

THE ALLEGHANY TIMES

DEVOTED TO THE CIVIC, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ALLEGHANY AND BORDERING COUNTIES

ALLEGHANY COUNTY, SPARTA, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1934

No. 34

"the realization of our program cannot be attained in six months. From week to week there will be ups and downs but the net result is a consistent gain."—President Roosevelt.

"It is the people of the United States who have got to put it across and make it stick and they are doing it."—General Johnson.

ROOSEVELT GIVES ORDER TO EXTEND FEDERAL PAY CUT

Action On Statistics Showing That Cost of Living Is Still Low

Washington, Jan. 9.—President Roosevelt today gave an order for the continuation of the 15 percent Federal pay cut as he received from House Democratic leadership renewed assurances of support for as humanly possible.

Following the day principally the preparation of new working material for the loyalty-pledged press, he drafted messages pressing immediate Senate consideration of the St. Lawrence Waterways and a government guarantee of farm credit bonds.

These two propositions are expected to give Congress plenty to do as it is getting started on the appropriation and revenue bill.

Expected Today
Messages probably will go forward to Congress tomorrow, and the word of the President the states of the St. Lawrence development are depending hopefully winning the necessary two-thirds for ratification of the treaty.

During the day the activities of press spread out along more than half dozen tangents.

Developments on Capitol Hill was money which the Senate Committee investigating ocean and air mail lived as it resumed its hearings.

Under inquiry.
The Senate, under the urging of a publican, Couzens, of Michigan, decided to inquire into three nominations that came from the White House for confirmation. The appointees were: William I. Myers, New York, governor of the Farm Credit Administration; W. M. W. Laws, of Texas, member of the Interstate Commerce Commission; and George C. Matthews, of Wisconsin, Federal Trade Commission member.

The Senate Committee's only amendment to the House liquor tax measure would reduce from \$1,000 to \$500 the license tax on brewers. The 5-gallon tax on distilled spirits and \$5 a-barrel tax on beer were left unchanged.

LARGE LYNX KILLED AT DEVIL'S GARDEN MONDAY

One of the largest lynxes ever seen in the county was captured and killed Monday by Clive Holloway and exhibited in Sparta. The animal, which weighed 28 pounds and was about three feet in length, was captured in Devil's Garden, a rough section of country on the south side of the Blue Ridge. Years ago these large cats did considerable damage to the live stock of the early settlers, killing pigs, sheep, and other small animals, but at present they are not found in large numbers, the few still existing being found in rough, sparsely settled sections of the mountains.

Smithy's Store bought the lynx exhibited here, and after having it mounted will put it on display in the store.

E. L. WAGONER LAID TO REST AT WHITEHEAD

Funeral services for E. Leff Wagoner, who was killed in a train-automobile wreck at Manassas, Va., were held at Liberty church at Whitehead last Friday at noon. Rev. Carl McKnight and Blevins conducted the services and the final rites were in charge of the local Masonic Order. A large crowd of sorrowing relatives and friends were in attendance and the floral tributes were many and beautiful.

WHITEHEAD-LAUREL SPRINGS ROAD TO BE SURFACED SOON

On Wednesday the State Highway and Public Works Commission opened bids on 15 road projects, estimated to cost about \$400,000. Among the bids was a project for bituminous surfacing on 3.38 miles of Route 18 between Whitehead and Laurel Springs. The work of grading and surfacing this road with gravel was completed in the fall, and for some time it has been expected that the State would start the work of hard surfacing it.

For some time engineers have been engaged in surveying the section of road from Twin Oaks to Roaring Gap, but nothing definite as to proposed changes in straightening the road has been made public. It is expected that the survey will soon be completed and sent to Raleigh for approval by the Commission.

The local CWA office reports several road projects underway in the county, several of which will soon be completed. It is thought that CWA workers will be used by the contractors on the work between Whitehead and Laurel Springs.

Gymnasiums for the Piney Creek and Sparta high schools have been approved and work has already started.

Man (D-Tex.) that income taxes should be publicized. Tax secrecy, said the Texan, was a "badge of fraud." Billions of dollars would have been saved for the government, Patman declared, if the returns of Charles E. Mitchell, J. P. Morgan and others had been available for public inspection.

The committee, Chairman Doughton indicated, might be able to report out the measure late next week. The bill now proposes a 4 per cent tax on all net incomes instead of the existing 8 per cent levy for those above \$8,000, boosts surtax rates and imposes substantial levies against personal holding companies.

DOUGHTON SLATED FOR NEW POSITION

Washington, Dec. 28.—Representative Robert L. Doughton of North Carolina, chairman of the powerful House ways and means committee, is slated to be appointed to the Federal Tariff Commission within a few weeks.

Democratic friends of the North Carolina Democrat say the appointment will be made by President Roosevelt probably after the Administration's liquor and general tax revision measures are passed by the House.

Both of these measures are being handled by Doughton's ways and means committee, the group charged with formulating all revenue and tariff measures for Congressional action.

Doughton is serving his twenty-second year as Representative from the Ninth North Carolina district. He has been a member of the ways and means committee for many years and has made a study of tariffs.

Indications are that Doughton will be appointed to the vacancy created by the death of the late Representative James W. Collier, Mississippi Democrat. Collier was appointed to the commission by Mr. Roosevelt last March, after his retirement as chairman of the ways and means committee.

In one Democratic quarter today it was said Doughton later will succeed Robert L. O'Brien of Massachusetts as chairman.

N. C. Legion Lands Place Among "Big Ten"

Legionnaires in all sections of the State will be more than pleased to learn that the American Legion, Department of North Carolina, "made the grade" again this year and landed in the "Big Ten" on the National Telegraphic Roll-Call of the Legion. It will be recalled that the National Telegraphic Roll-Call was conducted on Nov. 17, 1933, at National Headquarters of the American Legion. Its an annual event and there is great rivalry among the forty-eight state and ten foreign departments of the Legion, for the honor of getting into this select group which is composed of the ten departments with the highest percentage of quota enrolled at that time.

The conditions of the National Telegraphic Roll Call require that Department Record cards and dues were to be mailed prior to midnight, December 1, 1933, in support of the number reported on the Roll Call, and any Department which failed to "follow up" their report with at least the number reported would be considered as having defaulted.

The final confirmation tabulated from national headquarters, just received, of the Fifth Annual National Telegraphic Roll Call conducted Nov. 17, 1933, reads as follows:

"It appears that all Department Record cards and dues which were to be mailed prior to midnight, Dec. 1, in support of the Fifth Annual National Telegraphic Roll Call, here at National Headquarters, have now reached national headquarters. We are, therefore, tabulating herewith the confirmation which will be considered final. Since the Departments of Canada, Georgia, Maine and Nevada have defaulted, the Departments of Idaho, Maryland, NORTH CAROLINA and Tennessee qualify among the BIG TEN Departments."

This makes the third time in the last five years that Department of North Carolina has qualified in this national event, thanks to the splendid cooperation of all the post, District and Department officials of the Legion in North Carolina, and other individual, go-getting Legionnaires in the various Legion Posts throughout the State.

NEEDLESS?

Rockingham, Jan. 9.—Judge Hoyle Sink made somewhat of a departure from the usual charge, in his remarks to the grand jury in superior court here Monday. In short, he spoke vigorously against having any grand juries now—a relic of the past. He said the counties of North Carolina incur an unnecessary expense of half a million dollars annually by having grand juries, which easily could be done away with. He wound up by asking this grand jury to express itself, upon the conclusion of their deliberations this week, upon whether they felt such a body was worth while—both in expense to the county and their own time and inconvenience in coming here for duty; and if they felt such was not necessary, then to petition their representative in the next Legislature to enact a bill doing away with this feature of the judicial system.

BLUE RIDGE ROUTE FOR THE SKYLINE DRIVE UNCERTAIN

At a recent meeting of the County Committee of the Blue Ridge Division of the Skyline Drive, a number of interesting talks were made with reference to securing rights-of-way along the crest of the mountain through Carroll. Several of the members were present and made reports.

It seemed that practically all of the ground had been covered, but in places there was some resistance offered by the land owners. A portion of the owners who did not sign for free rights-of-way were holding back due to the fact that they did not know whether they would be employed, if the road came this route or not. This question, it appears, is easily settled. One of the principal purposes of the building of this road is to create jobs for the unemployed in the communities through which it passes. Every man who is willing to do an honest day's work, and lives near this route will be employed, so far as possible and especially those who own land through which it will pass.

Other Route Organized
It has been learned that the Northern Route, which will pass through Walkers Mountain, offers some beautiful scenery, and the organization working for that route have met with very little difficulty in securing right-of-way signers.

Can we afford to let the road go that way just because a few citizens of our county object to having a good road pass through their place, enhancing the value of it many times its present? The answer is NO. We got to get down to business and get this right-of-way.

Some Money Needed
Of course there will be some funds needed to take care of a few fellows whose small strip of land is literally gutted by this project, but these will probably be very few.

CHURCHES

METHODIST CHURCH NEWS

(C. W. Russell, Pastor)
Service at Shiloh, Sunday A. M. at 11:00 o'clock, and at Piney Creek Sunday afternoon at 2:30.

I will attend the Conference wide Missionary meeting at Centenary Church, Winston-Salem, Thursday. Three of our Bishops will be present in interest of the cause. I would be glad if many of the members on the charge would attend this meeting. This is one of the 34 meetings held in Southern Methodism extending from the Pacific to the Atlantic coast.

We are happy to know that Mollie Hampton a member of Shiloh church is home from the hospital and gradually improving.

Baptist Church Appointments
Regular time and place of preaching by Rev. C. H. McKnight, Pastor: Mount Carmel: First Sunday at 11 A. M. Saturday before at 2 P. M. Chestnut Grove: First Sunday at 2:30 P. M. Saturday before at 11:00 A. M. Beview: Second Sunday at 11:00 A. M. Saturday before at 7:00 P. M. Pine Fork: Second Sunday at 2:30 P. M. Saturday before at 2:00 P. M. Liberty: Third Sunday at 11:00 A. M. Saturday before at 2:00 P. M.

SPARTA BAPTIST CHURCH
Services Sunday at 11:00 A. M. and 7:00 P. M. by the pastor, Dr. G. A. Martin. It is hoped that every member will be present. The pastor will preach at New Hope at 2:30 P. M. The members are urged to attend.

UNITED DRY FORCES TO MEET IN STATE-WIDE CONFERENCE IN GREENSBORO

The United Dry Forces of North Carolina will assemble in a State-wide Conference at Greensboro, on January 16th, for the purpose of perfecting a permanent organization to continue in North Carolina a constructive program of education in favor of temperance and against the evils of alcohol. The county and other local units of the organization that fought to keep North Carolina dry in the recent election desire to conserve the benefits of the recent Campaign and to continue their efforts to keep legalized liquor out of North Carolina, and to improve the enforcement of our present prohibition laws. Many local units have already become permanent, and it is anticipated that the Greensboro meeting on January 16th will set up a permanent State-wide organization. All persons in North Carolina interested in the promotion of temperance are invited to attend the Conference, and all members of the Central Committee, all Candidates County Chairmen and Managers of

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FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS MADE INTO DEATH OF SLAIN WILKES GIRL

Expect To Show Girl Did Not Write Note Found In Her Pocket

North Wilkesboro, Jan. 9.—A coroner's jury will re-open its investigation tomorrow into the mysterious death of Leota Childress, 18, after her body is exhumed from a country graveyard near here.

Although the coroner's jury originally returned a verdict that the girl came to her death at the hands of unknown parties, additional evidence will be laid before it as the result of a subsequent investigation by Solicitor John R. ones.

The exhumation of the body was ordered by the Solicitor in order that the course of the bullet through her body could be traced. Meanwhile the reports of handwriting experts on specimens of the girl's handwriting, as samples of the penmanship of Andrew Smoot, her 27-year-old former suitor, will be given to the jury.

Smoot is held in the county jail on a warrant sworn out by Solicitor Jones after investigators of the sheriff's office had listed the strange death as a suicide.

The Solicitor said he sent the specimens of handwriting to the experts with the view of showing that Leota did not write a weird note found in the dead girl's pocket describing a visit of three robbers to her home who had threatened her with death unless she revealed the hiding place of the family's money.

Her body was found by neighbors on a party telephone line who said they heard her cry for help, and say robbers were threatening and mistreating her. She had been alone in the house, her foster-parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warnick Tilley, having gone to town for the day. When the neighbors arrived, the house gave the appearance of having been ransacked.

TO ALL FOREMEN, ASST. FOREMEN, AND TIMEKEEPERS WORKING ON C. W. A. PROJECTS IN ALLEGHANY COUNTY.

Instructions just received from Safety Department Washington, D. C. All Foremen are notified to instruct all truck drivers to the following:

1. All motor vehicles transporting persons must be brought to a stop before crossing railroad tracks whether required by local regulations or not, and shall then proceed only if the way is clear.
2. All motor vehicle drivers and especially those transporting persons must strictly observe all State and local traffic regulations including coming to a full stop at all stop signs and before entering a main highway.
3. Overloading of trucks transporting passengers must not be tolerated.
4. Dump trucks shall not be used for hauling persons.
5. Men riding on trucks shall not be permitted to hang their legs over the side or rear of the truck.
6. Wherever practical every truck driver shall be placed under the supervision of a job foreman or superintendent, who shall be responsible for seeing that the driver observes these rules.
7. Where practicable, a foreman shall accompany each truck load of men transported to or from work, and shall see that both the men and the driver observe these rules.

C. A. Miles,
Local Civil Works Administrator.
THESE RULES MUST BE CARRIED OUT.

SLIM CHANCE

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COMMISSIONER OF REVENUE MAXWELL TELLS KENTUCKY LEGISLATORS ABOUT GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

Governmental Re-Organization
The subject assigned me to discuss is "Governmental Reorganization," with special emphasis on State approach. For the purposes of this address reorganization will be considered from the standpoint of functions and responsibility. I have sometimes wondered if our discussions have not over-emphasized the mere mechanics of governmental problems. For instance, I have never been able to become excited over the method of selecting certain public officials—whether by election or appointment. Conspicuous examples of success or failure may be charged to either method.

In like manner reorganization that consists merely of regrouping responsibility of performing the same public service in substantially the same way may be said to be a doubtful experiment. Mere chance is not inherently virtuous, and on the contrary there is distinct advantage in adhering to custom and precedent. There is less friction in doing the same thing in the same way. This is particularly true in public affairs, affecting so many people. In the absence of change it is less difficult for the citizen to know what he is expected to do and how he is to do it. The proponent of change should always bear the burden of proof of the advantage of change.

But whatever may be our mental attitude with respect to these problems, changes have come with scope and volume that challenge the resourcefulness of statesmanship to meet. We are in a new social order that is testing the fabric of every unit and agency of government. If our democracy is to meet this supreme test it must demonstrate its efficiency as well as its altruism of purpose. It must meet these obligations without having to absorb a ruinous proportion of the earnings of the people to sustain them, and in pursuit of this purpose it must diligently seek for and eliminate waste and wasteful methods wherever they can be found.

The tremendous expansion that has taken place in the scope and character and volume of public service within comparatively recent years compels the best thought we can give to the problem of organization to meet these increased responsibilities. Is the governmental organization, planned originally for much simpler needs, best suited to these larger tasks? Or can some other methods be employed to produce an equal or better service at less cost? Taxpayer press these questions upon us with a searching inquiry.

The best thought that I can bring to you on this subject is to present something of our own experience in dealing with these problems.

Indeed, it may have been in the thought that my State may have made some contribution to the answer to these problems at your conference.

Our State has undertaken some interesting experiments in the nature of a complete reorganization of the most important and essential functions of public service. They are as revolutionary as the times and conditions that produced them. I shall not present them as an advocate. They may yet be experimental in our own State, though there is no thought of suggestion of turning backward. In North Carolina it does not necessarily follow that they would be practical or desirable in another State. Each State has its own problems, related to its own conditions and traditions, and must shape its policies with relation to them.

The beginning of our grand experiment, and the forerunner of others that followed, was the completion in 1921 of a system of State revenue entirely independent of property taxes.

Prof. James W. Martin, of your own University of Kentucky, published within theyear a comprehensive analysis of experience of the few States, like North Carolina, having separate sources of State revenue contrasted with the experience of States that have held to the old system. He fairly found advantages and disadvantages, and his conclusions were inconclusive. Perhaps the best tribute to its success is that in the twelve years of its operation there has not been a suggestion of turning back, and on the contrary it has been employed far beyond its original conception, and has made possible the other reorganization characteristics of far reaching importance that I will later refer to, and that can now fairly be said to represent its greatest achievement.

PREACHERS MAY GET 12 GALLONS OF WINE A YEAR

Wine may be obtained by a licensed preacher having charge of a congregation for sacramental purposes to the amount of three gallons each 90 days, and hospitals and sanitariums may secure whiskey used in curing inebriates when it is administered by a licensed physician, Attorney General D. G. Brummitt has held in a series of opinions dealing with the liquor laws.

In both of these he points out that this is under the Turlington Act and that transportation companies hauling liquor must keep complete records as to dates and places of shipments, senders and receivers, and keep records available.

Mr. Brummitt also holds that intoxicating liquors may be shipped through the State from one wet state to another wet state, but may not be shipped from or into this State. He admits that permitting liquor to be carried through the State will cause much trouble, as it will be almost impossible to prevent its being delivered in this State, which is contrary to both State and Federal laws.

Harnett County News

On the debit side Prof. Martin finds the separate system of State revenue with its corresponding relinquishment of all the property taxes to local governments, contributing to a heavy increase in expenditures of local governments. This criticism is undoubtedly sound. It may also be truthfully said that such rapid increase of expenditures was responsive to the trend of the times. But it is a fair criticism to say that this program was inaugurated in 1921 without adequate safeguards to restrain increasing expenditures.

These safeguards have been supplied. No State has a more thorough system of executive budgetary control of expenditures, extending to every dollar of public funds expended by any agency of the State, and there has been a drastic use of this control.

We also have complete State control and supervision of the use of credit by every local unit of government.

While these measures were somewhat tardy in conception they have been quite effective since their inception. And while there has been a heavy increase in expenditures of both State and local governments since separation was adopted in 1921, the outstanding characteristic of the new program has been the constant assumption by the State of burdens and responsibilities formerly carried by the local units, and the important factor of tremendous economy made possible by a unified State control economies reorganization in its most comprehensive sense.

The big items of public expense today are schools and roads. Over a period of years the State enlarged the mileage of main highways taken over into the State system. In 1931 it went all the way and took over the whole operation of maintenance of every mile of public road in the State, except city streets. That operation was almost perfectly logical in two respects:

1st. It took the remaining burden of highway maintenance off the property and placed the whole burden directly on those who use the highways, and on a tax basis that meters to every user his exact proportion of cost related to his use of the highways.

2nd. As an economy measure it cut the cost in half and at the half cost provided a very perceptibly higher standard of maintenance.

Here we have a form of reorganization that is actually saving the taxpayers of North Carolina four million dollars a year, and at the same time giving them a higher standard of service. This is not an indictment of local government. It is a mere recognition of an adaptable machinery, and operating it at maximum efficiency without regard to county or township lines, can buy as much for fifty cents as cramped local government can buy for a dollar.

The State also took over, as a part of its road program, all county chain gangs, and redistributed them in standardized, sanitary and fire-proof prison camps.

For a number of years the State had been increasing its participation in the cost of the public schools, both as a means of further property tax relief, and also as a means of equalizing educational opportunity without unbearable taxation in counties having the least taxable wealth. In 1931 it increased this participation to one-half the cost of the constitutional six months term, and in 1933 it absorbed the entire cost for the whole customary eight months term, and without any property tax contribution to this cost.

(Continued on page 4)