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CHAIRMAN OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS REPLIES TO L. C. REED

Denies Negligence on The Part of County Commissioners

In the following article the Chairman of the County Commissioners replies to an article which appeared in the News-Record last week. Mr. Farmer says:

In last week's News-Record Mr. L. C. Reed, County Auditor, charges the County Board of Commissioners with negligence in the performance of their duties. In the interest of those who are not acquainted with Mr. Reed, I, as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, will make a short reply. Those who know Mr. Reed will need no explanation.

Mr. Reed suggests borrowing \$4,000 to pay the State an obligation owed to it by the Board of Education so that the State can pay the County the \$15,000, which it owes to the County. He knows that the general county fund and the Board of Education fund are two separate entities and taking from either to pay obligations of the other is a policy which he himself condemns in this very article by refusing to countenance the use of the Sinking Funds to pay off any other debts than those for which the fund was established. If we eliminate any distinction in the funds, why should the County borrow \$4,000? The State can either pay us \$15,000 and we can refund \$4,000 or it can pay us \$11,000 deducting the amount owed it by the Board of Education. There is no reason for the County to borrow to pay the State when the State owes us more than we owe it.

The printed contract which Madison County has with the State is identical with that of other counties, as Mr. Reed states, with this exception: The name of Eyer & Co. to whom the \$15,000 owed us by the State was assigned was not filled in. The contract was approved by Mr. McElroy when this defect appeared on its face. I should term such approval gross negligence. Now the State is taking advantage of the absence of the name of Eyer & Co., when it was definitely understood that the State was to pay Eyer & Co., not Madison County, and refusing to pay until Madison County takes up an obligation which the Board of Education later incurred with the State. The whole thing is a result of Mr. McElroy's negligence in approving the contract which he himself admits. Mr. McElroy's resignation as County Attorney has been requested by the present Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Reed's philosophical discussion of the difference between a Republican and a Democrat, although intensely interesting, has no place in our county government or its affairs. Naturally it depends entirely upon the individual. Any individual, be he Republican or Democrat, who uses his official position deliberately to mislead the people is a menace to society. This is particularly true when by virtue of that position he is exercising jurisdiction over the affairs of a people who are predominantly opposed to him and the policies for which he stands.

I feel that the people of Madison County expressed their confidence in Mr. Higgins, Mr. Guthrie, and myself by electing us to represent them as County Commissioners. I regret that newspaper articles to state accurately the position of the Board of Commissioners have become necessary, but when unfair and misleading statements appear in justice to the Board, they must be corrected. W. W. FARBER, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

RETURNED MISSIONARY IS AT WALNUT

Miss Jane A. Hyde, of China, is expected Saturday to visit her sister, brother and family at Walnut, Miss Anna Hyde and the Rev. James L. Hyde and family.

Decoration at Stackhouse

There will be a decoration of the Stackhouse graveyard the fourth Sunday in June, June 23. The same day in the afternoon the Thomas graveyard will be decorated.

BOX SUPPER AT PETERSBURG

A box supper will be given at the Center School House at Bull Creek, Saturday evening, June 15 at 8:00 o'clock. The supper will be sponsored by the Petersburg baseball team. String music to be furnished by the Pender Rector Trio and the Metcalf String Band. Everyone is cordially invited.

TEN YEARS AGO IN MARSHALL

From the NEWS-RECORD Files

Much speculation is now in progress as to how the Asheville-Marshall road will come through the valley. There are three possibilities—the cheapest, the one on the lower side of the railroad, which would have to cut across the line twice within two miles; or via the north side of the railroad, or via the mountains and entering Marshall through the residential section.

A Mrs. Wiseman, of Chimney Rock, was killed when the new Ford roadster supposed to have been driven by a Mr. Leroy Ball, ran off the road about two miles above Petersburg. Sand spilled on the highway seems to be the only explanation of the accident.

Recommendation of a site for the Marshall high school building will be made by M. Blair of the State Department of Education, expected here soon. It is thought by some that it can be built beyond the river with a bridge connecting it with the island. Others think it may be built on the island, still others want it back in the mountains above Marshall.

Miss Grace Sams, of Flag Pond, and Mr. Guy English, of Faust, were married June 6, 1925, at 10 a. m. The Rev. A. C. Sherwood performed the ceremony, with Miss Jessie Sams as maid of honor, and Mr. John Anderson as best man. Dr. W. A. Sams was usher. The couple will live at Faust after June 10.

Miss Bonnie Bailey and Mr. Earnest Jackson were married Sunday in Greenville, Tenn., where they went after disappearing from Sunday School here. They returned Tuesday afternoon, to be greeted with rice and congratulations.

Another surprise marriage this week was that of Miss Dabie Eason to Mr. Walter Tipton, which took place in Hot Springs in the presence of only a few intimate friends.

A party in honor of Mr. Bremon McInturf, given by his Marshall cousin, Mr. Clarence Briggs, attracted many young folks here Saturday night.

THANKING THOSE WHO HELPED

The teachers and pupils of the Adult Night Schools in Hot Springs and vicinity wish to thank the following named public-spirited citizens for donations that helped enable them to attend the Commencement in Asheville on June 1: Messrs. Glenn and Lon Brooks for the use of their truck; Rev. Moir Edwards for the use of his car, and for driving same; Mr. Lee Fowler, gas; Mr. Berta Fowler, gas; Mr. Abe Long, cash; Mr. Bob Sexton, cash; Mr. F. E. Wyatt for driving truck.

HUSBANDRY AGENT VISITS COUNTY

"Livestock in Madison County compares favorably with that in other parts of Western North Carolina," said L. I. Case, State College Agent in animal husbandry who was here Monday and Tuesday, "but it does not even yet come up to the full possibilities of the section. The chief obstacles to be overcome before Madison County can make the most of its cattle-raising possibilities is the use of second-rate stock in breeding. Generally the hereof strain that prevails in the County is in good shape, but by continuing to breed in scrub stock the farmers lose more through poor offspring than the cost of breeding with fine animals."

Mr. Case, who was here for the purpose of seeing some of the calves that are to be entered in the Asheville Chamber of Commerce Baby Beef Show on October 9, went on to say that he had seen 8 or 10 calves whose chances in that contest he thought were excellent.

"While Madison does not have as many entries as some of the counties, I think the quality here is fine," he remarked, adding that there will probably be 100 calves or more all told in the show.

Mr. Case expressed himself as being much interested in the County and its future. A Minnesotan by birth, Mr. Case was graduated from the University of Idaho, and in 1916 and 1917 was first connected with State College in Raleigh. At that time he enlisted, and thereafter was away from the State until his return in 1930 to his present work.

Seeking Post Of Secretary of State

Raleigh, June 10 — M. R. (Mike) Dunnagan, Raleigh newspaper correspondent announces that it is his "present purpose" to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Secretary of State in the primary and election next year. His statement is as follows:

"It is my present purpose to ask the Democrats of North Carolina to nominate and elect me Secretary of State. I have talked over this ambition with party leaders and workers for more than a year. I am making this statement now to prevent uncertainty and to let my friends and Democrats of the State know of my intention."

THE LEGISLATURE

A Review, From the BIBLICAL RECORDER, Condensed by S. M. Hanes, Jr.

When, a month ago, the Legislature adjourned its hectic four-month session and went home, it is doubtful if it had satisfied either itself or our people.

It has been said that this Legislature had never been equalled in excellence of personnel, and that our able Governor would bring a strong influence to bear in favor of a generally excellent legislative program. Yet if anything was accomplished that was desirable in the way of honest election laws, equalization of taxes or a square deal for our public school teachers, it failed to reach the ears of an anxious public.

There were, however, certain interests which the Legislature did satisfy. It satisfied those who wanted stronger beer, who wanted to make and sell wine and cider; it satisfied the representatives from 17 counties who wanted option for their people to vote on the sale of ardent spirits, though the latter may be disappointed if the Act is proven unconstitutional.

Rather than tax those most able to pay, the Legislature took highway funds which should have been used to reduce gas or license taxes, and applied them to a budget thrown away by extravagant appropriations for certain of our institutions. And at the same time it satisfied those who run trucks over the public's highways, by allowing an increase of six inches in the width of trucks, without any provision being made to keep them off narrow roads. Thus they will continue to pound our highways to pieces, accounting for much of the \$3,000,000 that has to be used annually to repair bridges and roads that they, much more than passenger cars, put out of shape. Incidentally, the Legislature turned down every proposition to make an effective law to check drunken drivers.

Another class of those who have been pleased is those who are willing to keep their political places through election laws under which men may be cheated of their ballots. The Legislature refused to correct the abuse of allowing unsworn markers to accompany voters to the booths and mark their ballots for them. It also refused to repeal the absentee ballot law, which in actual practice has proven an instrument of fraud. It is for precisely this reason that it is kept on our statute books.

Some are doubtless pleased with the appropriations made by the Legislature. The Administration showed itself more concerned about itself and its officials than about our faithful public school teachers, for the Executive and Administrative Fund was increased more than fifty percent to \$1,570,427; while the public school fund was raised less than thirty percent, to \$20,031,000; and at the same time the increase given higher educational institutions make the picture more lopsided; for they are raised from \$1,188,103 to \$1,951,522. That is, the public school teachers can expect only a bare living, while teachers in the higher tax supported institutions get a much higher salary.

Here are some other appropriations: the public debt service of the general fund has been increased from \$3,985,793 to \$4,350,285, a sure sign that our public debt has been materially increased during the past two years. In the highway service the debt fund has been increased from \$8,573,310 to \$9,634,659. We do not understand. We were told by men on the highway commission that it had five millions lying idle which it was for

MORE ABOUT LOANS

Columbia, S. C., June 13—The interest on all loans made by the Federal Land Bank of Columbia through national farm loan associations will be reduced to 3 1/2 percent for all interest payable in the one-year period commencing July 1, 1935 and to 4 percent for all interest payable in the two-year period commencing July 1, 1936, Julian H. Scarborough, president of the bank, announced today. On loans made directly by the bank and not through national farm loan associations the interest rate will be one-half percent higher for these periods.

The temporary reduction of interest on all Federal land bank loans having installments due prior to July 1, 1935, Mr. Scarborough said, was authorized by the Farm Credit Act of 1935, which has been approved. Interest payable on installment dates occurring after June 30, 1935 will be at the original interest rate, which is 4 1/2 percent on loans made prior to April 3, 1935.

The interest rate reduction provided by the act, Mr. Scarborough said, will apply only Federal land bank loans, all of which are first mortgage loans. The interest rate on land bank commission loans, which are made on either first or second mortgages on farm property, will remain unchanged at 5 percent.

Mr. Scarborough said the act extends until January 1, 1940 the time which the land bank commissioner may make direct loans to farmers on first or second farm mortgages. The commissioner, he said, may not loan more than \$7,500 to one farmer; and the amount of a commissioner's loan property may not exceed 75 percent plus any prior encumbrances on the value of the appraised normal value. Formerly, land bank commissioner loans could be made only for the purpose of refinancing debts, for repurchasing farms lost through foreclosure and for working capital. Under the amended law, these loans can also be made to finance the purchase of farms.

LOOK TO FORESTS FOR CASH INCOME

North Carolina farmers are being asked to overlook the sale of firewood as a source of cash income.

Woodlands on thousands of farms in the state will yield an annual harvest of firewood without depreciating in value, according to R. W. Graeber, extension forester at State College.

Given the proper care and management, wooded areas may well be considered timber and fuel crops, he added. Wood lots are not merely idle land to be neglected.

The extension forester, county farm agents, and forest authorities are always glad to give suggestions as to how the wood may be cut selectively so the land will continue to produce an annual harvest.

Graeber also pointed out that many county and school officials will be making fuel contracts in June and July. He suggested that many farmers should be able to secure contracts to supply part of this fuel supply.

One cord of air-dry oak or hickory has a heating value equal to one ton of coal. Graeber stated by way of comparison. A cord of air-dry pine is equivalent to three-fourths ton of coal.

Farm timber growers can supply the schools with fuel at an actual money saving to the school and at the same time make a fair profit for themselves, he commented.

biden to spend. It is hard to reconcile these puzzling figures with a view that we have had good business in the conduct of our finances for the past two years.

Well, the Legislature did some good things. It voted against ratification of the Child Labor Amendment; it passed a law against gambling machines, outlawing them after July 1; it submitted for vote in 1936 five proposed amendments to the Constitution, some of which seem good. Whether it is better to die by lethal gas than by electricity we do not profess to know, but that will be the method when the new law goes into effect.

These things have all been done now, and the Legislature is back home. What they think of their own work the rest of us don't know; but at any rate we have the facts, and we might as well face them squarely.

WATER WORKS MEN TO MEET IN RALEIGH ON JUNE 25, 26 AND 27

The third annual school and conference of municipal water works men will be held this year in Raleigh at the North Carolina State College on June 25, 26 and 27, according to an announcement made yesterday by Warren H. Booker, Chief Engineer of the State Board of Health.

"Judging from the program this year's meeting bids fair to be one of the most interesting that has been held thus far," commented Mr. Booker, "many members of the College faculty have agreed to deliver lectures and give demonstrations on subjects relating to water works practice. One of the most interesting of the demonstrations should be the

miniature plants that are now being erected for the manufacture of water purification chemicals. In addition to the professors there will be others on the program in sufficient numbers and of such quality as to make the conference well worth while."

The school-conference is sponsored and arranged by the State Board of Health, the first one being held three years ago at State College. The original meeting was received so enthusiastically by the water works men in attendance that they voted unanimously to make the gathering an annual event. A good attendance at this year's meeting is expected.

MINSTREL TO BE GIVEN EASTERN STARS PROGRESSING FINE

GLEANINGS From the Dailies

By S. M. H., Jr.

Biggest national news headlines of the week still concern the Weyerhaeuser case, mainly because no better news has broken. To date, "G-men", swarming around over the west in radio cars and keeping close touch with each other and with headquarters, have captured two men and recovered \$116,000 of the ransom cash. Harmon M. Waley, one of the confessed accomplices, had more than \$90,000 buried in a canyon near Salt Lake City. He had also burned \$4,000 of the hot bills when police got too hot on his trail.

Most people don't seem to care much about it, but about 125,000 men have been killed or wounded in the man-sized, three-years war in South America. To date all the fighting doesn't seem to have proven much for either side, but Paraguay and Bolivia are reported to have decided to call it a day and quit tomorrow.

Efforts being made to get a parole for Luke Lea, sentenced to 6 to 10 years for violating bank laws, are opposed by Judge Barnhill, who presided at Lea's trial, on the grounds that he was "clearly guilty, not only as charged but in many other instances." There has also been opposition to Lea because he is alleged to have a press-agent sending out news stories favorable to the pardon. General Pershing has come out in favor of the release, on ground of Lea's war record and his chances of being a good citizen hereafter.

One of the 12,000 physicians at an Atlantic City convention reports a new extract from the thymus gland of calves, that may produce "super-men". It worked on white rats; is now being tried on humans. And from New York comes a report that the average length of life for white people is increasing at the rate of six months each year. The average is now more than sixty; with the women living almost four years longer than men.

Slot machines to be outlawed after July 1 in this state probably do not include any except those that have a jack-pot or where the element of skill plays no part. This from the Asheville Internal Revenue agent, who adds that the law will probably be construed liberally.

Oddities: A Cleveland young woman took her boy friend with her when she went to have a tooth pulled. Dentist started to give her novocaine; boy friend spoke up, said he could save the trouble. He did. He hypnotized her. Dentist pulled the tooth, and the young woman said she felt no pain. . . . Chicagoans jumped Saturday when a roar like a thunder-clap boomed across the city. But it was nothing—just some of the boys blasting the 1,800 ton steel and concrete skeleton of the sky-ride of the World's Fair, now being torn down. . . . Fashion note: average boy at Antioch College spends more on his clothes than does the average co-ed. . . . But clothes seem not to be much of an expense to tourists in Little Rock, Ark., who have been going through the streets with so little on that the police chief received complaints from embarrassed citizens.

Purpose of this column is to cover national happenings for the benefit of people who don't bother to read the daily papers. Political news, international and economic news are ready covered each week in other parts of this paper; so that our field is not so large after all. Comments and criticisms from readers will be welcomed—whether they are favorable or not.

Mr. Hendricks' Brother Dies

Mr. J. A. Hendricks left Thursday afternoon to attend the funeral of his only brother, George, at the old home place near Mocksville, N. C. He died at the hospital at Winston-Salem, N. C.

The cast has been completed; Rehearsals start Monday night, 7:30

"Hap" Anderson has his cast complete for the Eastern Star Minstrels to be presented at the Marshall High School Friday night, June 21, at 8:30 p. m. The rehearsals will start Monday night at the Masonic Hall.

This promises to be a real good show, as the talent selected for the cast is all good smart boys and girls, and a few rehearsals with "Hap" Anderson will bring out the best they have.

Tickets are on sale by the Eastern Star members and also by members of the cast.

The members of the cast are as follows: Arthur Ramsey, Claude Sawyer, Jr., Lee Bryan, Jr., Kermit Coat, Charles Davis, Theodore Worley, Everett Tweed, Jr., J. C. Dodson, Hugh Rector, Bill Boone, Wendell McDevitt, Bob Sprinkle, Charles Giezentanner, Ron Sprinkle, Fred Sprinkle, Paul Payne, Bill Redmon, Max Roberts, James Story, Helen Rudisill, Mary Rudisill, Mammie Frisby, Ruth Dennis, Helen Dennis, Ruth Tweed, Marjorie Sawyer, Frances Dodson, Hazel West, Jean Sprinkle, Kathleen Teague, Selwyn McDevitt.

Ministers' Conference To Begin June 17

The Minister's Conference at Mars Hill begins Monday. The classes will begin in the afternoon in order that ministers living at quite a distance may be able to get in the first classes.

We are having a fine faculty this summer. Dr. Lynch of Wake Forest, Dr. Poteat of Greenville, S. C., and Rev. Netties Gardner of Dunn. We trust that every minister of the French Broad association will try to attend this conference. Those who came last summer felt they were so well paid for coming. Come and bring your wife with you. Meals in the dining hall will be 35c per meal. The full expense of those who come to stay is \$6.00 for the week. Many of our local preachers will be able to drive in for the day.

ROBERTSON EXPLAINS FHA CREDIT SYSTEM

There seems to be some misunderstanding about loans on rural property under the Federal Housing Administration, says A. K. Robertson, state rural housing supervisor at State College.

The FHA plan operates solely on funds or credit made available through local institutions, he explained. The government is not making any loans under this plan.

County rural housing committees have been and are being set up to aid farmers secure loans or credit on reasonable terms. The committees are also ready to offer suggestions about rural housing improvements. Under the FHA plan, loans are made to finance the repairing or improvement of farm homes, buildings, and other permanent equipment. Any responsible farmer may apply for amounts up to \$2,000. Repayments are to be made over a period of one to five years.

The Federal land bank loans, land bank commissioner loans, and production credit association loans do not come within the scope of the FHA program, Robertson pointed out, since they are designed for other purposes.

However, he said, the bank loans can be secured for the purpose of buying equipment and materials for farm buildings, but these loans must be secured by first mortgages.

The FHA committees and officials have negotiated agreements with large numbers of local institutions to supply loans or credit under the housing program, Robertson added, and all farmers who wish to improve their homes are being urged to take advantage of these facilities.

Used Chevrolet Cars To Be Advertised and Guaranteed

To raise used car advertising and merchandising to new standards of excellence and dignity, the national dealer organization of the Chevrolet Motor Company has arranged for a cooperative national campaign in newspapers and magazines. The advertising will carry to the public the pledge of the dealer organization that all its members will stand back of the used cars they sell. That is, used car prospects are to receive the same assurance that is given to purchasers of new cars—that the car has been tested, tuned, and conditioned and is ready to give satisfactory service.