

Today's North Carolina weather report: Fair tonight and Thursday, except local thundershowers Thursday afternoon in extreme west portion.

PARAGON STORES IN MERGER HERE

Furniture Firm to be Absorbed by Big Department Store. New Store by September.

Formal announcement is made by member of the firm of the Paragon department store, that this enterprise has bought out and absorbed the Paragon furniture company.

According to arrangements, henceforth the latter enterprise will include furniture in its selling lists, the basement being fitted up especially for this department.

BIG COURT GRIND HERE NEXT WEEK

Heaviest Criminal Docket in Recent Years But Few Big Cases

The term of Superior court convening here Monday, July 23, will face one of the heaviest criminal dockets in several years. In fact, it is the heaviest since Court Clerk A. M. Hamrick has been in office he stated today.

"I am issuing subpoenas for more witnesses for this court than I ever have heretofore," said the court clerk.

Although there is a big criminal docket, or rather a long list of cases, there are few major criminal cases and very few of a sensational nature.

Rudasill Is Made Building Inspector

Matter in Issuing Building Permits And Inspecting Buildings Out Of City's Hands.

At the mid-month meeting of the city council last night, Mr. E. A. Rudasill was appointed building inspector for the state and his duties will be to issue permits to build or repair any structure within the city limits, inspect such buildings when completed and see that they conform to the state law.

Some months ago the city was called upon by the state to comply with the state law and appoint a building inspector. Chief Roach of the fire department was appointed temporarily until some suitable man not in the city's employ was located.

Lattimore Students Plan An Encampment

All agriculture students of Lattimore school are especially requested to meet at the school building Saturday evening, July 1, at 7 o'clock, to make final arrangements for our encampment trip at White Lake. It is very important that all boys attend this meet.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Austell and son, formerly of Earl, now living at Fort Benning, Ga., are spending a fortnight in the county with relatives.

No Increase In County Taxes, Cline Declares

LETTERS SENT TO AUTO MEN ABOUT MOTOR POLITICS

Shelby Auto Dealers Get Anonymous Letters About Raskob. Many In Charlotte

Quite a number of automobile distributors in Shelby have received anonymous circular letters in recent days seeking to enlist their support in the campaign fight against Al Smith because the Smith campaign is listed as an automobile combine since John Raskob, General Motors official, has been appointed Smith manager.

Apparently the letters would incite dealers of cars not made by General Motors to be against Smith because his campaign manager is an official of that company.

At the Charles L. Eskridge motor company today it was stated that such a letter was received, but was "not read half way through" and immediately thrown in the waste basket instead of being posted in the window as requested.

"We're in the automobile business not politics," it was stated at the Ford agency.

At least one slip-up seems to have been made by the sender of the anonymous letters as J. Lawrence Lackey, Buick dealer—and Buick is made by General Motors—received one of the mysterious unsigned letters. According to Mr. Lackey he spends very little of his time reading letters that no one cares to sign.

Charlotte Flooded CHARLOTTE, July 18.—North Carolina branches of automobile concerns in competition with the General Motors corporation are being circularized with letters whose apparent purpose is to gain the support of these companies in fighting the candidacy of Gov. Alfred R. Smith for the presidency, it was indicated here yesterday.

The circulars, quoting several state daily papers and two leading metropolitan dailies, were mailed out from Greensboro, the postmark showed, but were unsigned. Several Charlotte dealers handling cars not manufactured by General Motors had received the letters in the morning mail and their receipt by dealers in other towns was also reported.

"The greatest automobile combination now in politics," the heading of the communication declares. "John Jacob Raskob to manage Al Smith's campaign; Raskob is head of the gigantic General Motors corporation—General Motors competitors to be tried on political opponents."

The letter, containing a page of single-spaced typewritten lines, strongly denounces the action of Mr. Raskob, chairman of General Motors' finance committee, in assuming the chairmanship of the national Democratic executive committee and also caustically discusses the methods of the General Motors organization. Charlotte dealers professed no theories as to the authorship of the letter or its definite purpose, but its receipt was the subject of a great deal of discussion and afforded a topic for much conjecturing.

Quotations in the letter were from news stories appearing in The Charlotte Observer, from which there were two quotations; from the Greensboro Daily News, the Raleigh News and Observer, The New York World and The New York Herald.

"Democrats Bid for Big Business and Wet Vote," reads the heading over the first quotation from a news story that appeared in The Charlotte Observer, quoted as follows: "Mr. Raskob, a Catholic, one of the most militant against the eighteenth amendment, is the governor's definition of the nation's electorate of the issue. 'Today he,' the second quotation declares, 'is director of a dozen corporations employing more than 300,000 workmen and has a personal fortune, said to be in the hundreds of millions of dollars.'"

Commenting upon a quotation from The New York World in which Mr. Raskob is quoted as saying, "Well, we made 20 millionaires in four years in General Motors," the letter asks, "Is that boast to be accepted as proof of having better goods than our competitors?" The question alludes to the letter's contention that Mr. Raskob often declared, in discussing the rapid rise of the General Motors group, that "in our business life we succeeded by constructive work and by having better goods than our competitors."

All Shelby Once Sold For \$10, Record Reveals

MUSTY RECORD OF LOVE GIFT SHOWN

Town Created When Auctioneer John Harry Sold Lots Given By Love

With uptown business property selling at so many hundred dollars per front imagine selling all the land on which Shelby is located for one ten-dollar bill. That's exactly what James Love did 87 years ago—except that the \$10-bill was a mere legal technicality and Love actually gave the land on which more than 10,000 people now live.

Recently Attorney R. L. Ryburn, while musing through some old record books at the county court house, uncovered the original deed conveying the land to what was then no city but merely a commission board established by the state to lay out a town to be known as Shelby, which in turn would be the county seat of the new county of Cleveland.

Two Deeds Made. In fact, two deeds were made before the Love property became building lots for citizens of that day and citizens-to-be. The first deed was made in 1841 and conveyed 147 acres to the commissioners establishing Shelby. In 1843 another deed was recorded with the wording very similar but calling for 150 acres. Just why there were two deeds so much alike for the same property puzzled legal minds for a time until it was recalled that the first deed perhaps was not legal in 1841 as the state legislature did not ratify the act creating the county until that year.

This view is reinforced by a historical article published in The Cleveland Star 25 years ago and written by Major H. Cabaniss. This article says "the county was chartered in the legislature of 1840-41 and was taken from Rutherford and Lincoln counties." The act also provided, it was explained, that the town of Shelby, county-seat-to-be, be located "within four miles, of Thomas Wilson's sulphur springs." In his article Major Cabaniss says the land on which the town was built was donated by James Love and William Forbes, but the deed records only one name, that of Love.

The Commissioners. The first deed made August 11, 1841, was made by James Love to "Robert H. Burton, Eli Hoyle, Henry Cansler, Alexander McCorkle, John McDowell, David Gray, Archibald Durham and Samuel Andrews—commissioners appointed by legislature to locate the town of Shelby."

The conveyance was made "in consideration of \$10 and many benefits and advantages which James Love expects to derive from the town of Shelby."

A total of 137 acres "beginning at red oak near P. M. Alexander's spring," was conveyed. This point is said to be just behind the Beam block on North Washington street.

Provided for Churches. How certain tracts were to be set aside for churches and schools was also related in the old deed, which reads as follows: "with a perfect understanding that six acres be dedicated and set apart by the commissioners for the purpose of religion and education. Two of which are to be appropriated for a male and a female academy, and four for the use of such churches as may be permitted thereon." Older citizens say that the uptown churches now are not erected on the four original plots, which during the course of years were sold and other sites purchased as the business section changed.

In 1843 a deed differing very little from the previous deed made. One of the changes was that the first deed was also made to W. M. Morris, chairman of the county court, while the last deed was made to Burwell B. Bridges, chairman of the county court.

How Recorded. As it often becomes necessary for lawyers drawing up deeds to check back to the beginning on property transfers it is stated that the two deeds are to be found on pages 15 and 282 in "Book A" at the county court house. Another important discovery was a plat of the original gift, or rather a copy thereof as found in Plat MM-237. This plat was made by J. R. Logan in 1850 for D. T. Williams.

Property Sold. After the property had been deeded over to the commissioners of Shel-

New N. C. Chairman



Odus M. Mull was last night named chairman of the North Carolina Democratic party succeeding Attorney-General Dennis Brummitt. The election of the Cleveland county political leader was made by the state executive committee following the recommendation of O. Max Gardner, gubernatorial nominee.

by it was surveyed and plotted by Samuel Gidney and John R. Logan and divided into a certain number of lots. These lots were sold at auction in October 1842 with John Bull Harry, native of Martland and former Lincoln county sheriff, as the auctioneer. Just how much the lots sold for does not seem to be recorded in any of the history of the county except that Major H. Cabaniss in his article says "they brought fabulous prices."

The money received for the lots as sold to citizens was used, for the most part, it is said in public buildings and improvements, around which the present day Shelby was built.

CROSSINGS OUT ON HIGHWAY 20

Heavy Grading Finished on Highway No. 206 From Shelby to Gaston County Line.

Grade crossings are eliminated on state highway No. 206 leading from Shelby via Waco in the direction of Cherryville on the Gaston-Cleveland line where it connects with the highway which continues into Lincoln, the county seat of Lincoln.

The road now being graded from the Mike Borders home between Shelby and Cleveland Springs to the Gaston county line lies on the south side of the seaboard tracks until it reaches within a few hundred feet of Waco where one overpass is being built. This eliminates the many grade crossings and the dangers incident thereto. A concrete bridge is being built across Buffalo at the Buffalo cotton mill near the site of the old steel bridge.

It is stated by highway officials that the Wilson Construction company which has the contract to do the grading, has finished the heavy grading and is now doing the lighter work. When the grading is finished and the bed allowed to settle, it is understood that some type of hard surface will be put down, although the contract for this has not been let. When this road is finished, it will give a hard surface road from the county seat of Cleveland to the county seat of Lincoln where roads radiate to other county seats in this section of the state.

CAT GETS HOME FROM CHERYVILLE IN ONE WEEK TO ABERNETHY

HICKORY.—F. E. Abernethy, R. F. D. No. 4, Newton, has a cat story that would make the grade even in Kinston. He had a year old Tom cat which he sent to Cheryville two weeks ago by a negro man who works on his farm. The cat stayed away exactly one week, and when Mr. Abernethy went out to the smokehouse on Monday morning there was Tom waiting for his breakfast, just as he had been doing every morning for the past year. Tom came on to the house and went through his regular program, as if nothing at all had happened.

Mr. Abernethy thinks he might as well keep Tom around the house.

STATE COMMITTEE NAMES MULL FOR PARTY CHAIRMAN

Name Advanced to Committee by Hoey. Some Discussion Over Governor Al Smith.

(Post in Greensboro News.) Raleigh, July 17.—Following a furious fight of an hour and a half tonight, the state democratic executive committee called to elect Odus M. Mull, of Shelby, to succeed retiring Chairman Denis G. Brummitt, adjourned with a resolution of support to the entire ticket, over which offering of Congressman Lindsay Warren offered a resolve to congratulate the state ticket on the promise of future good government, which it offers with a further handshake for the party at the prospect of getting back in Washington the days of Cleveland and Wilson.

Instantly Charles S. Wallace, of Morehead City, carrying Mrs. Wallace's proxy and W. L. Knight, of Halifax, bearing Mrs. Knight's commission, were up and objecting in their names. Mr. Wallace would support the state party handsomely, but Mrs. Wallace would not go all the way. Neither would Mrs. Knight, and Mr. Knight offered an abbreviated resolution, handsomely backing the state ticket. There the committee fought 90 minutes. It ended when retiring Chairman Brummitt took the floor and begged the Halifax man to withdraw the resolution. Reluctantly he did. Messrs. Wallace and Knight excused from voting and the committee ended in a flame of love with Max Gardner speaking.

The committee came from the uproar united at the last with still a sprinkling of anti-Smith people who never pledged to support him and cheered no utterance of loyalty to him. Even Max Gardner's statement that he never has learned how to fight a democrat, is not now in training and will not go into training to learn that art, did not win complete applause. There were quite eight or ten members of the committee, not all regulars, who cheered the opposition of Messrs. Knight and Wallace, though the 93 members sitting tonight in person or proxy were 100 per centers for the state ticket.

Mull Appeals for Loyalty. The committee had an easy time for 15 minutes. Sam Gattis, after Clyde Hoey had presented the name of Mr. Mull as the next chairman, offered a change in the plan of organization by which the new state chairman appoints his secretary. Mr. Hoey offered his townsman in a fine tribute to his tact, loyalty, intelligence and good judgement. Mr. Mull delivered vigorously. He asked members of the party present, also candidates on the ticket to meet him tomorrow and talk over the plans. The new chairman is rearing to go into his work. He has that habit. When he is elected he gets his directors with him. Several times in his brief speech he appealed for loyalty all the way.

The small group of recalcitrants applauded heartily the state part, but they have not yet voted for Smith.

The committee passed the Gattis resolution and then Congressman Warren offered his proposal. Its congratulations to the state for the ticket and the pledge of continued progress went well, but when he pictured the return of the Cleveland and Wilson days there was an immediate abbreviation of the applause. The restoration of honest government was universally hailed; but the unconverted were able to see through the Smith lognette.

Pool Room License Issued To Hamricks

City Council Consents to Issuance Of License to Building Owners.

Last night at the regular mid-month meeting of the city fathers, license to operate the colored pool room in the Hamrick building was issued to T. W. and Frank Hamrick which has recently been converted into a colored hotel and rendezvous. The pool room at this place has been operated by Romeo Eaker and when he applied for renewal of his license, it was refused on the ground that it was a "public nuisance" against which many citizens had protested.

The city council last night felt that the Hamricks would see to it that the place is kept orderly and when they applied for license, the same was granted upon the payment of \$50 tax on each of the four tables—a total of \$200.

Mississippi Negro Rule Hit In Patronage Probe

July No Freedom Month In County, Jail Sheet Shows

One of Busiest Months of Year At County Jail, Sheriff Logan Says

July may be the anniversary month of America's freedom, more people are peering through jail bars at outside freedom in this county than at any time within a year's period, according to Sheriff Hugh Logan.

Six White Women. Numbered among guests at the county institution of confinement are six white women—the largest number of white women ever to be in jail at the same time since Sheriff Logan has operated the jail, which is some several years.

There are eight women in jail in all, two of them colored.

The total number of prisoners is 22. Most of the white women, it is said, are confined awaiting court or following appeals from loose moral charges, while one or two are held for drinking or fighting.

Two Negro Youths Drown At Lake Lure

Bodies Are Found Near Capsized Boat. Victims of Night Boat Ride

RUTHERFORDTON, July 17.—Mystery surrounding a canoe, found Sunday on Lake Lure, turned upside down between the boat landing and the old bed of the river, was solved yesterday when the bodies of two negro youths were seen floating on the lake.

They were Thomas Parker of Lake Lure and Lee Earl Lewis of Rutherfordton. It is supposed that the boys took out a boat late at night for a ride when it capsized with them. A watch was found in Lewis' pockets which had stopped at 12:35 a. m. Lewis' body was brought here and buried at Ohlmyer Rock.

This makes three victims of Lake Lure by canoes overturning late at night, young James Wilkie having lost his life in a similar manner about a year ago.

Miss Isabel Morgan of LaGrange, Ga., will arrive tomorrow to visit Misses Betty Suttle and Evelyn Dover.

Midwest Farmers To Back Democratic Farm Platform

Coolidge-Hoover Farm Relief Rapped By Corn Belt Farmers In Meet

DES MOINES, July 17.—Condemnation of President Coolidge's veto of the McNary-Haugen Bill, the Republican farm relief plank, and the candidacy of Herbert Hoover today were contrasted with the approval of the agricultural plank of the Democratic party as the results of a meeting of the corn belt committee.

Members of the committee, made up of midwestern farm leaders, assembled yesterday to discuss the political situation as it affected the farmer in the forthcoming election. "Organized agriculture speaking through the corn belt committee hereby expresses its determination to carry on the fight for the principle of the McNary-Haugen bill, which is the only plan that has been suggested to make the protective tariff execution on these agricultural products of which we produce a surplus, without government subsidy, which we have consistently opposed," said the resolution.

The Houston agricultural plank was commended on ground that it "includes a definite indorsement of the principles for which organized agriculture has long been fighting." The Republican stand on the farm question was pictured as "a renewal, in less definite form, of the pledges adopted in 1924 at Cleveland."

"With every ounce of our strength we oppose the Hoover-Coolidge policy of the industrialization of America at the expense of agriculture," said another resolution.

Jack McNary and Bobby Wilson of Greensboro were week end guests of Billy McKnight.

Republican Leadership May Return To "Lily Whites" After Post-office Probe

BILOXI, Miss., July 18.—While a federal grand jury continued to receive evidence of methods employed by Mississippi Republican leaders in dispensing federal patronage speculation became rife as to what effect the investigation would have on sentiment which has kept a group of negroes in control of party affairs.

A bitter factional struggle has been waged within the party in the white forces headed by Perry W. Howard, negro national Republican committeeman from Mississippi, bitterly opposed at every turn by the group headed by George L. Sheldon, former governor of Nebraska and now a delta farmer, and leader of the "lily white" faction advocating white leadership. Sheldon has made several attempts to oust Howard from his acknowledged position of party leader.

Arrest Imminent. The arrest of Perry W. Howard, who is a special assistant attorney-general, on an indictment charging conspiracy to violate the law prohibiting sale of federal offices, was imminent in Washington.

At the same time three or six other under indictment on similar charges were en route here today for arraignment before Judge Edwin R. Holmes in federal court.

Howard, with S. D. Redmond, A. M. Redmond and E. L. Patton, negroes arrested yesterday at Jackson, Miss., and Scott Hubbard, deputy United States marshal stationed at Biloxi, was charged specifically with conspiring and receiving \$1,500 for the appointment of A. P. Russell, of Magee as deputy marshal for the southern district. Russell served from June until October, 1927.

Bonds Fixed. Hubbard, the Redmonds and Patton, the latter of whom was indicted on the seventh count, gave temporary bonds of \$2,500 each at Jackson for their arraignment here.

Howard, whose delegation at the Kansas City national convention was recognized over the "lily white" delegation headed by George L. Sheldon, declared through counsel in Washington that he would not oppose removal to Mississippi to stand trial. His indictment was mailed to the attorney from Biloxi.

The first arrest of Patton came last Saturday at the same time J. C. Tannehill, former deputy marshal at Sumner, was apprehended. The other arrest was that of William E. Miller, postmaster at Wiggins. All were admitted to bond.

18 Large Uptown Firms Will Close Half Of Thursday

Half Holiday Move Grows Here. Still Some Dissension Among Grocers' said.

Business Shelby's summer half-holiday each week will be a little more general this week than last as a petition presented for publication today reveals that 18 more uptown business firms have joined the movement to close up each Thursday afternoon during the remainder of this month and August.

The banks of the city have been closing. Later they were joined by a number of grocery firms. However, it is said that some dissension about the grocery closing came up last week and numerous grocers "scratched" the closing ticket. Just what the grocers will do tomorrow remains to be seen.

In the meantime the following firms have signed a petition agreeing to the half holiday: Gilmer, Wootton's Ladies shoppe, A. V. Wray & Six sons, Roses, Alexander's jewelry store, Woolworth's, Montgomery-Ward, John M. Best, J. C. McNeely and company, Kelly clothing company, J. C. Penney company, Paragon furniture company, Ingram Liles company, Nix and Lattimore, Wright-Baker company.

Miss Cornelia Botts will visit her grandmother in Greer, S. C., the last of the week.

NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TURNED BY BOARD

Natural Increase In School Expenses Made Tax Raise Seem Sure.

Through an endless calculation, cutting and trimming of county expenses, A. E. Cline, county auditor and chairman of the board of county commissioners, was able to announce today that there will be no increase in the county tax rate this year.

He and his board, together with the school board have been scratching their heads for weeks, trying to work out a way whereby the rate would not be increased and at the same time the county schools would not be considerably hampered, and at last they found a way—so, this is in substance how it was done:

To amply provide for the schools the county school board asked for an increase of \$37,000 in revenue for school purposes. This increase was cut so that it will be less than \$12,000 more than last year.

No Increase in Teachers Pay. The new budget does not provide for any salary increase of teachers. There may be some increases, however, provided by the various district committees, but they must keep within the amounts allotted them by cutting expenses elsewhere.

The new budget provides for only a small increase in the number of teachers, so many schools will not doubt have more pupils than they can teach.

Heretofore the county has been charging the special school taxing districts with the tax collector's commissions for collecting these special taxes, these commissions being turned in to the general county fund. This year the districts will not be charged the usual tax collector's commission allowed by law, or if charged, the commissions will be turned back to the districts.

Eighty-eight Cents Rate. The county tax rate has been reduced three cents, from 31c to 28c. The school rate has been increased three cents, from 57c to 60c, which offsets, of course, the reduction in the county rate.

No Emergency Fund. A summary of the uniform annual budget estimate of the county will be published in Friday's Star for the information of the tax payers, as provided by law, and will reveal several interesting facts.

No emergency fund has been provided for, so that if taxpayers come before the county commissioners and ask for an unforseen and unprovided for expense, there will be no emergency money to take care of it.

There was no deficit in the county fund at the beginning of the fiscal year and the estimated value of all real and personal property on the books for tax purposes is 38 million dollars.

Only \$1,000 is provided for schools as an emergency fund, and the county commission expects the tax payers of Cleveland to pay their taxes for only \$1,100 is the estimated amount of uncollected taxes for county purposes and only \$600 for school purposes.

Specials the Same. It will also be interested to the tax payers to know there is no increase in the special township road taxes or the special district school taxes, all of which remain the same as last year except a lowering of the rate in the Bolling Springs district.

OVER FOUR HUNDRED UTILITY USERS ADDED

From June last year to June this year, there were 202 patrons added to the city's light system and 195 patrons added to the city's water system, according to information secured this morning from Mayor Dorsey at the City Hall. This makes a total of 459 patrons in a year and is some indication as to the growth of the city which is steady and gradual and very noticeable to the visitors who come back after an absence of a year or longer.

This is perhaps a record that has never been equalled in the city's history, thinks Mayor Dorsey.

Mesdames C. R. Doggett, J. W. Doggett, Margaret Gardner and Robert Doggett spent yesterday at Lake Lure.