



Hot Springs Precinct Meeting Ends In Confusion, Bitterness

The Democratic battle for control of the Hot Springs precinct which erupted into near violence last Thursday night was triggered by Republicans who switched their registration to join the fray, Bobby Ponder, Hot Springs hardware dealer who presided at the precinct meeting, said. Ponder also said a report that his faction walked out without electing delegates was false.

A spokesman for Larry Phillips, head of the opposing faction, claimed that Ponder and his followers, in apparent confusion, failed to elect delegates to the county convention to be held March 5.

"We took one count. The group had become unruly and I did not want to see bloodshed," Ponder said.

The tense meeting was held in the Hot Springs school with an estimated 300 persons attending.

I asked my group if they agreed to an 'aye' vote on the entire slate, and there wasn't an opposing vote," Ponder said.

Ponder said he challenged 53 persons at the meeting of

some 300 in the school house, "but there was actually 70 or 80 who were not active Democrats."

The Phillips faction complained that Ponder's ruling was arbitrary and designed to weaken their forces and assure defeat.

Ponder said all 53 persons that he challenged had been registered Republicans until recently.

"They were lifelong, born and bred and raised Republicans, and supported the Republican party up until last week," he said.

It was reliably reported that blows were exchanged as the meeting broke up, but the fights apparently resulted in no serious injury.

"One of the Republicans that I challenged - and I have his name and address on a piece of paper where he signed it himself - is a Republican lawyer who lives in Mars Hill," Ponder said.

The lawyer Ponder referred to is Edward B. Krause, who is a candidate for the State Senate from the four-county 26th Senate District which

includes Madison County.

Ponder conceded that Krause did not attempt to identify himself as one of the Democrats at the precinct meeting.

Krause said he was there as legal counsel for Larry Phillips, and that he took no part in the meeting and simply observed the proceedings.

"All he asked me to do was to be at the meeting," Krause said of his work for Phillips, "I am going to stay out of it."

Krause told The News-Record Tuesday morning that "The only thing that I signed

was an attendance sheet presented at the beginning of the meeting." He further stated that he did not vote, attempt to vote or want to vote in the meeting. He also stated that it was impossible for him to be challenged as a Republican because he did not vote.

Ponder, a member of the Madison County school board, said he is not chairman of the Madison County Precinct 6 organization at Hot Springs, nor a member of the committee or a delegate.

"Howard Tino, the precinct

chairman, designated me to serve. His granddaughter had been killed, and he was at her funeral in Maryland," Ponder said.

Tino was re-elected chairman by the Ponder faction.

The fight for seating one of the two slates will come up again at the Madison County Democratic convention in the courthouse in Marshall next month.

An appeal by one side or the other is likely at the State Democratic convention in Raleigh.



HUNDREDS OF MOTORISTS are "rushing" to get the new 1976 License stickers as the deadline draws near. Above pictures were made here Monday showing people lined along sidewalk outside the local license bureau on Main Street. The other photo shows the long line of customers inside the building patiently waiting to get to the desk.



Hot Springs Republicans Deny Claims

Republicans were not involved in Thursday night's political squabble between Democratic precinct factions in Hot Springs, a Republican spokesman said Sunday.

Mrs. Mildred Gamble, vice chairman of the Madison County GOP, disputed the claim of Democrat Bobby Ponder that 53 persons at the meeting of precinct six at Hot Springs were Republicans.

Ponder said Friday that a split between two Democratic factions at Thursday's meeting was because 53 members of a faction opposing him were Republicans.

"Bobby Ponder is trying to blame the Republican people of Madison County and discredit us for a split in his own party," Mrs. Gamblesaid

Sunday. Her husband, Tony Gamble, registrar for the sixth precinct, said Ponder's claim of so many Republicans switching parties to disrupt the Democratic meeting was false because he has changed registrations for only six Democrats recently.

The Thursday meeting broke up in disorder when Ponder and rival party leader Larry Phillips couldn't agree whether delegates were elected to the county convention.

No one has named the 53 persons whose party registration Ponder disputed. Ponder claimed 70 to 80 people at the meeting were not Democrats.

Citizens Committee To Govern Recreation Center Here

At the regular meeting of the Marshall Town Council on Feb. 2nd, 1976, a citizens committee was appointed to govern the activities at the recreation center.

An organizational meeting was held on Feb. 10th to determine what forms of recreation would have priority. The entire committee was in attendance and consisted of the following: Dorothy Arrington, Ann Flynn, Brenda Joyner, Rev. Spencer LeGrand, Gwendolyn Plemmons, Francis Pizzulo, Floyd Pressley, Jack Ramsey, Sheila Ramsey, Roy Reeves and Louise Sprinkle.

The purpose of the Committee is to encourage youth activities as well as adult functions and to make the center the focal point of social and recreational activities. We hope that the entire community will take an active interest in developing a facility of which we can be proud. The meetings will be open to the public for their suggestions and criticisms. Please watch the News-Record for announcements of the meetings.

As of this date, the following rules are in effect and will be enforced by virtue of the authority delegated to the Committee by the Town Council.

1. No alcohol or drugs of any kind will be permitted in or around the building or pool areas.

2. Anyone attending any function who is under the influence of either alcohol or drugs shall be asked to leave. If they refuse, the Town Police shall be asked to remove the offending party.

3. Order shall be maintained by the group sponsoring any function and a Town Policeman shall be retained by the group to patrol and maintain order in the parking areas.

4. At any function, the party who negotiates for the use of the building shall be responsible to see that no damage is done to the property. A deposit of \$25 will be made with the Committee before an event is held which will be refunded in full if the

hall and the parking areas are returned to the same condition as they were before the event took place. The hall, rest rooms and parking areas shall be cleaned up after each activity. Each group will appoint someone to inspect the facility along with a committee member before and after the activity. If the committee finds it necessary to repair any damage or to clean up the facility, the group will be assessed whatever is necessary to return the property to a useable condition.

5. Any and all equipment brought into the hall shall be removed immediately after the event is over.

6. In order to schedule events without conflicts, all requests for use of the hall shall be made at least 4 weeks in advance and approved at least 3 weeks in advance. Flexibility of this rule will

depend upon availability of the hall.

7. The committee shall have the right to be represented at each event or to have periodic checks made to see that these rules are being followed. If they are not being followed, the Committee shall have the right to terminate the activity without recourse.

8. Any group that violates these rules can be barred from any further use of the facility.

9. A charge of \$10 per night will be made if heat is provided or a charge of \$5 will be made if no heat is provided.

These rules are made to insure that each and every person using this facility will get the maximum pleasure in a pleasant surrounding.

Anyone wishing to use the hall can contact the temporary chairman, Francis Pizzulo at P. O. Box 504, Marshall, N.C. 28753 or by phone at 649-2035.

Civil Court To Start Here Monday; Jurors Named

The February term of superior court for the trial of civil cases will begin here Monday morning at 10 o'clock with Judge Robert D. Lewis presiding.

Among the cases scheduled to be heard are as follows:

Sophonis Ball vs. LeRoy Gosnell et al; Grover Gentry vs. Charlie A. Duck and James Edward Storey; Allah Rhodayar and Julia Rhodayar vs. Dowell Ricker and Peggy Ricker; Bobby Eugene, Ball vs. Joe Junior Bailey and Ethel Payne Bailey; Edward Silver vs. Board of Transportation; Tom L. Merrill, et ux vs. Andrew Jackson Bridges; Board of Transportation vs. Guy George, et al; Wachovia Bank & Trust Co. vs. Rufus Edmisten, Attorney General.

Jurors drawn for the term include: Keith Odum, Virginia Murray, Lisa Jean Muney, David Wills, Jess Wilson, Roemane F. Willett, Flossie McMahan, Mrs. Williams Sams Burns, Aaron Ponder, Carrie Marlor Wyatt, Wilburn Robert Justice, Teresa Boone Jenkins, Rosa JoAnn Meadows, Wayne Sawyer, Dedrick C. Cody, Brenda Diane Condera, Evelyn Fox Anderson, Freida Franklin Gosnell, Willard Sexton, Viola Fowler, Joyce Genell Lewis, Lee Herman Chandley, Howard Rector, Mrs. C. W. Collins, Mary Jo Franklin Ramsey, Champ Rice, Theodore D. Henry, Joel Cole, John G. Gardner, Jr., Naomi Nace Brasel, Mrs. Mildred Carter, Greenie Cuthall, Jack Christensen Cole, Ruth Elaine Hedson, Ralph David Worley.

Vergie Lee Hensley, Gene W. Spruill, Grant Reed, Nathan B. Holt, Marion Hubert Lamb, B. W. Metcalf, Eugene Marler, Delmas Banks, Bobby G. Sprinkle, Nancy Thompson Erickson, Carolyn Rhodes Roberts, Leonard Edward Roberts, Richard Steven Gahagan, Howard Carver, Luther W. Gosnell, Alle Joyce Henderson, Mary Clark, Reuben Joseph Lisenseb, George W. Loving, Mary Elizabeth Gunter, Paul S. Laub, Mrs. Bertha B. Duckett, Winfred G. Shepherd, Howard Charles Adams, Ruth Cody, Ralph M. Lee, Elaine Bowers Wyatt, Wanda Winders Crowe, Pauline Plemmons Lister, Lewis M. Fish, Edwin Y. Ponder, Homer English, L. D. Ledford, Lucy E. Frisbee, JoAnn Phillips Powell, Mafra B. Clark, Herbert W. Metcalf, Wayne Adams, Blanche Mays Cutshall, Glenn Fred Cody.

Krause Becomes Senate Hopeful

Edward B. Krause, a lawyer in the contested Hot Springs municipal elections, announced Saturday that he is a candidate for the North Carolina General Assembly from the four-county 26th Senate District which includes Madison.

Krause, 28, announced his candidacy at a Republican precinct meeting in Hot Springs.

Krause was also involved in a Democratic precinct battle in Hot Springs Thursday night, which he attended as legal counsel to Larry Phillips, who is in a struggle with another faction for control of the precinct.

Krause, who practices law in Buncombe and Madison counties and is a member of the Buncombe County Bar Association, said the State Board of Elections ruling against his clients in the Hot Springs board of aldermen contest was a major factor in his decision to run for the



EDWARD B. KRAUSE

legislature. Present law requires a vote of 4 to 1 by the five-member board for a majority ruling.

Krause is the first to formally announce as a candidate for one of the two seats, but Crawford said at a League of Women Voters meeting in

Cooperative Attorneys Still Fighting Rate Increase

Cooperative attorneys are working urgently to persuade the Federal Power Commission to direct Carolina

Power & Light Company to delay their wholesale rate increase for at least five months to give them an opportunity to research and produce evidence they feel would prove the rate increase is too high. These attorneys are also working to obtain a settlement of the rate increase imposed January 1, 1975.

Due to the uncertainty of the situation at this time, if CP&L is allowed to place their

proposed wholesale rate increase in effect March 1, 1976, French Broad Electric Membership Corporation will be prepared to raise retail rates on bills rendered April 1, 1976 and after. The exact amount of this increase will be determined in the next few days. Whatever the amount, it will be passed on to the members as an increased purchased power and fuel adjustment factor. It will be

plainly indicated on the bills and will apply to everyone alike. By handling the increase in this way, the members will have no trouble in determining the amount of the increase and where it is coming from.

If any members of the Cooperative have questions concerning this rate increase, they are invited to contact the Cooperative office for information.

Basketball Tournament To Start Here Monday

The Mountain Athletic Conference Tournament will begin in Madison High School's gymnasium next Monday, February 23, it has been announced.

Schools to participate in the tournament are: Madison, Mitchell, Heritage, Brevard, Pisgah, Tuscola and Sylva-Webster.

On Monday night, three Junior Varsity games are slated. The first game will start at 5:00 p.m.

Health Planning Board Changes Dates

The Madison County Health Planning Board has changed its regular meeting from the second Monday in each month to the second Wednesday.

The Planning Board will have an open meeting 25 February 1976, 7:30 p.m. at the Madison County Health Department. The purpose of the meeting is to make recommendations for the county regarding regional plans. These regional plans were suggested in a study done by Mountain Associates in the summer of 1975.

All are welcome to attend. Additional information may be secured from the chairman of the Board, Dr. Ken Sanchagrin, Main Bldg. 20-1334.

On Tuesday night, three varsity games and one JV game will be played with the JV game starting at 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday night four varsity contests will be played.

No games are scheduled for Thursday night.

Friday night, the tourney will resume with four games.

On Saturday night, varsity and jayvee championship games will be played.

Pairings were not made for the tournament in time for this issue.

Mrs. Marler Accepts Position

Mrs. Sandra Treadway Marler of Rt. 5, Marshall recently accepted a position as Outreach Worker at Madison County Health Department. Mrs. Marler is a graduate of Marshall High School and received a BA Degree in sociology from Wake Forest College in 1975. She has formerly been employed part time by the Madison County Office of the State Health Department.

Mrs. Marler is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Treadway of Rt. 1, Marshall.

She and her husband, Tony Marler, have an 18 month old son, Thomas.

Admission to the tourney will be \$1.00 for students, \$1.50 for adults.

Ham And Beef Dinner

The Ladies' Auxiliary for church improvement for the Beech Glen Baptist Church is sponsoring a Ham and Beef Dinner in the Mars Hill School Lunchroom - Sunday Feb. 22 from 12 noon to 2:30 p.m.

Price is adults \$2.00 and children \$1.50. This includes dessert. Tickets may be purchased at the door. The proceeds will be used for church improvements.

Community Meetings

The Community meetings scheduled by French Broad EMC for the next week are: Monday, Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. at the church in Marshall; Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. at the church in Marshall; Wednesday, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. at the church in Marshall; Thursday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. at the church in Marshall; Friday, Feb. 27, 7:30 p.m. at the church in Marshall.



CLIVE M. WHITT

Mr. Clive Whitt, Educator, Honored At Marshall

Clive M. Whitt, principal of Marshall Elementary School, was honored by the faculty and students on February 13, 1976. An oil portrait of Mr. Whitt was presented to the school in recognition of his thirteen years of dedicated and unwavering service to the school. The standing ovation, and several minutes of sustained applause as the presentation was made, was indeed a moving tribute.

Under Mr. Whitt's capable leadership, many instructional aids have been procured for the school, Marshall Elementary School is considered one of the best equipped schools in Western North Carolina. This achievement, plus his concern for the welfare of students and teachers, has earned him the title of Master Educator.

Mr. Whitt resides on Westman Road in Marshall. He

and Mrs. Whitt are the parents of two daughters, Miss Carol Whitt, a teacher at Madison high school, and Miss Diane Whitt, a sophomore also at Madison High.

This tribute to Mr. Whitt was a singular honor, paid to few people while still active in their profession. The picture will be hung in a prominent place in the school as testimony to Mr. Whitt's long, ardent devotion to young people and his concern for their welfare and development.

Republicans Elect Precinct Officers

Republicans in the sixth precinct (Hot Springs) of Madison County elected officers and committee members at a meeting Sunday.

They are: Curtis Roberts, chairman; Mildred Gamble, vice chairman; Kay Chandler, secretary; Jeanette Taylor, treasurer; and committee members Troy Self, Pat Gentry, Frank Roberts, Mary Gahagan and Irene Roberts.

DAILY LIGHT

"I am the bread of life; he that cometh to me shall never hunger and he that believeth in me shall never thirst."

Crowe Resigns As Alderman

Charles "Ham" Crowe, alderman for Marshall, announced Tuesday morning that he had resigned as alderman, effective Tuesday Feb. 17, 1976.

Crowe gave up his reasons for the resignation "health and business reasons."