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MADISON REPUBLICANS DECLARE WAR ON MADISON DEMOCRATS

JUNIOR BASEBALL LEAGUE PLANNED

The formation of a Baseball League for the younger players of Madison County is being planned with the following teams expected to enter: Marshall, Petersburg, Walnut, Sandy Mush, Walnut Creek, White Rock. Representatives of these teams are invited to meet at the

MASS MEETING RESOLVES TO BOYCOTT CERTAIN OFFICERS

News-Record office on Saturday, May 18, at 10:00 A. M. Any other team desiring to enter, send representatives to this meeting. League officials will be elected and rules made concerning players and the season schedule.

MARS HILL

MARS HILL GARDEN CLUB HAS PROGRAM ON POOLS

The garden group of the Woman's Club had charge of the regular program given on Thursday evening of last week. Mrs. Nathan Runyon was program leader. Miss Bonnie Wengert gave a reading, "My Garden". The music consisted of two songs by a group of four college boys, assisted by Miss Whittington. Prof. S. O. Trentham was the main speaker. He had on display a large number of wild flowers and plants suitable for use around pools and lakes. Another interesting feature of his talk was picture that he had taken of a number of lakes in Western North Carolina. The program was given in the College auditorium in order to throw the pictures on the screen. A short business and social meeting concluded the program in the home of Mrs. Ashe Carter with Mrs. O. E. Sams and Mrs. Bryson Tilson as assistant hostesses. Officers for the garden group elected at this time were: president, Mrs. V. E. Wood, vice pres., Mrs. J. B. Huff; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. W. F. Robinson.

COST OF GOVERNMENT

The University News Letter has collected interesting information on the cost of government, a much discussed if not exactly popular subject of conservation and newspaper comment at the present time. It says:

We hear a great deal about the cost of state government, the cost of county government, and the cost of municipal government. What really matters is not what any one field of government cost, but what government in the aggregate within and given area costs. A state may have inexpensive state government, and expensive local government, or some other combination. The point that should interest taxpayers in North Carolina is how much does all government in the state cost, and how we compare with other states in this respect.

The United States census bureau has recently published the results of its study of the cost of state and local governments covering the year 1932. This report shows that for North Carolina the aggregate cost of all government within the state was a little more than 129 million dollars. The cost, reduced to per capita basis, was \$40.07, and North Carolina ranked forty-second among the states. The only states where all government was cheaper were South Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky, Alabama and Georgia. The cost in Georgia, the cheapest state, was \$33.62, or \$6.45 per capita below North Carolina. The cost in Nevada, the highest state, was \$131, or more than three times the cost in North Carolina. The average per capita cost for all states was \$76.80, or nearly twice the average for North Carolina.

It should be borne in mind that the study covers the year 1932, and that the cost of government in North Carolina has been materially reduced since that year. This is especially true of county government, due to state operation and maintenance of roads and schools, at an aggregate saving of several million dollars.

Governmental costs are classified under several headings. First covers operation and maintenance of general departments, or current operating

costs. The total for this ran to nearly 84 million dollars. This covers general government; protection to person and property; health and sanitation; highways; charities, hospitals, and corrections; schools, libraries; recreation; development and conservation of natural resources; and miscellaneous, the main item being pensions.

Besides the current operating costs there are the costs involved in the operation and maintenance of public service enterprises, which are revenue producing; interest on debts; and outlays, mainly for permanent improvements. For North Carolina interest is a large item, running to nearly twenty-eight million dollars.

The total cost of state government for the year 1932 was almost exactly 47 million dollars. The cost reduced to a per capita basis was \$14.54, and North Carolina ranked forty-first among the states in this respect. One-third of this sum was for interest and outlays.

In view of the fact that our state government has greatly relieved the counties and municipalities of their former functions, our rank of forty-first in per capita cost of state government is surprisingly low. Evidently the state is stretching its dollars. The few states that had cheaper state government were mainly in the South. State government was more expensive per capita in South Carolina \$21.97; Virginia \$17.47; Florida \$16.94; Arkansas \$20.95; Louisiana \$30.38; Oklahoma \$17.92; and Texas \$18.09. In only one southern state, Mississippi, was state government as much as one dollar per capita below the cost in North Carolina. Strange but survey.

The aggregate cost of county government for 1932 was \$46,439,000. Reduced to a per capita basis, the amount was \$14.37, and North Carolina ranked 17th among the states. In other words, county government in North Carolina in 1932 was expensive compared with other states, although by that time counties had been considerably relieved by our state government. The main relief to counties, however, has come since 1931-32. In many states counties are not important units of government. The average per capita cost for all counties in the United States was \$12.

Considerable Feeling Over Sprinkle's Legislation Being Defeated By Small Group

COMMISSIONERS DEMAND RESIGNATION OF COUNTY ATTORNEY AND REDUCE SALARIES OF OTHER DEMOCRATIC OFFICE HOLDERS

The Republican organization of Madison County is planning to make war on the Democratic office holders of Madison County who hold office by virtue of special legislation passed in 1931 when N. B. McDevitt was representing the County. At that time numerous boards were created in Madison and these boards were given power to elect the tax collector, the auditor, the county attorney, the county physician, and to name the tax listers. In fact, a Democratic organization was set up in Republican Madison County and two legislatures since that time have refused to break up this machine despite the fact that the Republican representative, J. Herchel Sprinkle, was elected by approximately a two-thirds majority. Bills introduced by the representative designed to break up this machine are blocked by a group of Democrats and are reported unfavorably by the committees. The group of Democrats who assist in blocking Mr. Sprinkle's bills is said to be composed of Mr. Zeb Whitt, chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee of Madison County, Mr. John McElroy, Mr. W. K. McLean, Mr. J. O. Wells, Mr. D. M. Robinson, Mr. L. C. Reed, Mr. J. K. Wilson, Dr. W. A. Sams, Mr. Fred Freeman and others. War, therefore, is declared on those of the group who hold office in Madison. At a mass meeting last Saturday, called by Mr. Calvin Edney, chairman of the Republican organization of Madison County, speeches were made denouncing the tactics of the Democratic organization of Madison County and resolving to boycott the members of this group who are responsible for the defeat of Mr. Sprinkle's bills. Following this, the Commissioners met and wrote the following letters to the various officers.

CUT SALARY OF J. K. WILSON AS TAX COLLECTOR

May 13, 1935.

Mr. J. K. Wilson, Marshall, N. C. Dear Sir:

We are advised by legal counsel that your appointment as tax collector is illegal. We are further informed that the parties who appointed you as tax collector raised your salary recently from \$100.00 per month to \$125.00 per month.

We do not recognize that you are legally holding your office, but that you are acting as a de facto officer only. We recognize, however, that the collection of taxes is a necessary function of government, and we shall attempt to pay you \$100.00 per month while you are acting in that capacity so long as we have general county funds with which to pay it. This, we consider, a reasonable salary for your services.

This arrangement will continue until the legality of your appointment can be determined.

Done by order of the Board of County Commissioners, this the 13th day of May, 1935.

LIMIT SALARY OF COUNTY AUDITOR

May 13, 1935.

Mr. Lacey Reed, Marshall, N. C. Dear Sir:

We, the Board of County Commissioners for Madison County, this 13th day of May, 1935, notify you:

1. That we do not recognize the legality of your appointment as auditor for Madison County by the chairman of the various purported boards of Madison County who saw fit to appoint you, but, so long as,

2. You act as de facto auditor, we hereby give you notice that we shall only allow you three dollars (\$3.00) per day and mileage for the days you are actually engaged in the performance of your duties.

At each regular meeting we shall pass upon and allow you such amount of time as we consider necessary for the reasonable performance of your duties for the preceding month. This arrangement will continue until the legality of your appointment can be determined.

Done by order of the Board of County Commissioners upon advice of legal counsel, this the 13th day of May, 1935.

ASK IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF JOHN McELROY AS COUNTY ATTORNEY

May 13, 1935.

Mr. John H. McElroy, Marshall, N. C. Dear Sir:

We are advised by legal counsel that your appointment by the members of the purported boards of Madison County is illegal.

We find that the interests of the County Commissioners and the interests of the purported boards in Madison County attempted to be set up by the North Carolina legislature of 1931 conflict and that it is impossible for any one attorney to represent these boards and the County Commissioners as well. The Board of County Commissioners feel that inasmuch as the said Commissioners are responsible for the affairs of Madison County that they should have, and by law do have, the right to select their own legal counsel.

We, therefore, respectfully request that you tender to us your resignation as our attorney-inasmuch

as we consider that you are now acting in only a de facto capacity.

We have ordered an audit of all the affairs of Madison County for the last two years, and we note that you have retained out of tax funds collected for the county fees to yourself as attorney. We ask that you turn in all funds collected by you, and compensation legally due you will be paid in the regular manner.

Done by order of the Board of Commissioners, this the 13th day of May, 1935.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR MADISON COUNTY

W. M. Farmer, Chairman
T. A. Higgins
B. E. Guthrie

ASK ROBINSON TO PROVE RIGHT TO NAME TAX LISTERS, ETC.

May 13, 1935.

Mr. D. M. Robinson, Marshall, N. C. Dear Sir:

The Board of County Commissioners for Madison County at its last regular meeting on May 6, 1935, appointed tax listers for Madison County. We are informed that you with certain other parties claim to constitute a tax commission and that you claim as such tax commission the right to appoint said listers.

We are advised by legal counsel that the purported tax commission of which you claim to be a member is an illegal body and as such has no legal power or right to function.

We are giving you this notice so that, if you claim any right to appointment of listers and assessors, you may bring your action to determine this matter and the public welfare of the county will not suffer by any delay.

Done by order of the Board of County Commissioners, this the 13th day of May, 1935.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR MADISON COUNTY

W. M. Farmer, Chairman
T. A. Higgins
B. E. Guthrie

REDUCE COMPENSATION OF COUNTY PHYSICIAN TO FEE BASIS

May 13, 1935.

Dr. W. A. Sams, Marshall, N. C. Dear Sir:

As you are no doubt aware any pay received by you from Madison County has to be paid from the general county fund. This fund is not sufficient to pay current expenses and is now largely overdrawn. The County Commissioners of Madison County are responsible, and it is incumbent upon them, to pay any and all legal claims against the County when there are sufficient funds to do so.

The County has reached the stage in which it is impossible to pay you the price fixed by the Board of Health. We are legally advised and are of the opinion that the board which appointed you, if it ever had any legal right to function, had divested itself of that power to appoint prior to the attempted appointment of you as county physician.

We realize that the sick at the jail and county home must be cared for when the necessity arises, but we are of the opinion that the work should be done at the current rates in Marshall. We are willing to pay you when we have funds with which to do so upon this basis.

If you care to proceed with the work as above outlined, we shall thank you to let us know and enter into an agreement with us to that effect. Otherwise we feel it incumbent upon us to secure the needed medical attention from some other source.

Done by order of the Board of Commissioners, this the 13th day of May, 1935.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR MADISON COUNTY

W. M. Farmer, Chairman
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PERSONALS

The first group of college students to return for the summer was Misses Bobby Grey Elmore and Mary Evans who came last Friday from Carson-Newman college. With Miss Elmore was a former classmate in Berea College, Miss Daisy Millel, of Hazel Green, Ky. who came down for the graduation of her friend and from there home with her for a visit.

Mrs. Rogers, of the Carson-Newman faculty, came along with the group and spent the week-end here with Mrs. Elmore and visiting other friends, en route to Washington to spend the summer with her daughter there.

Miss Mildred Taylor and Miss Ludwig, nurses from Vanderbilt University, were guests of Mrs. R. S. Gibbs last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Gibbs, Jr. of Hendersonville spent last week-end here with Mr. Gibbs' parents.

Several teachers who live in this section have recently returned. Among them are: Miss Bonnie Ammons from Snow Hill, Miss Kathleen Ammons, from Bryson City; Miss Marye Carter, from Duplin County; Miss Lizzie Jarvis, from Candler; Miss Kathleen Elmore, from Wilmington.

Friends of Mrs. R. R. Riddle will be glad to learn that she has decided to remain at her home here for a while. She had been traveling since Christmas with her husband, until a few weeks ago when they returned to this section. Mr. Riddle, accompanied by his son, S. B., and daughter, Miss Wilma, after working about two weeks in this section, have gone on toward Washington.

Prof. J. W. Huff and family expect to move Thursday to their property on the Marshall road, recently bought from Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Fisher.

Mrs. R. S. Gibbs spent several days recently visiting friends and relatives in Asheville. While there she attended a birthday party given for her sister, Mrs. J. V. Hildebrand at her home in West Asheville. Others present for the occasion were: Mrs. J. D. Brown, Mrs. Nell Singer, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hildebrand, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Hildebrand, Mrs. Grace Owen, Miss Margaret Owen, Miss Shirley Gibbs and Mr. R. S. Gibbs.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Allen, Charlotte, came up for a few days with Mrs. Allens' parents last week.

Mr. R. S. Gibbs has just returned from a ten days visit to his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Wilkins, Jr. in Nashville.

Among the large number expected to come to Mars Hill for the summer is the family of Dr. Zeno Wall, of Shelby. They will occupy the Gibbs cottage and expect to come by the end of the month. Several other Shelby families desire to come up for the summer if they can secure houses.

"Where have you been the last four years?"
"At college, taking medicine."
"And did you finally get well?"

FIGURES DIME LETTER CHAIN WOULD COST EVERYBODY \$30

Nashville, Tenn., May 4—(AP)—A mathematician has figured that if a dime letter chain worked perfectly here in Davidson county everybody would eventually wind up with a \$300 loss.

What started Dr. C. R. Fountain of Peabody college to thinking about it all was that somebody sent him one of the chain letters asking him to contribute a dime to one of six persons named in the letter and send copies of the letter to five other persons. The letter said that a participant may get as many as 15,000 dimes.

"If there were just one chain and it was confined to Davidson coun-

ty and if everyone was fair about it," Dr. Fountain finally concluded, "everybody in the county would eventually get the 15,000 dimes."

"But in order to bring that about the chain would have to keep spreading until it reaches everyone 15,000 times when each person will have to give back all the dimes he takes in."

"Then we will all be back where we started—only each one will be out the amount he spends on postage, or about \$300."

Meanwhile the flow of mail through the Nashville postoffice continued to amount by thousands of letters a day while Uncle Sam getting two or three cents every time somebody gets a dime.

Tramp—Kin you let me have a cake o' soap, mum?
Housewife—Do you mean to tell me that you really want some soap?

Tramp—Yes, mum. Me partner's got the hiccups an' I want to scare him.—Ex.

The victim of an accident glanced thoughtfully at the caller's card. "I think you're what they call an ambulance chaser, aren't you?" demanded the injured one.

"That's rather a harsh name," replied the lawyer, blandly. "Why not call me a settlement worker?"—Ex.

"Why is it that you fat men are always good-natured?" somebody once asked President Taft.
Mr. Taft replied, "We have to be good-natured, seeing that we can neither fight nor run."—Ex.

WELLS SUCCEEDS ROBINSON AS COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Education Board As Now Constituted Retains Miss Fleming As Assistant

Like a bolt of lightning out of a clear sky came the announcement Tuesday that Mr. D. M. Robinson had been replaced by Mr. J. O. Wells, as superintendent of the Madison County schools. So far as we

can learn no charges were preferred against Mr. Robinson and no reason has been given for the change.

Mr. Robinson has held the office two years, succeeding C. M. Blankenship. Miss Ethel Fleming, assistant for Mr. Robinson was retained for Mr. Wells by the board now constituted as follows: Lee Ramsey, Chairman, Joe Worley, Chas. Wayne Peek.