saturday afternoon, at which time concrete plans were discussed, plans that contained suggestions from depositors under which it was believed that practically all depositors would enter into an agreement for "freezing" deposits for a given time, in addition to setting aside 30 per cent of the deposits as a surplus fund, while the stockholders, in this agreement, would be called upon to place not less than \$85,000 in "new" money in the bank.

The plan was published in last week's issue of The Brevard News, having been prepared by A. F. Mitchell, a member of the depositors' committee, with the assistance of many members of the committee and the depositors.

Those who favor re-opening of the old bank, with re-organization of officers and directors, express hope that a way will soon be found for absolute agreement and actual re-opening of the institution. It is pointed out that the corporation commission may, at any time now, assess the stockholders for the full amount of the capital stock, which would work hardship upon many of the stockholders who have suffered with all citizens in the financial reverse. It is claimed that an effective agreement, whereby the bank might be re-opened, would avert this full assessment of stockholders.

The two main groups concerned in the bank's re-opening stand to gain much through such action. These two groups are made up of the depositors in one group, and the people who owe the depositors in the other group. People who have notes in the bank do not owe the bank anything at all, now. The Brevard Banking company is a closed book. The connection now is between the depositors and the people who owe the depositors. Those who borrowed money at the bank did not borrow the bank's money. They borrowed the money belonging to the depositors. They now owe the depositors every dollar of every note upon which their names appear. And every dollar that the depositors get on their deposits must come from the payment of the notes owed by the people to the depositors. These two groups, therefore, ought to work in closest harmony in the settlement of the affairs of the closed bank.

The interest of the depositors demand the bank's re-opening.

The best interests of those whose notes are held by the bank demand the bank's re-opening.

The best interests of the community demand the bank's re-opening.

The welfare of the coming generation demand the bank's re-opening.

The happiness, peace and comfort of the years of old age of the men and women now approaching that period of life demand the bank's re-opening.

To re-open, there MUST be absolute harmony and unanimous action of the depositors, stockholders and all concerned.

Over at West Asheville a few men, a very few men, have prevented the re-opening of the Bank of West Asheville, and the whole community must suffer the consequences.

A few men here can do the same thing, and continue the stagnation and suffering now being experienced in this community.

Some doubt is expressed by many people, however, as to the success of the plans. Stockholders, officers and directors in the bank must be in accord on any plan that may be adopted, and then all depositors must agree to accept such plan as they may adopt. It is because of the necessity of this unanimous action that causes some people to doubt the ultimate success of the plan to re-open the bank.

"Our people have never been unanimous on anything," one citizen remarked Wednesday. Another man standing nearby replied by saying: "Well, there has never before been a matter of such great importance to all the people of the community as

NOTICE
A meeting of the stockholders of the Brevard Banking Company, of Brevard, North Carolina is called to meet in the Court House on Thursday, March 26, 1931 at 2 o'clock P. M.
This meeting is called for the purpose of taking action in regard to the re-opening of the said Brevard Banking Company.
All stockholders are urged to be present.
This will be a public meeting and any interested citizen is invited to attend.
—STOCKHOLDERS COM.

this question of reopening the bank, and it is to every man's interest that it be done, and this being true, the folks may fool you and act in perfect accord for once."

But that is exactly what it will take to bring about the success of the movement — unanimous action. The work done between now and next Thursday, and the action taken by the stockholders at next Thursday's meeting, will indicate beyond a doubt whether it is worth while to continue efforts to re-open the bank.

TWO COUNTY BILLS RATIFIED MONDAY

Brevard News Bureau
Raleigh, March 18

Two of Representative W. M. Henry's bills were ratified in the General Assembly during the past week. One would allow the county commissioners of Transylvania county and the city aldermen of Brevard to "freeze" funds on deposit in the Brevard Banking Co. for an agreed period in order to aid the bank in opening again for business.

Another bill provides that the city limits of Brevard may be cut down in order to decrease the area of the corporation. This has been done in cases of other cities and towns which expanded their limits too much and desired to restrict them in order to eliminate street upkeep, sewer and water extension, as well as allowing sub-divisions to revert back to farm lands, instead of city lots, for assessment for taxes.

RHODES GIVEN SENTENCE IN STATE PENITENTIARY

J. Mack Rhodes, for many years president of the First Bank & Trust company of Hendersonville, was tried in Superior court last week in his city, and found guilty on charges of embezzlement and false entry. He was given sentences a minimum of two years in one case and four years in another, to be worked in the state penitentiary. Appeal was taken and bond was made pending outcome of the appeal. The Hendersonville bank closed on November 20, when the Central Bank & Trust company at Asheville went down.

CAN'T GET ENOUGH EGGS TO SERVE HIS CUSTOMERS

W. J. Mull, one of Brevard's leading grocers, expresses the hope that more people will raise chickens and sell eggs. "I can't get one-fourth enough eggs to save my life," Mr. Mull says. One of his greatest tasks is to buy eggs for his trade, Mr. Mull says, and right here it seems it is hard enough for somebody or several somebody to raise more chickens. Other merchants and dealers experience the same trouble. It is bad on a community to have a cash market for something that cannot be supplied.

P. T. ASSOCIATION IN REGULAR MEET

While attendance at the Parent-Teacher meeting, held Monday night, was greatly reduced in number because of so many members having influenza, the splendid program was most pleasing to all who had the good fortune to be present. Miss Keels substituted for Miss Strickland, who was unable to be present, and read a paper in which the importance of folk song was stressed and the parents urged to train the children in these songs.

The Music Lovers club contributed to the enjoyment of the evening with a quartet, those singing being Mrs. Mac Allison, Miss Biggers, Mrs. Ed. Loftis and Mrs. O. L. Erwin. Alvin Moore, always a favorite with Brevard audiences, was heard in two numbers. Rev. G. C. Brinkman led the devotionals.

Mrs. Shipman's Disappearance Has Caused Much Concern In the County

Much concern has been felt recently for the safety of Mrs. Norma Shipman, who has been missing since Sunday, March first. Mrs. Shipman has been operating Shipman's Cafe since the death of her husband on August 8, and lived at the Shipman home on South Caldwell street. The last known of Mrs. Shipman was when she left her brother's home at Seneca, S. C., Sunday afternoon, March 1.

During the latter part of February word was put out that Mrs. Shipman had gone to Florida, on a visit to a brother who lives in St. Petersburg. This information was given to The Brevard News and published in the local column. All relatives and friends believed the woman to be in St. Petersburg until peculiar happenings led relatives to communicate with the brother in St. Petersburg, who replied by saying that she had not been there and that he had heard nothing from her. Then a search was begun for the missing woman, the trace leading to establishment of the fact that she had left her brother's home in Seneca on Sunday afternoon, March 1.

Joe Bradley, who has been working in the Shipman Cafe and rooming at the Shipman home, left Brevard early Monday morning, March 9, and was seen going south on Highway 28 just at daybreak that morning. The cafe did not open for business that Monday. Inquiry revealed the fact that Bradley and a companion of his known here as "Happy" Brown, had taken both of Mrs. Shipman's automobiles, an old model Buick coach and a new sport model Buick coupe. Jess Smith's garage had done much repair work on the old car, and says that Bradley took the car out of the garage on Sunday night, March 8.

The fact that Mrs. Shipman left her brother's home on Sunday, March 1, in company with Bradley and Brown, and the brother's assertion that both men were drinking, coupled with the fact that Mrs. Shipman was not seen any more, and that the two young men left here a week later with her automobiles, caused relatives and friends to fear that the Brevard woman had been the victim of foul play. Relatives say that Mrs. Shipman had more than \$7000 in money in her possession.

At first there was but little credence given to the suggestion of foul play, because of persistent rumors which had been going the rounds that Mrs. Shipman and Bradley were married, and this caused many people to believe that the couple had simply gone away for a while on a honeymoon.

Relatives and officers of the law searched the Shipman home and found that all silver and much of the linen had been removed. Mrs. Shipman's trunk, however, was still in the house. Robert Merrill, who occupies the second story apartment in the Shipman home, is said to have stated to officers that he had heard much hammering, as if boxes were being nailed, in the lower part of the house during the first week in March. Other reports were that there had been much digging in the basement. Officers found evidences of this digging, and also found a sack wet with what appeared to be blood, and this was sent to Raleigh for examination to see if it was human blood.

It was reported that some apparently "wild" parties had been held at the Shipman home during the first week in March. Later developments tended to show that Bradley and Brown had entertained guests from South Carolina in the Shipman home. This was borne out, in part, last Saturday when four people, two men and two women, came to the Shipman home and were asked by officers on the look-out to come to the sheriff's office, where they were questioned. They gave their names as E. G. Durham, Mrs. Irene Durham, Edrew Stewart, and Miss Ardville Brown. They told the sheriff that they had merely called at the Shipman home as friends, and that they had been there on the previous Saturday night, and that Mrs. Shipman was there at that time. The party of four said that they came here where one member of the quartet, Edrew Stewart, was to take a bus for Asheville, on his way to Detroit, Mich. Their assertion that Mrs. Shipman was at home on Saturday and Sunday, March 7 and 8, was given but little credence, because it does not seem possible that Mrs. Shipman would have been at her home here for an entire week without some of her many friends and relatives having known it.

Mrs. Shipman was, before her marriage, Miss Norma Glazener, member of one of the most widely known families of the county. Her brother, Alf. Glazener as he is best known to hundreds of people, and a sister, Mrs. A. O. Kitchen, have been directing the search that has been instituted for the missing woman.

Young Bradley came from Madison county, but his parents now reside on Route No. 1, Weaverville, and it is said the new Buick coupe was in his name, with the address in title papers being given as Weaverville,

Route 1. It is said that officers had been keeping an eye on young Bradley for some time, his conduct being such as to cause suspicion. General comment had been heard for some time as to the reckless manner of driving that marked Bradley's appearance on street and highway since the purchase of the new car. He is about 21 years of age, while Mrs. Shipman is nearing her forties.

R. R. Fisher, Mrs. Shipman's attorney, took charge of the case this week, opened it up, with Mrs. George Nicholson in temporary charge. There is said to be a mortgage on the equipment of the cafe, the holders of which may, it is said, sell the business, and the opening of the cafe is said to have been done to protect the interests of all connected with the business.

Intensive search is being made for the two young men, Bradley and Brown, and every effort is being made to locate Mrs. Shipman, if living. Two theories are advanced by citizens here, one being that Mrs. Shipman has decided to leave it all behind, and has gone away with Bradley, and that they are already married, or were to be married upon their meeting at some distant point. It is pointed out that she has been most unhappy and upset since Elzie Shipman, her husband, committed suicide on August 8, last year, and that her going is to seek a new home amid new surroundings.

The other theory, and the one that seems to be more generally accepted, is that violence has been done to Mrs. Shipman, and those perpetrating the crime have taken her money and other possessions and fled to new fields. It is this probability that causes such great concern to relatives of the missing woman.

In the meantime, the question uppermost in the minds and on the lips of people throughout the county is that of a few words:

"Where is Norma Shipman?"

BAPTISTS ADOPT UNUSUAL PLANS

Officers and members of the Brevard Baptist church have adopted a novel plan for raising money necessary to meet payments now due on the church building. A series of notes in denomination of \$20.00, due on November first, paying six per cent interest, are being offered to members and friends of the church. These notes are secured by chattel mortgage upon the crops being planted on 60 acres of land. These crops will consist of Irish potatoes, cabbage and beans. The land is being donated for the purpose, and all labor on the crops is being done by members of the church, hence the proceeds from the crops will belong to the fund for retirement of the notes.

In addition to the fifty acres, many individual members are planning to grow small crops and give it all to the church. In these cases the church is furnishing the fertilizer and seed. Only small plots are being thus planted by individual members, but taken in the aggregate will produce a lot of potatoes, cabbage and beans, which will be sold and the proceeds turned over to the church.

The several committees in charge of the plan state that response by the members and friends of the church has been most gratifying.

LADIES NIGHT TO BE HELD BY BREVARD KIWANIS CLUB

Ladies Night, always looked forward to by Brevard Kiwanis and their ladies, will be observed next week. Rev. Paul Hartsel and Ralph Ramsey will be in charge of the program. At the meeting last Thursday Prof. S. P. Verner was added to the membership. The club's activities since reorganization in January, is being recognized throughout the Carolina district as outstanding.

MAYOR WALKER'S REIGN IN NEW YORK INVESTIGATED

Mayor Jimmie Walker's official acts as mayor of New York city are being investigated, because of charges of incompetency and graft in public life of the metropolis. Mayor Walker is vacationing in and about Hollywood, and seems little concerned about the investigation. Serious charges have been made against the funny mayor of the big city.

CARRIER HAD NOT QUALIFIED AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BREVARD BANK

H. Carrier, of Rockbrook Camp, in a statement to The Brevard News says that he does not consider himself a member of the board of directors of the old Brevard Banking company. Mr. Carrier was elected to the board to succeed the late W. S. Ashworth, but, according to the report made by the auditors and examiners, Mr. Carrier had never qualified as a member of the board.

BOYLSTON ROAD IS TAKEN OVER BY THE STATE AS HIGHWAY

Long Sought Desire Finally Accomplished by Commissioner Stikeleather

WILL PROVE BIG ASSET TO TRANSYLVANIA CO.

Cuts the Distance to Asheville Down by at Least 12 Miles

Transylvania county's portion of Boylston road has been taken over by the state for state maintenance, largely as a result of tireless efforts put forth by Hon. James G. Stikeleather, ninth district highway commissioner. The commission held a meeting in Raleigh last Thursday, at which time Mr. Stikeleather succeeded in having the state take over several stretches of highways in Western North Carolina, among which was the Boylston road that is of such tremendous importance to this county. The road is new a part of the state highway system and will be so maintained.

Kistler, of Morganton, commissioner in the eighth district in which Henderson county is included, opposed the action, as he is reported to have done all the while. The link of highway between Brevard and Asheville lying in Henderson county was not taken over by the state, but the link in Transylvania county and the link in Buncombe county from the Henderson county lie toward Asheville, were taken over. The new route that will be state-maintained runs from North Brevard by Pisgah Forest entrance, across Little Mountain, connecting with the highway in Henderson county at the Henderson line. The new route leaves the Mills River road near Sandy Bottom, turns to the right, and joins highway No. 20 at Arden. This route cuts down the distance between Brevard and Asheville by twelve miles.

Transylvania county has been making effort for the past three years to have the state take over this road, but has been opposed by influences believed to have been centered in Hendersonville. Citizens of this county have expressed profound gratitude to Mr. Stikeleather for his activity and interest which led him in the fight until he finally was victorious.

The fact that the United States government is deeply interested in the Boylston road helped to bring the matter to a successful conclusion. This road skirts the Pisgah National Forest for several miles, and it has been said that the government plans extensive work along this route in the establishment of trails leading from the highway into and through the forest.

HUNDREDS ATTEND FUNERAL SERVICES FOR ELIJAH OWEN

Funeral services for the late Elijah Owen, who died last Wednesday afternoon at the Owen home in North Brevard, were held at Lake Toxaway Friday morning at 11 o'clock. Rev. J. K. Henderson and Rev. Paul Hartsel conducted the rites and an immense throng of relatives and friends attended the services, giving evidence of the high esteem in which the deceased had been held.

J. K. Mills, Joe McCrary, John Cantrell, Jim Neely, Joe Johnson and D. L. English were pallbearers, and the Brevard Undertaking company had charge of the arrangements.

NEW PLANS TO PASS

All of the bills relating to reorganization of the government have made some progress during the week, including those to establish a personnel department, a purchasing agent, reorganization of the Department of Agriculture, establishing a separate banking department, appointment by the governor of the members of the Corporation Commission, but time will be required to get them through. A bill to create a new Department of Labor, making the commissioner appointive, and specifying divisions, is under way. The Finance and the Appropriations bill are by no means complete and will require fully a week after they are reported out.

INSURANCE BILL LOSES

The bill to provide for a State Insurance fund for insuring employees under the Workmen's Compensation act was killed in the Senate, but other bills to amend the Compensation Act, interpreting and modifying it, will probably pass.

OMNIBUS BILL, NAMING MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, HAS BEEN INTRODUCED

The omnibus bill, naming members of the county board of education, has been introduced. It usually brings out many local fights and efforts to turn out boards by other factions. The omnibus bill naming magistrates has not yet made its appearance.

PROGNOSTICATORS ARE MOVING UP THEIR DATES FOR ADJOURNMENT

Prognosticators are moving up their dates for adjournment, most of them now believing it will be April 1 before the General Assembly can finish its work.

FIFTEEN HUNDRED BILLS INTRODUCED

A summary of the activities so far shows that almost exactly 1,500 bills have been introduced, 1,050 in the House and 450 in the Senate. Up to last Saturday only 460 had been ratified, 357 House and 103 Senate bills. Last week 180 bills were introduced and 105 ratified and of this number 81 were local and 24 were public or

HORSE RACING BILL OVERSHADOWED ALL THINGS LAST WEEK

Schools, Roads, Finances Laid Aside While Buncombe Bill Was On Deck

FARMERS INVADE CITY TO DEMAND ACTION

No Chance of Adjournment Before April 1, Is Now Prognosticated

Neither the school bill nor the highway bill has created more interest in any one week than has the Buncombe racing bill, which has occupied the center of the state for the past week and was finally given an unfavorable report by the Senate committee Friday, after that committee had previously given it a favorable report. The entire Senate body also reversed itself Friday night, tabling the bill and putting the "clinch" on it, so it cannot come up again except by two-thirds vote.

The bill provided that racing tracks and devices may be erected in Buncombe county at a cost approaching half a million dollars, to be rented at \$5,000 a day for 36 days a year for horse and dog racing and operation of pari-mutual devices—gambling machines—which church people and moral forces assailed as steps toward legalizing gambling and making Buncombe a Monte Carlo of vice and degeneration. Proponents pointed to the money Buncombe would receive, saying it would help bring back that county from its financial debacle. Women led the promoters and formed a formidable lobby. The House passed the bill by a heavy margin and the Senate passed it on second reading, when it was re-referred to the committee on Counties, Cities and Towns, which later reversed its position.

ARMY OF FARMERS

"Embattled farmers" descended upon the General Assembly last Thursday by the hundreds and from all over the state, demanding tax reduction on land. The Finance committee, which have been through torment in their efforts to find the \$19,500,000 to operate the schools for six months without an ad valorem tax, heard them, as it has heard merchants and manufacturers who are opposed to sales or production taxes. While probably close, doubt is expressed that a sales tax can be enacted, although one will be necessary to carry out the six months school plan. The committee is probably approaching, but has by no means arrived, at a solution of the problem. It may yet be necessary to continue the present plan with an increased Equalizing Fund.

While the 70th day is about here, the General Assembly members are by no means near their return home. Most of the important bills are yet to be thrashed out on the floors of one or both houses. The local government bill is passed and out of the way, and is to be printed and distributed at once. But amendments are being added to it. The highway measure has passed both houses, but conference committees are still trying to iron out minor differences.

INSTALL OFFICERS AT EASTERN STAR

Installation of officers was held at the regular meeting of the local order of Eastern Star last Tuesday night. Mrs. Besse Pickelsimer, worthy matron, appointed for the ensuing year as chaplain, Geraldine Barrett; marshal, Mrs. Mariah Derby; organist, Willie Aiken; the five star points, Catherine Moffitt, Mrs. Willie Zachary, Mrs. Ida Pruett, Mrs. Polly Jerome and Mrs. Lella McNeely respectively; warder, Mrs. C. O. Robinson, and sentinel, Dr. J. F. Zachary.

Short addresses were made by Mrs. Arabella Houston, past matron, and Mrs. Besse Pickelsimer, worthy matron and S. F. Allison, worthy patron.

A gift was presented Mrs. Houston for her faithful service during the past year.

Following the closing of the meeting a party was enjoyed celebrating the second birthday anniversary of the local order. A beautiful birthday cake holding two candles was placed in the center of the circle formed by the members. Mrs. Houston, as mistress of ceremonies, conducted riddles and read humorous selections. Colors of St. Patrick predominated in decorations and season thoughts were carried through the program. Coffee and sandwiches were served before the birthday cake was cut.

Continued on back page