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A. F. JOHNSON, Editor and Manager

THE COUNTY, THE STATE, THE UNION

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## FRANKLIN COUNTY IS OVER LEGAL RATE SAYS SUIT

Senator Willie Person Brings  
Another Suit Against Com-  
missioners.

### TOO HIGH A RATE

Judge Bond Fixed Date On Which the  
Case Will Be Heard In Franklin  
County.

Alleging that the commissioners of Franklin county have gone over the constitutional limit of taxation in making their levies for general purposes this year, former State Senator Willie M. Person, was in Raleigh last week to ask Judge W. M. Bond to fix a date on which he will hear the injunction against the commissioners brought by the Senator for a number of the tax payers of Sandy Creek township. This suit, like the former suit of the Senator from Franklin which prevented the commissioners from increasing the values of property in three townships after the Equalization Board had approved for horizontal cut of forty per cent, writes a new chapter in the mangled history of taxation in North Carolina.

Judge Bond has set November 14 as the date on which he will hear the complaint of the Franklin county tax payers who are represented by Senator Person.

The case is entitled J. J. Cooper and Tax payers of Sandy Creek township against the board of commissioners of Franklin county, and they ask that the board of commissioners be required to show cause why they should not be enjoined from collecting taxes in excess of the constitutional limitation of fifteen cents for general purposes. The complaint alleges illegal subdivision of the taxes, and declares that after making a levy for general purposes additional levies are made for special purposes, which should be included under the levy for general purposes. The levy imposed by the Franklin commissioners follows:

For general purposes in county 14 cents.

For the poor 4 cents.

For pensions 3 cents.

This makes a total of twenty-one cents, which the complaint alleges is six cents in excess of the amount of taxes the constitution allows a county to levy for general purposes. Col. Person believes the pensions are essentially a State matter and the county has no right to make a levy for the poor should be included in the general levy, for it is a necessary expense and is usually taken out of the general expense fund of a county.

Incidentally there is another kick in the complaint about the levy of seven-six cents road tax for Sandy Creek. It is alleged that a connecting road was built through Sandy Creek township, which did the people of that township no particular good. Three times they defeated a bond issue for this road, and then it was built anyway. Col. Person alleges in the complaint of his clients that the commissioners are trying to levy enough taxes this year to pay for the road. He thinks the levy should be only for interest and a sinking fund. But this feature of the complaint is merely incidental. The big fight will be made on the alleged over-stepping of the constitutional limit of taxation.

### New Tax History

Just as the other suit in which Senator Person was interested made new taxation history in North Carolina, so this suit likewise breaks new ground, for this is the first time that the right of the county to increase rates so high that it would produce sufficient revenues to meet county expenses under the horizontal cuts has been tested out. Some of the other counties in the State which had big horizontal cuts in order to meet the demands of large taxpayers are also finding themselves in the same fix as the Franklin county commissioners. They are finding the constitutional limitation of fifteen cents too narrow in its confines to allow a rate that will produce sufficient revenues for the general expenses of the county. If the courts allow a juggling of the subdivisions of the general expenses the situation presented by the reduced values and the same demands for revenue can be met. If the courts decide that general expenses means about the same thing it has meant in the past then more counties than Franklin are going to find the financial sledding rather rough for the next year.

### The State Tax

With a number of the counties skating on the thin edge of the constitutional limit of property tax for their county purposes, it will be seen that the suggestions of the State making a levy of five cents out of the fifteen for State purposes will be accompanied with a good many difficulties. Some other means will have to be found to enable the counties to meet their expenses or the constitutional limit of taxation will have to be raised. The suggestion that another constitutional amendment will have to be submitted increasing the constitutional limit is

## THE STATE EXHIBIT AT THE FAIR

One of the most attractive exhibits at the Franklin County Fair, which is being held here this week, is that of the North Carolina Geological and Economic Survey. The Geological Survey is a State Department interested in the development and conservation of the natural resources of the State, including the minerals, building stones, clay, forest and forest products, water powers, water supplies for cities, drainage and reclamation of swamp and overflowed lands, etc. The purpose of the state exhibit as stated by the representatives in charge, is to acquaint the people of this section of the state with the various natural resources and to seek to encourage their development and conservation.

North Carolina has such a wide diversity of minerals that she has often been referred to by geologists as the "sample state." Nearly every mineral found anywhere else in the world occurs in North Carolina and one of two are peculiar to this state, Hiddenite, for instance. However, our most valuable resources are our clays, building stones, mica, talc, forest and forest products, waterpower, soils and climate.

The Survey has many of these resources on exhibition in its space. Among these may be mentioned alum inum, asbestos, mica, pyrophyllite, talc and talc products, copper ore, mica and mica products, coal, oil and gas bearing shale, clayey shale, peat crushed stone, curbing, paving blocks, natural sand and gravel, brick, kaolin, pottery, chinaware, samples of a number of North Carolina woods, wood pulp, from which paper is made, charts graphically illustrating how forest

fires are started, some of the utensils used in extinguishing forest fires, and a number of maps and tables showing the natural wealth of the state.

"Pottery and china ware has been of most interest to lady visitors," stated the representative in charge. The 15 piece cereal set of china made from N. C. products by a North Carolinian is the most elaborate single collection of similar ware on exhibition.

Table ware made at Erwin, Tennessee, from North Carolina kaolin; vases from China clay found in Richmond county; a beautiful pitcher made from clay from Hillsboro, Jackson county; and hand made crockery from Buncombe county completes the display of ceramic products. This ware, together with the brick, felspar and kaolin on exhibition, illustrates in way that nothing else could the value and high quality of North Carolina clays.

Geologists agree that the clays and kaolins of no other state excel those found in North Carolina. We have done little however to develop them. Nearly all the clay mined in this state is shipped to New Jersey, Ohio and Tennessee to be made into ware, which is then shipped back into the state. Over \$200,000 worth of pottery clay was thus exported last year, while only \$16,000 worth was manufactured into ware in this state. One need not call attention to the fact that this clay could and should be manufactured within the state.

Another product of particular interest in the states space is mica, or glass. Where formerly it was used only for doors of coal burning stoves it is now employed in connection with electrical work, around motors, in electric irons, for electric light shades, in automobile tires, in paper work, as diaphragms for graphophones, etc. Pieces illustrating all these various uses are on exhibition.

Wood pulp and paper made from North Carolina wood has also attracted considerable attention. The fact that the paper from which government postal cards and revenue stamps are made is manufactured by a North Carolina firm of North Carolina wood has been a revelation to most visitors to the fair.

Every inch of the booth occupied by the State Geological Survey is filled with things of interest and although only a comparatively few of the state's resources are shown, yet it illustrates effectively the natural wealth of the state in which we live.

The Survey representative informs the TIMES that this department has published hundreds of reports and pamphlets describing the state's resources which can be had for the asking. The Survey also is glad to examine and report on any mineral specimens submitted to it free of charge. All communications should be addressed to the State Geologist, Chapel Hill, N. C.

### METHODIST CHURCH.

We are requested to state that regular services will be held at the Methodist Church next Sunday. This being the last Sunday of the Conference year the pastor will preach his last sermon before Conference. The public is invited to each service.

Mr. Bernard Smith, of Newberne, was a visitor to Louisburg this week.

already working in the minds of quite a number of people who have been studying the taxation problem. The suggestion may develop into legislation at the special session of the legislature, or it may develop more slowly and not get to the legislature in the form of new legislation until the following year.—Raleigh Times.

## BALLOONIST FALLS

### IN TAR RIVER

#### AT FRANKLIN COUNTY'S GREAT FAIR

##### RE-ELECTS COT.

###### TON WEIGHERS

###### INSTRUCTS ATTORNEY TO TAKE CHARGE INJUNCTION PRO-CEEDINGS

###### Lets Contract to Move Bridge at Wood

###### —Settles Dispute Over Louisburg Township Road Trustees—Receives Report of Sheriff on 1920 Taxes

###### The Biggest Midway Ever Here—Many Creditable Exhibits—To Celebrate Armistice Day Today.

###### With the biggest lot of attractions, the most interesting Midway, a large number of exceptionally creditable exhibits, a live stock show hard to excell and a big crowd the Franklin County Fair Association opened one of the best County fairs of the State in Louisburg on Tuesday morning.

###### Among the many attractions at the Fair is the free balloon ascension by Miss Stella Yeager, who makes flights daily.

###### Tuesday after making a

###### most wonderful flight above the clouds she dropped and landed into Tar river

###### above the dam and but for the life belt she wore would have possibly drowned.

###### These free acts are attracting many to the present fair.

###### The Midway reaches from the big

###### gate at the Northern end of the ground

###### to the extreme Southern end and re-

###### turns to the large and commodious ex-

###### hibit hall, in which can be found many

###### exhibits of valuable interest to our peo-

###### ple among which are the following:

###### The remedied clothing exhibit,

###### shows wonderful skill and economy, in

###### the many made over garments which

###### mean the saving of the price of new

###### ones.

###### The State Extension Department ex-

### hibit showing besides a large number

#### of other things, a modern sweet potato storage house.

##### The Roberts Betterment Club had on

###### display a most creditable exhibit, which

###### was attracting the attention of the

###### many visitors.

###### The School exhibit was one showing

###### much talent and effort on the part of

###### the little ones who made up the many

###### parts of the display.

###### The exhibit of the Colored graded

###### school was quite a credit to that

###### school, and showed a skill that will be

###### valuable if encouraged.

###### The Negro exhibit, which is com-

###### posed of fancy work, relics, pantry sup-

###### plies and in fact all the exhibits of the

###### colored people, was nicely arranged

###### and reflects much credit upon those in

###### charge.

###### The booth containing the curios and

###### relics is a most wonderful collection,

###### showing many things that even the old

###### est generations in attendance have

###### never seen.

###### The Art exhibit and the Needlecraft

###### booth were especially attractive and

### presented many works of beauty and

#### skill. The many intricate pieces of

##### work exhibited much skill and effort.

###### The flowers and Basketry booths

###### were especially interesting and were

###### the center of interest of those lovers

###### of these arts.

###### The pantry and canning booths were

###### all that made one hungry to look at,

###### and represented a most needed and

###### much appreciated work. They repre-

###### sented quite a big work in this County

###### and one that has been profitable.

###### Taking into account the extreme dry

###### weather which has prevailed over the

###### county for almost the entire growing

###### season the agricultural exhibits which

###### are on display at the county fair this

###### week are surprisingly good. While

###### the number of exhibitors are fewer

###### than usual the products exhibited are

###### fully as good as those which have been

###### entered heretofore in good years. The

###### farm exhibits of Messrs. H. H. Muller,

###### of Bunn, and G. H. Pergerson, of

###### Youngsville, R. 2, are especially good,

###### each containing a large number of en-

### tries, that of Mr. Muller having up-

#### wards of fifty different varieties of

##### farm and garden crops and Mr. Pergerson's

###### between thirty and forty varie-

###### ties, all of which are unusually good.

###### These two exhibits alone are well

###### worth a visit to the fair for they illus-

###### trate strikingly the many products

###### which can be raised on Franklin coun-

###### ty farms.

### FACULTY RECITAL.

#### Louisburg College, Louisburg, North

##### Carolina.

###### Miss Rosalia Neukomme Adams,

###### Pianist.